# Gwent PCC highlights grassroots football league as a tool for community safety and youth engagement



The StreetSoc eight-a-side football league, organised by the Bengal Dragons Foundation and recently concluding at Pill Millennium Centre, crowned Scorpions FC as champions. Beyond the competition, the league's core mission is to foster healthy lifestyles, unify diverse communities, and provide young people with positive alternatives to antisocial behaviour. The initiative has garnered attention for its grassroots impact on community cohesion and youth engagement through the shared passion of football.

Jane Mudd, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent and sponsor of this year’s StreetSoc league, highlighted the league's significance in promoting community well-being. Speaking about the tournament, she praised the competitive spirit and dedication of the participating teams, especially the winners Scorpions FC. According to Mudd, initiatives like StreetSoc represent crucial grassroots efforts that help nurture community ties and encourage healthy, fun competition among young people.

Mudd's role as PCC, which she began in May 2024 as the first woman to hold the post in Gwent, is shaped by her broader priorities of preventing crime and antisocial behaviour, making communities safer, and protecting vulnerable populations. With two decades of experience in higher education and research, particularly in housing and regeneration, she brings a nuanced understanding of social issues influencing public safety. She co-chairs the Wales Safer Communities Board and leads on substance misuse issues, reinforcing her commitment to holistic community safety.

Since taking office, Mudd has announced significant community safety investments, including a £4 million funding package over four years aimed at bolstering protection for women and girls, supporting vulnerable young people, and tackling the root causes of crime. Her vision emphasises the importance of visible policing and building trust between police and residents, aligning well with the ethos behind StreetSoc's community-centred approach.

Additionally, Mudd has launched a Public Accountability Forum designed to give Gwent residents a direct voice in policing decisions. This forum enhances transparency and helps ensure that policing strategies reflect the community's needs, fostering greater trust in law enforcement.

StreetSoc’s alignment with the PCC’s wider strategy highlights how sport and community initiatives can serve as practical tools in crime prevention and community building. By encouraging positive engagement and offering alternatives to antisocial behaviour, such grassroots programmes complement formal policing efforts and investment plans geared towards safer and more inclusive communities.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25473490.streetsoc-league-aims-tackle-antisocial-behaviour/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25473490.streetsoc-league-aims-tackle-antisocial-behaviour/?ref=rss), [[3]](https://www.apccs.police.uk/find-your-pcc/jane-mudd/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/first-female-police-and-crime-commissioner-for-gwent-sworn-into-office/), [[3]](https://www.apccs.police.uk/find-your-pcc/jane-mudd/), [[6]](https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/new-police-and-crime-commissioner-elected-for-gwent/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/police-and-crime-commissioner-will-invest-to-make-communities-safer/), [[3]](https://www.apccs.police.uk/find-your-pcc/jane-mudd/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[5]](https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/commissioner-s-new-forum-gives-residents-a-greater-voice-in-policing/), [[4]](https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/police-and-crime-commissioner-will-invest-to-make-communities-safer/), [[3]](https://www.apccs.police.uk/find-your-pcc/jane-mudd/)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25473490.streetsoc-league-aims-tackle-antisocial-behaviour/?ref=rss), [[4]](https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/police-and-crime-commissioner-will-invest-to-make-communities-safer/), [[3]](https://www.apccs.police.uk/find-your-pcc/jane-mudd/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25473490.streetsoc-league-aims-tackle-antisocial-behaviour/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/first-female-police-and-crime-commissioner-for-gwent-sworn-into-office/> - Jane Mudd was sworn in as the first female Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent on 8 May 2024. She committed to serving the people of Gwent 'without fear or favour' and emphasised the importance of transparency and operational independence in her role. Mudd expressed her dedication to understanding community needs and building trust between residents and Gwent Police.
3. <https://www.apccs.police.uk/find-your-pcc/jane-mudd/> - Jane Mudd, elected as the first female Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent in May 2024, has priorities including preventing crime and antisocial behaviour, making communities safer, protecting the vulnerable, putting victims first, and reducing reoffending. She co-chairs the Wales Safer Communities Board and is a national APCC deputy lead for substance misuse. Mudd has over 20 years of experience in higher education and research, with a background in Housing and Regeneration.
4. <https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/police-and-crime-commissioner-will-invest-to-make-communities-safer/> - Police and Crime Commissioner Jane Mudd announced an additional £4 million investment over four years to enhance community safety in Gwent. The funding aims to protect women and girls, support children and young people vulnerable to crime and antisocial behaviour, and address the root causes of crime. Mudd highlighted the importance of visible policing and building trust between residents and Gwent Police.
5. <https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/commissioner-s-new-forum-gives-residents-a-greater-voice-in-policing/> - Jane Mudd launched the Public Accountability Forum to ensure Gwent residents' voices are heard by Gwent Police's top decision-makers. The forum addresses community concerns directly with Chief Constable Mark Hobrough, aiming to build trust, improve transparency, and ensure policing reflects community needs. Sessions are recorded and made available on the Commissioner's website and social media channels.
6. <https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/news-room/new-police-and-crime-commissioner-elected-for-gwent/> - Jane Mudd was elected as the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent on 3 May 2024, succeeding Jeff Cuthbert. Mudd expressed pride in being the first woman elected to the role and committed to working hard for all residents of Gwent, regardless of their vote.
7. <https://www.herald.wales/south-wales/jane-mudd-confirms-intent-to-leave-newport-council-role/> - Jane Mudd, elected as Gwent's Police and Crime Commissioner in May 2024, confirmed her intention to step down from her role as a Newport City Councillor. She had previously stated it would be 'impossible' to hold both positions simultaneously. Mudd resigned as council leader at the annual general meeting but remains a backbench member representing the Malpas ward.