

REPORT TO SWAN C.C. MARCH 2023

I am pleased to report to Council that steady progress continues with Neighbourhood Watch in the area.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record the areas we remain at risk from are.

Thefts form

1. Garages, sheds, allotment sheds and any form of external storage.
2. Cars, nothing must be left on show when parked.
3. Vans with tools and equipment stored inside when parked overnight.
4. Parcels form doorsteps, the delivery vans are now followed.
5. Number plate thefts to facilitate driving from a garage forecourt without paying.
6. Number plate thefts to cover other more serious crime.
7. Catalytic converter thefts.

Scams

There is a scam for anything and everything. Do nothing in a rush, check and check again. If in doubt do absolutely nothing.

1. Scams will come by mobile phone, landline phone, Computer/laptop/tablet by letter and face to face on the doorstep.
2. Bogus callers especially impersonating police officers in person or by phone
3. Yes of course help our elderly but please be alert for our young persons too.

The police will never...

-  Contact you to ask for your PIN or bank details
-  Ask to withdraw cash to hand over to them for safe-keeping
-  Ask you transfer money out of your account for fraud reasons
-  Send someone to your home to collect cash, PINs, or cards

 **ActionFraud**
The United Kingdom's leading charity dedicated to preventing and reducing fraud and cyber crime.
www.actionfraud.co.uk

No ID?

Assess, Challenge, Alert

Challenge those not wearing ID. Everyone's safety matters

- **ASSESS:** activity, behaviour and context of a person.
- **CHALLENGE:** be firm, friendly and fair.
If you are not comfortable to challenge someone then discreetly alert a colleague or supervisor
- **ALERT:** quickly and discreetly.
If you're not happy about an individual's response then make sure to dial **999** immediately

Sadly so many of the pressures on residents with the cost of living and the energy crisis provide so many 'business opportunities' for criminals to strike at the most vulnerable in the community.

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Update On Courier Fraudsters active in Kent

Further to our our previous alerts on this, we have seen further Courier Fraud type offences in the East of the County but in the last couple of days we have seen a movement to the West of the county in particular in **Sittingbourne** and the surrounding areas. There have also been reports of attempted offences in **Maidstone, Borough Green, Cranbrook, Dartford** and **Sissinghurst**.

The fraudsters are still stating they are are Police Officers and quite often from Police Stations in London. They are giving various stories but often will say that they have arrested/have person(s) in custody and will claim that they were in possession of copies of the victims Bank Cards. It's a **SCAM**.

Remember the Police will never call and ask you to withdraw cash to be collected by a courier. Neither will they ask you to hand over your Bank Cards as part of an investigation.

Remember the ABC of Fraud awareness and **NEVER ASSUME** or **BELIEVE** a call is genuine and always **CONFIRM** by ringing a trusted number (see our leaflet opposite).

If you think that you may have been a victim of this type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately which you can do by calling 159 and call us on 101.

Have you been asked to withdraw cash by the police?



This is a scam.

The police or your bank will **never**:

- ask for your bank details or PIN
- ask you to transfer or withdraw and handover sums of money
- send a courier to collect your bank cards, cash or PIN

If you are unsure about a call or visitor you have received:

- Don't give out any personal or financial information.
- Hang up or close your front door to check the caller's identity.
- If they phoned you, wait 10 minutes before you use the phone again (or use a different telephone) in case they stay on the line.
- Contact their company yourself or dial 101 for the police – do not call a number they have provided.
- Report suspicious activity straight away.



Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report
Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact
In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**
If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service **18000**.
Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.
www.kent.police.uk   



Kent Police

Contacting Kent Police

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If deaf or speech impaired, text '**police**' and your message to **60066**
www.kent.police.uk   

Beware of suspicious callers

Most people who call at your home are genuine.

But sometimes people may turn up unannounced and try to:

- Trick their way into your home to steal valuables or money
- Sell you services or items you do not want or need
- Carry out unnecessary repairs to your home at inflated prices.



If concerned about someone calling at your home, **don't open your door.**

You can also:

- Ask for identification and call their company yourself (not on a number they provide) to check they are genuine
- Never leave your door unattended
- Ask the visitor to return another time when someone can be with you.



**Kent
Police**

Contacting Kent Police

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Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact

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Any work as reported at last committee **OPERATION GUARDIAN ANGEL** has been put into operation to ensure that every possible assistance is given to residents who support/look after the elderly, disabled and persons with anything that renders them vulnerable to criminal actions.

Be under no illusions whatsoever criminals will find and locate our vulnerable members of the community and they will look to strike.

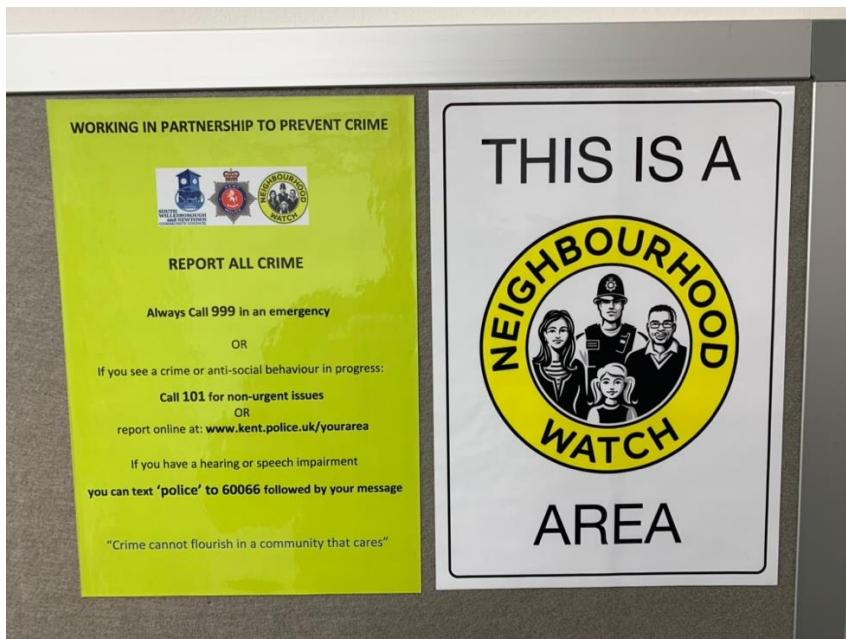


Anti Social Behaviour & Criminal Damage

This blights all communities causing upset, distress, and frustration. This crime hits working families very hard where damage impacts severely household budgets.

It is essential that each and every incident is reported so the full extent of the problem can be investigated allowing proactive patrols to try to prevent these incidents.

As I said at the start of my report recruitment into SWAN C C NHW continues and I regularly visit the Klondyke site to ensure new residents are met and enrolled.



In the foyer of the new blocks of flats NHW signage is now displayed. As lampposts appear so will our signage.

Neighbourhood Watch is about crime prevention and keeping people free from the fear of being a victim of crime also.

I am proud to say that NHW also plays a vital role in helping to build communities.

It helps to bring community cohesion and in simple terms sets the bar high to make all residents lives as happy and enjoyable as possible.

I am taking the unusual step in this report of showing SWAN C C council members discussions I have in other areas.
I support all your work on the concerns of parking and regularly run articles and campaigns to support your work in this very worrying area.

Add a caption...

A fire engine needs a gap of at least 3.1m (10ft) to get through



Next time you park please think about whether a fire engine can get through.



Emergency vehicles are a concern especially during the night when parking is at its premium.
However, routing work like refuse collections and buses and now even routine deliveries from supermarkets struggle. I just ask you to pause for a few moments and look at new 2023 roads



I draw to your attention to a new road in Chilmington. You will note my proactive NHW recruitment, and every house is in NHW already in this road

May I also draw to your attention to the car on the right, it is parked on the pavement a debate which is running now about will this be illegal soon and enforced, please imagine if it was parked in the road.

I am working now to assist in the building of communities, in bring about community cohesion. I have an excellent relationship with residents, but parking will become a community issue.

We will experience development in SWAN C C in future years, I hope road building is for 2050 not 1950

I am working tirelessly to try to ease problems for councils not maybe today or next week but in the months, years and decade that follows.

Parking tensions bring neighbour disputes, community tension, work for councils on neighbour disputes, work for individual councillors and clerks on these matters too and finally tension that can result in police attendance. Now that all happens now in other areas I work in on 1950s/1960s constructed roads in Ashford. I am doing my best to try and prevent those matters in 2050s roads in Ashford.



I feel it is important to finish the report to you as a council to confirm my 2023 plan

1. When crimes are committed that we immediately try to prevent further crimes in the area
2. Can we learn from the wider district to prevent crimes.
3. Can we assist with the investigations eg witnesses, information and CCTV
4. Can we issue further crime prevention from lessons learnt.
5. Can we continue to build NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH to assist in keeping our residents crime free and free from the fear of being a victim of crime.
6. Can we work on those AVOIDABLE and PREVENTABLE CRIMES

Thank you all for your continued support for our work together and as important for your personal support for me for without it the work would be very difficult indeed.

Thank you
Peter

Peter New Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch

