



In 2016 DMWS launched The Police Medical Welfare Support Service available to the Hampshire Police Force. The service offers extra welfare support to sick, injured and assaulted officers with the aim to improve recovery time, wellbeing and resilience. Our Welfare Officers provide a confidential and impartial listening ear, practical assistance, home visits, liaising with the constabulary, and emotional support.



1. Hampshire Police Constable Kevin was on his way to work when he was involved in a 'Road Traffic collision' resulting in a loss of limb.



2. DMWS visited Kevin early on during his recovery in hospital, offering him and his family practical and emotional support to ensure the best possible outcomes following his life-changing injury.



3. After a long hospital stay, Kevin was keen to be discharged and start his road to recovery back in his own home. However a great deal of organisation was required before he could return home.



4. DMWS helped Kevin and his family with practical advice such as referring him to other support agencies and assisted with the time-consuming task of filling in forms and applications.



5. When Kevin needed a suitable wheelchair DMWS used their charitable connections with the Blue Lamp Foundation who covered the cost for this mobility aid and provided financial support to fund the accumulated high hospital parking fees.



6. More importantly, DMWS liaised with the housing provider to ensure that all essential house adaptations were completed - a laborious task when the family needed to concentrate on his recovery and personal wellbeing.



7. DMWS provided emotional support to the whole family. Kevin's wife initially found the severity of his life-changing injuries upsetting and valued the extra support at this time.



8. DMWS managed to ensure that adaptations were carried out quickly and Kevin was discharged from hospital much earlier than expected. Less than half a year after the accident Kevin has already returned to work.

*"DMWS Welfare Officers visited me very early on in my recovery, and remained a constant source of support throughout. I'm grateful that the DMWS was made available to me as a police officer, and I would commend the service to my colleagues."*

*Kevin*