

A MESSAGE FROM BCU COMMANDER, CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT HELEN HARPER



Dear all,

I hope you are well.

As you will be aware Prime Minister Boris Johnson has said the UK was 'past the peak' of the virus outbreak yesterday, but stressed the country must not 'risk a second spike'. By staying indoors, we are all protecting the NHS and saving lives.

Throughout the weekend, officers will continue to be on their usual patrols and will continue to remind the public only to leave their homes for essential travel. You will see us as usual engaging with our communities and explaining the regulations.

During the current restrictions we are calling on parents, friends and family to pay particular attention to what young or vulnerable people in their care are looking at online.

We are encouraging anyone with worries or concerns to visit the dedicated 'Let's Talk About It' website (www.ltai.info), which has advice and guidance on what signs to look out for and what to do and where to go for help if you think somebody is being placed at, or is at, particular risk of being radicalised and drawn into violent extremism or terrorism.

We believe that social isolating measures could make some of the most vulnerable people in society more susceptible to radicalisation or other forms of grooming and that the risk of being drawn into violent extremism may increase for some vulnerable people.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions. Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you a safe weekend.

Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Harper".

Helen

BCU Commander Central West BCU and Royal Parks