

SUFFOLK SPECIALS CASE STUDY



Ellie Goldsmith

Special Constable Ellie Goldsmith has been with Suffolk Special Constabulary since April 2015. She is based within the Neighbourhood Response Team in Lowestoft, and will assist other areas when deployed to do so. She is an extremely well thought of member of the team and has received recognition from the Constabulary for the work she has done.

Ellie says, "I wanted to volunteer for the Constabulary as I wanted to be doing something different and exciting and a challenge for myself. Having known people who volunteered, it sounded like an experience like no other. You learn skills you can apply to everyday life."

Ellie is like many other Special Constables, whereby she has a full time job and so is only able to commit to duties at evenings or weekends. She is able to respond to urgent requests for assistance if something happens in the county and provides at least 16 hours per month of operational duty.

"I have gained more skills and experience than I could ever imagine. I was never very good at talking to people before I joined the Specials, and now I will talk to anyone! Community engagement is my favourite part of the job, as everyone is individual and has their own story to tell. Being in the Specials has taught me that I can do anything I put my mind to. I would never have believed anyone who told me 5 years ago that I would now be a volunteer Police Officer!"

When asked if Ellie would recommend volunteering for the Constabulary—"Yes, 100%! I have always been supported through every step taken in my policing career and received numerous welfare checks after attending sensitive jobs. There is such variety to the role and I have learnt skills and had experiences that I would never have previously thought about. I feel that I can deal with situations better and I am the most confident I have ever been. Wherever my career takes me, being a Special Constable will be an experience that I will never forget."