The Canterbury Beat – Edition #27: BEHIND THE SCENES: Continuous Training to Keep You Safe

When you see our officers on foot patrol in the High Street, patrolling through the Dane John Gardens, or responding to an emergency call, you are seeing the culmination of hundreds of hours of ongoing professional development. Policing is a profession where learning never stops, and keeping our skillsets sharp is vital to ensuring we deliver the best possible service to our community.

This week, I thought I'd take you behind the scenes to look at the extensive training your local Neighbourhood Policing Team has been undertaking over the past month.

Response & Pursuit Driving

Navigating busy roads and medieval city streets safely under emergency conditions requires exceptional precision and the ability to remain calm under pressure.

Refining High-Speed Handling: Officers have undergone continuous professional development (CPD) in advanced vehicle control, high-speed hazard assessment, and tactical pursuit management.

Safety First: This intensive driver training ensures that when an emergency call comes in, our officers can get to where they are needed rapidly while maintaining the absolute highest safety standards for pedestrians and other road users across Canterbury.

Taser, Officer Safety & Trauma First Aid

Ensuring officers are prepared for any dynamic situation on the street means keeping operational qualifications fully up to date.

Taser & Tactical De-escalation: Refresher training ensures officers maintain the highest standards in decision-making, threat assessment, and de-escalation tactics, using the minimum necessary force to keep the public and officers safe.

Officer Safety Training (OST): Practice in physical tactics, restraint techniques, and practical conflict resolution prepares officers to handle hostile situations decisively and safely.

Emergency Trauma First Aid: From severe bleeding management to CPR, our officers have refreshed their life-saving medical skills. As first responders often arriving first to an emergency, this training enables us to provide critical, immediate care before ambulance crews arrive.

💡 DID YOU KNOW?
The Standard for Police Recertification

Question: How often do frontline police officers have to refresh their operational qualifications?

The Answer: Operational skills aren't just tested once when an officer joins the service! Officer Safety Training, Emergency First Aid, and Taser accreditations require mandatory annual re-qualification. If an officer doesn't pass these rigorous practical and legal assessments, they aren't permitted to carry that equipment or perform those frontline duties until they do.

OVER TO YOU

As we balance our training commitments with high-visibility patrols across Canterbury:
Is there a specific aspect of police training or equipment you'd like to learn more about in a future edition?
Do you feel reassured seeing how much continuous development goes into keeping our officers ready for any situation?