

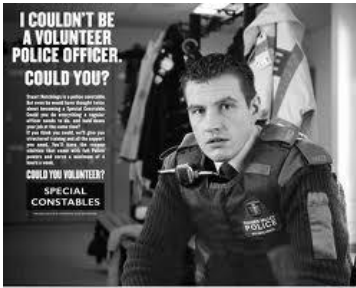
# Volunteers in policing: Changing roles in changing times

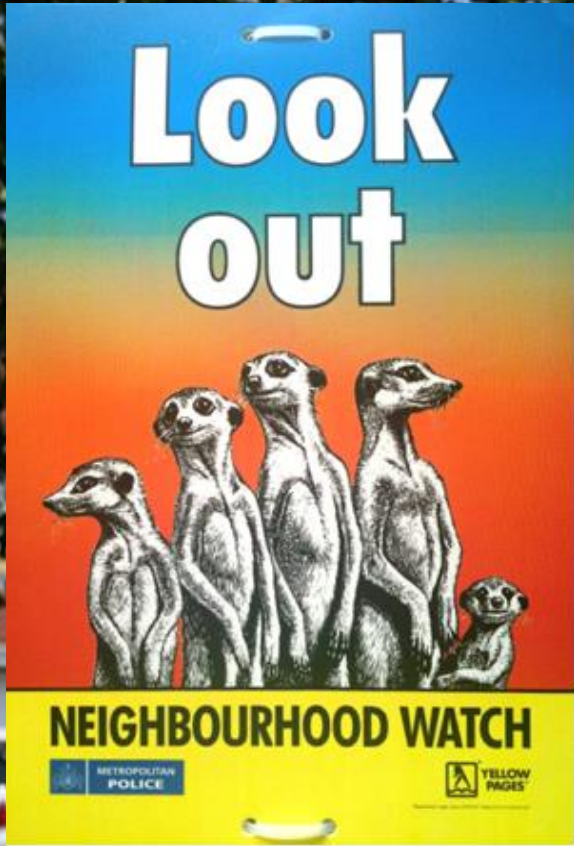
Dr Melissa Pepper

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# Citizen volunteers feature throughout policing and community safety







# Police Support Volunteers (PSVs): A national picture

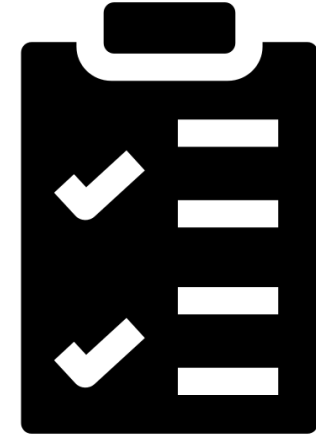


Created by Wilson Joseph  
from the Noun Project

7,632 PSVs



190,000 hours  
(significantly impacted by Covid-  
19 pandemic)



1,100 role profiles

# What we know about PSVs



*The Altruistic PSV*



*The Social PSV*



*The Career PSV*

Motivations



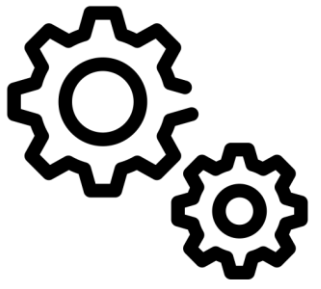
Experiences



Created by Romaldon



Created by Oksana Latysheva from the Noun Project



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Infrastructure



## Opportunities

- Local people, embedded within local communities
- Genuine drive to make a positive contribution
- Diffusion of volunteering benefits
- Potential impacts on community safety, trust, confidence...



## Challenges

- A genuine partnership?
- Infrastructure and 'buy in'
- Responsibilisation (Garland, 1996); offloading of responsibilities by a 'governmentalizing state' (Herbert, 2005: 851)
- Understanding the role and contribution of volunteers

# Looking ahead

- *Understanding the PSV 'offer'*: Greater clarity on purpose and role within policing in 2024 and beyond
- *Reimagining the PSV role*: Processes and patterns of 'being' a volunteer do not have to mirror those of paid officers and staff
- *Adequately resourced infrastructure*: Understanding motivations; meaningful contributions; recognition and value

# Over to you

- What do/can PSVs bring to policing?
- What works well/not so well in terms of how you are managed and supported?
- The future of PSVs - what should this look like?