

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

PSNI CONTACT DETAILS

NAME	RANK	ROLE	STATION	MOBILE No.	EMAIL
Michael Simpson	Inspector	Neighbourhood Police Team	Ballymena	07734 580 501	michael.simpson@psni.pnn.police.uk
Trevor Atkinson	Inspector	Neighbourhood Police Team	Larne / Carrick	07775 662 096	trevor.atkinson@psni.pnn.police.uk
Chris O'Flaherty	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Police Team	Carrick	07787 133 250	chris.oflaherty@psni.pnn.police.uk
Chris McIlroy	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Police Team	Carrick	07787 224 732	chris.mcilroy@psni.pnn.police.uk
Michelle McKillop	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Police Team	Ballymena	07917 094 898	michelle.mckillop@psni.pnn.police.uk
Helen Hargy	Sergeant	Community Planning Sergeant	Ballymena	07920 502 825	helen.hargy@psni.pnn.police.uk



PSNI non-emergency number 101

- Victim Support: 028 25 630784
- Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111
- 24 hour Domestic and Sexual Violence helpline: 0808 802 1414
- Antrim, Ballymena, Carrickfergus, Larne and Newtownabbey (ABCLN) Women's Aid: 028 2563 2136
- Crime Prevention Officer Stuart Willkie: 07500036996 or Ext 86008 or phone 101

10 ELECTED MEMBERS	9 INDEPENDENT MEMBERS	7 STATUTORY PARTNERS
Cllr Brian Collins (Chair)	Mary Watson (Vice Chair)	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Cllr Andrew Wilson	Marjorie Hawkins	Police Service of Northern Ireland
Cllr Reuben Glover	Brenda Leslie	Probation Board
Ald Sam Hanna	Jonathan Cooke	Youth Justice Agency
Cllr Cheryl Johnston	Emma McIlveen	Northern Health and Social Care Trust
Cllr Lynn McClurg	Wendy Kerr	Education Authority
Ald Gregg McKeen	Ashleigh Perry	Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service
Ald William McNeilly	Rodney Quigley	
Cllr Paul Sinclair	Marian Maguire	
Cllr Patrice Hardy		

MID AND EAST ANTRIM PCSP CONTACT DETAILS

Contact the PCSP staff by phone, email or call into the office:

Larne Town Hall
Upper Cross Street
Larne.
BT40 1RZ

Tel: 028 28 262459/60/61

Email: pcsp@midandeastantrim.gov.uk

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN YOUR AREA

If you are interested in starting a Neighbourhood watch scheme in your area you can find out more info by attending one of the following meetings where Police are in attendance:

Carnlough Village Forum Meeting	Summer 2018	To be confirmed
Greenisland	March 2018	To be confirmed



THIS NEWSLETTER IS SUPPORTED BY THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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Policing & Community
Safety Partnership

making Mid & East Antrim Safer

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER Edition 2 – Summer 2018



What exactly is Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch is a partnership between local communities, Police and Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs). The scheme aims to create effective communication among residents and the police to help reduce crime and the fear of crime in designated community areas, with locally agreed Co-ordinators acting as the primary point of contact.

Neighbourhood Watch can make a real difference to your community and to people's lives.

How can I get involved?

To find out more, please contact your local Council office and ask for the PCSP. You can also find out about the scheme by contacting the PSNI (by using phone or email contact details outlines on the back of this newsletter) or you can go online to: www.nidirect.gov.uk/neighbourhood-watch



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What area should a Neighbourhood Watch scheme cover?

A. The proposed area for a scheme should always be clearly defined. The size of a scheme can vary from a very small cul de sac to a small village. Good practice dictates that a NW co-ordinator should not be responsible for more than 50 houses. Rural settings will also differ significantly from urban areas where small numbers are considered reasonable.

Q. How much does it cost to become involved in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme?

A. Absolutely nothing; only a little time and effort. Statutory supporting agencies such as the local PCSP and PSNI will assist and support you. Signs will be provided and erected when a scheme becomes accredited.

Q. Am I expected to patrol other streets?

A. Absolutely not. The police strongly discourage vigilantes and people who seek to take the

law into their own hands. Apart from the risk of physical injury, there can be serious legal implications.

Q. Will membership give the impression that I am working for the police?

A. The fact is that you are not. Everything said and written about neighbourhood watch shows that you are in effect doing what every responsible citizen should be doing – helping to create and maintain a safe, crime-free community.

Q. Will having Neighbourhood Watch signs create the image that this area is not a safe place to live?

A. Quite the opposite. Many people feel reassured that this is a safe area when they see the signs and that neighbours are actively looking out for one another. Many neighbourhood Watch schemes exist in areas where no crime has occurred – Crime Prevention is always the focus.



FOREWORD



**Mid and East Antrim PCSP
Chair, Cllr Brian Collins**

Welcome to the second edition of the Mid and East Antrim Policing and Community safety Partnerships Neighbourhood Watch newsletter. We have had very positive feedback about our first edition and we hope this edition will also be welcomed throughout the Borough.

The Mid and East Antrim PCSP have spent the last year developing and implementing a range of projects to help support and enhance safety within our Council boundaries. We have championed a number of local initiatives out in the community which we believe will positively contribute to the safety of residents and visitors alike and we are committed to continue this positive work within our 2018/19 Action Plan.

Within this issue, you will have the opportunity to read more about one of our established initiatives called Safe Place which aims to raise awareness and show how you can get support if you are in an abusive relationship. We recognise that domestic abuse happens here in Mid and East Antrim, as it happens everywhere else. Behind closed doors we know there are people suffering, and we want those families to know that in this area, we will support them. We also want to give a very clear message, that in Mid and East Antrim, there is zero tolerance for domestic abuse, and we will challenge those who continue to perpetrate abuse against partners and family members.

I would also encourage you to use and share ALL the tips, advice and contact details provided in this issue to help keep yourselves, your property and your communities safer.

If you are thinking about starting a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your area – why not? It's an easy process, doesn't take up much of your time, provides a real reassurance and is proven to reduce the fear of crime. Please do not hesitate to contact a member of PCSP staff for an information pack. Contact details can be found at the back of this newsletter.



CARAVAN SECURITY ADVICE

With the vast majority of caravan parks open for the summer season, police are advising anyone who owns or uses a caravan to take steps to protect their property and valuables.

Crime Prevention Officer Stuart Wilkie says: "Caravans may be more vulnerable than houses but that doesn't mean you can't make your property secure. Many people will make the most of their caravans over the coming months and when they do, they may take equipment like televisions, and games consoles with them. There are a number of steps you can take to reduce your chances of being a victim of crime."

LOCK UP

Always close doors, windows and any skylights whenever you leave your caravan, even if it's only for a short time. Always lock your caravan and take the keys with you.

DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING VALUABLE ON DISPLAY

Take all your smaller valuables with you when you leave the caravan or at least put them out of sight.



PROTECTING YOUR HOME

It is not uncommon for burglaries to increase over the summer months and while police will focus their operational activity in key areas there is also a responsibility on residents to take appropriate steps to secure homes and property.

Chief Inspector Stephen Humphries explains: "Burglars can strike at any time of the day or night so it makes sense to always have your doors and windows locked. If you are spending time in the garden then make sure no one can enter your home unnoticed. If there is a spell of warm weather it can be tempting to leave the windows open but this can make it all too easy for someone to slip through and make off with your handbag or tablet or cash.

"Don't answer your door to strangers. Ask them to provide identification or to come back at another time. If you live alone or are elderly then call on a neighbour for assistance if you

LEAVE YOUR CURTAINS OPEN - Possible intruders can see there are no valuables lying about. Site security can also check out your caravan easily. Even open cupboard doors can help deter a thief.

USE AN ALARM

Have a reliable alarm fitted and turn it on when you leave your caravan.

USE SECURITY MARKINGS

Where possible, valuable items such as laptops and televisions should be marked with your postcode and house number using a UV marker - this helps police identify the owner of the recovered property.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Keep an eye on each other's caravans when they are vacant. Don't be afraid to report anything suspicious to the site manager or the PSNI immediately.

If you notice anything untoward in your caravan park, note down any important details such as a description or vehicle registration and contact police immediately. Officers will follow up on your call and your prompt information could prevent a crime from occurring.

Anyone who would like further crime prevention advice on this or any other subject can contact police on the 101 non-emergency number.



are worried about a cold caller. A cold caller is someone who drops by to offer gardening or general maintenance services; it can be someone selling carpets or cleaning materials; or it can be someone collecting for charity. Anyone with genuine intentions will always carry identification and will leave if asked.

"At night time make sure that shed and garages are locked and that gardening equipment, bikes and toys are put away. Anything left lying out is only an open invitation to a passing thief. Again, make sure doors and windows are locked and set your alarm before going to bed. Make this a routine instead of something you only remember from time to time.

"If you want further advice on how to protect your home and property please visit our website www.psnl.police.uk or call 101 and ask to speak to our Crime Prevention Officer."

BONFIRE SAFETY ADVICE

The following safety advice, provided by NIFRS should be applied for anyone building or attending bonfires:

- Site the bonfire well away from houses, garages, sheds, fences, overhead cables, trees and shrubs;
- As a guide allow a ratio of 1:5, i.e. the distance from the bonfire to the nearest property should be 5 times the height of the bonfire;
- Build the stack so that it is stable and will not collapse;
- Never build a hut or den inside the bonfire;
- Do not burn foam filled furniture, tyres, aerosols, tins of paint or bottles;
- Responsible adults should look after lighting the bonfire. Before lighting the fire check that no children or pets are hiding inside it;
- Never use flammable liquids (petrol or paraffin) to light the fire – use domestic firelighters;
- Keep everyone away from the fire – especially children who must be supervised at all times;
- For an emergency keep buckets of water, a garden hose or a fire extinguisher ready;
- At any sign of danger or in the event of an emergency ring Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service on 999 for assistance.

#CelebratingCultureSafely



RAISING AWARENESS OF THE SAFE PLACE INITIATIVE

Mid and East Antrim PCSP are working in partnership with Onus to raise awareness of domestic violence and the wide range of support services available. Safe Place is an initiative offering information on the wide range of services available to anyone affected by domestic violence or abuse. Organisations are being encouraged to become Registered Safe Places and display the Safe Place Logo indicating that information on services for anyone affected by domestic violence or abuse are available on the premises.

Onus, a social enterprise specialising in domestic abuse training, have developed a range of Pathways to Participation to empower communities to recognise and respond to anyone affected by domestic violence and abuse. Mid and East Antrim Council have been awarded Mid and East Antrim Borough Council achieved their renewal Gold Safe Employer Award and Safe Borough Charter Status at the Onus 8th Annual Award ceremony on 8th November. A Safe Community promotes zero tolerance to domestic violence or abuse and recognises that domestic violence or abuse impacts upon many people living or working there, regardless of age, religion, disability, ethnic or cultural background and while the majority of victims are female, domestic violence or abuse can be experienced by men and by people in same sex relationships.

There is excellent support available for anyone experiencing abuse, through services such as Women's Aid, Men's Advisory project and PSNI, to name but a few. It is recognised that often those in need of support do not go directly to these services, whether they are unaware of them or do not think that these services can help them.

We hope to raise awareness through the Safe Place initiative of how you can get support if you are in an abusive relationship. If you are not safe at home, then we want to reassure you that this is a Safe Community where you will be able to access the support you need, in confidence and without judgement.

To find out more about how you can become a Safe Place or play your part through the various the Onus Pathways for Participation visit www.onustraining.co.uk

The 24 Hour Confidential Domestic and Sexual Violence helpline is open to all women and men affected by domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. This free phone service (0808 802 1414) is available 24 hours a day, 365 days per week. Also you can text "support" to

07797 805 839 or confidential email support to 24hrsupport@dvhelpline.org

Understanding domestic violence, ending abuse, the Onus is on all of us.

