**Police and Crime Commission visits Buckinghamshire mediation service**

Last year, Mediation Bucks dealt with over 250 cases that mainly involved neighbour disputes, and yet many people are unaware of this free service.

Matthew Barber, Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, visited the service last Friday (20/8) at Mediation Buck’s offices talking to some of their staff, trustees and volunteers.

Over 40% of referrals come from the police, and Matthew was keen to ensure Mediation Bucks received the funding they needed not just to carry on the work they do, but to make mediation extensively available across the Thames Valley.

Matthew welcomed the opportunity to work more closely with Mediation Bucks, and will be looking at how the most successful police neighbourhoods use mediation and how this can be extended to those who haven’t yet discovered the benefits of mediation.

Matthew left confident that Thames Valley is leading the way in using mediation as a tool for resolving on-going neighbour disputes, and as a means of freeing up valuable police resources. He [tweeted](https://twitter.com/matthew_barber/status/1428681595091836929):

*Spent the morning with Mediation Bucks discussing their work at resolving neighbourhood disputes and tackling anti-social behaviour. I am really pleased to have been able to support their work and we talked about ways that we can expand their work even further across the Thames Valley.*

If you have a neighbour dispute, you can visit [www.mediationbucks.org.uk](http://www.mediationbucks.org.uk) for more information.