

Bracebridge Heath Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)

Your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team



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Quarterly NPT Priorities

Every three months your local NPT listen to your concerns and look at recent crime statistics to shape the things we will concentrate on for the next three months. Based on this, our priority for the next quarter is:

1. Anti Social Behaviour

This priority is for your Local NPT. General Response Policing will routinely target all crime such as burglary, theft from motor vehicles and vehicle theft.

Anti Social Behaviour

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) covers a wide range of conduct perpetrated by individuals and groups of people which can be detrimental to both individuals and the wider community. Typically we tend to think of ASB as groups of drunken youths shouting and swearing in the street but it also covers begging, littering, loud music, habitual nuisance vehicle use, the smell of cannabis being smoked emitting from a property, harassment and so on and can include neighbour disputes.

Your NPT has utilised civil legislation to good effect provided called Community Protection Notices (CPN) which is provided by the ASB Act 2014. This notice is served upon persons engaging in ASB and gives them an opportunity to stop that behaviour. The versatility of the legislation allows us to specify the conduct which alone might not constitute an offence. This legislation is served in partnership with the North Kesteven District Council ASB Team. An example of offending might be deliberately placing wheelie bins to obstruct a neighbours front door intentionally in the knowledge it is causing them harassment. In that example we could

specify a condition on a CPN for the individual responsible not to place a bin in a specific spot. A breach of that condition would constitute a breach of the CPN which in itself is a criminal offence. The offender is then open to arrest and charge for a breach of CPN which can lead to a court appearance with court costs upon conviction. As well as the criminal courts costs, the civil costs of process can be pursued to recover the costs of the time of NKDC, their solicitors, legal costs etc to ensure the tax payer is not disadvantaged by those engaging in ASB. The claimed costs alone can amount to thousands of pounds for the offender to repay the courts as well as a Level 4 fine, currently £2500. Tenancy can be brought into question for Council tenants and for homeowners the question of costs to be recovered against their property can be considered via application of court order. The reach of the legislation is far reaching and can be utilised in conjunction with both criminal and civil law. This NPT has successfully utilised this legislation nine times in the last twelve months to stop ongoing ASB which has been costly to the tax payer and taken up a lot of police time. It is strong and versatile legislation that we have seen used to good effect to improve the quality of life for those in the community. Ironically some offenders have reported it has improved their life as it has successfully stopped them from offending and reduced their negative interactions with police!!!

Unfortunately we have seen examples of ASB that we associate to the warmer weather at beauty spots around open water. These have been at Lakeside at Waddington and at the River Witham at Washingborough. These instances have seen teenagers in numbers putting themselves at risk whilst mixing alcohol and cannabis misuse with swimming in the lake and river. Not only does this have the inherent risk of drowning in unsafe water, it also has brought the presence of very loud music disturbing residents nearby, vast amounts of litter and verbal abuse at passersby and in some instances at Police when attending.

As a Neighbourhood Policing Team we don't want teens not to enjoy the outdoors and appreciate teenagers need to go somewhere to socialise but the noise, language, drug abuse, drinking, broken glass and litter that these areas have suffered are attracting Police attention due to multiple complaints from the general public and in some instances this is really impacting upon the quality of life of residents.

My experience as a Police Officer tells me that most teens are okay one on one but they can start becoming a

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problem in numbers playing up in front of one another, particularly after a few underage drinks and sadly drugs too. I would ask all parents to question who, where and what their teenagers are doing. We will be increasing our patrols and responding proactively to any complaints of ASB. We will be utilising mobile CCTV and Body Worn Video making efforts to identify those youths who think they are clever to shout abuse at members of the public or even Police when they attend. We will visit schools with CCTV footage in a bid to identify, locate and prosecute those offenders.

Easing of Lockdown Restrictions

Lockdown restrictions are under review pending the Delta (Indian) Variant at the time of writing. We would ask that you continue to adhere to the Government guidelines and advice with a view to reducing any risk of spreading infection further and causing Lockdown measures to be prolonged any further than necessary.



Vehicle Theft Prevention Advice

Vans and Land Rover Defenders have continued to be targeted for theft from driveways or roadside parking over this quarter. A number of work vans have been targeted for theft of tools which proves to be very expensive and disruptive to the victim.

Where possible try and reverse vans up to a fixed object to prevent rear entry and if possible block the van in. Products are available to enhance locks, dead locks down to simple high decibel PIR alarms should the factory alarm be defeated. Consider an old fashioned steering lock to deter a van thief and if finances allow a tracker system.

Dwelling Burglary Prevention Advice

There have been some dwelling burglaries in village areas. Keep valuables out of view, car keys hidden and doors and windows locked with approved BS locks. Many burglaries are sneak in opportunist thefts that occur whilst you are in. Consider a house alarm and be mindful about what you post on social media in relation to your movements. Door bell cameras are an excellent deterrent and facilitate police to reviewing movement around properties that have been targeted by burglars. Do not leave your car keys visible in your house – most vehicles are stolen with keys, often the target of a burglary. Keep car keys away from the letter box where they can be “fished” for with an implement similar to a fishing rod.

Special Constables In Lincolnshire Police

Have you considered joining Lincolnshire Police as a Special Constable? You would be trained and operate with full time Police Officers in serving and protecting your community. It is both challenging and rewarding as well as a good foundation and route into a career as a full time Police Officer. Search on our website for information about joining Lincolnshire Police as a Special Constable at www.lincs.police

Want to know more?

If you think there is an issue we should be focusing on, please get in touch at one of our public engagement Events, contact us by email, or social media.

Crime statistics for your neighbourhood are available at: <https://www.police.uk/>

Nextdoor is a great way of getting the latest relevant information for your area. Join at: <https://nextdoor.co.uk/find-neighborhood/>



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