



Dacorum Community Safety Partnership newsletter Edition 1 Autumn 2024



Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of our new quarterly Community Safety Partnership newsletter.

A Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a network of statutory authorities and non-statutory partners who work together to protect local communities from crime and to help people feel safe.

In these newsletters, we will share information about recent and upcoming Community Safety Partnership activity, and advice for keeping safe.

In this edition, you can find information about what we've been up to, and information about how to stay safe as we move into the darker months.

If you have any questions, comments or feedback about this newsletter, please email them to community.safety@dacorum.gov.uk.

Recent Activity

Hertfordshire Police carried out Operation Sceptre's week of action between 13th and 19th May.

Operation Sceptre weeks of action take place twice a year, and support the aims to raise awareness of knife crime and the police action in detecting, reducing and preventing it.

The next week of action will be in November 2024.

Cuckooing Awareness

Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board are working to increase awareness of Cuckooing in Hertfordshire.

Cuckooing refers to when criminals take over the homes of vulnerable people, and use them as a base for (often drug related) criminal activities.

As part of this campaign, Crimestoppers brought their 'Ad-van' to the Marlowes shopping centre on Tuesday 14th May. The van displayed information, and visitors were able to seek advice from Dacorum Borough Council, Crimestoppers and Hertfordshire Police.

Reporting of offences is relatively low in Hertfordshire, in comparison to other parts of the UK. It is likely that this type of crime is under-reported, perhaps because people do not recognise it is happening, or they fear the potential consequences of reporting.

If you suspect Cuckooing is happening, you can report to the Police on 101 or 999 (in an emergency).

If you would prefer to report anonymously, you can do so by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Safer Streets: School End Crescent



Dacorum Borough Council and Hertfordshire Constabulary jointly visited School End Crescent on Friday 14th June in a proactive effort to engage with residents and discourage anti-social behaviour (ASB).

They engaged with local residents and raised awareness of how to report ASB. A skip was also provided so that residents could dispose of unwanted items, which reduced the likelihood of fly tipping.

Future Neighbourhoods: The Heights



Representatives from across Dacorum Borough Council visited The Heights in Highfield, Hemel Hempstead, on Wednesday 17th July.

They spoke to local residents about their concerns, and made themselves available to resolve community safety, building issues, fly-tipping, and hedge trimming issues on the day.

Gadebridge Splash Park Engagement



Dacorum Borough Council's Community Safety team engaged with visitors to Gadebridge Splash Park on Monday 12th & Friday 16th August.

Visitors were asked to provide their feedback on the park, and for their suggestions on how to make the local area safer. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many visitors having travelled to visit this fantastic attraction.

Prevent: Counter Terrorism

Hertfordshire County Council's Prevent Programme Manager recently delivered training to Dacorum Borough Council employees about radicalisation and extremism.

Prevent aims to:

- tackle the ideological causes of terrorism
- intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation
- enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate

The training equipped attendees with information about how to safely report concerns.

If you're concerned that someone is being radicalized, or is at risk of radicalisation, you can report it in confidence by calling:

- Police on 101 or 999 if there is an emergency
 - Anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789 321
 - Crime stoppers on 0900 555111

To find out more, search 'radicalisation and extremism' on www.dacorum.gov.uk

Website update

Dacorum Borough Council recently updated their Community Safety webpages.

The website now has more information about domestic abuse, radicalisation and extremism, and hate crime.

To view the changes, visit: <https://www.dacorum.gov.uk/home/community-living/community-safety-dacorum>

Coming up...

Burglary awareness



As the nights draw in, burglars will often take advantage of unlit homes. As part of Operation Guardian, your local policing teams will be doing all they can to stop this from happening.

You can play your part by:

- Making sure that you securely lock all windows and doors, including double locking PVCu doors
- Giving your home a 'lived-in' look by using timer switches to turn on lights as it gets dark
- Considering installing CCTV and doorbell cameras as an extra deterrent
 - Keeping all valuable items and car keys out of view

Halloween: Trick or Treating



Planning to go trick or treating this Halloween?

If so, Hertfordshire Constabulary is asking people to please consider the following advice to help you stay safe and prevent distress being caused to others:

- Never go trick or treating alone and always take an adult with you.
 - Don't knock on the doors of strangers.
- Only visit houses where there are signs that trick or treaters are welcome, such as Halloween decorations and pumpkins outside.
- Keep your Halloween 'tricks' safe - damage to property or hurting someone is a crime. Threatening and abusive behaviour can amount to an offence too.
 - Remember road safety rules, particularly after dark.
 - Wear something bright so that drivers can see you.

Herts Connected



Have you signed up to the Herts Connected community messaging system?

Hertfordshire Constabulary launched the new online service this year, to allow residents to keep up to date with what is happening in their local area.

It is part of the Neighbourhood Alerts platform and enables residents to receive free messages from the police, Neighbourhood Watch, the Police and Crime Commissioner's office and Action Fraud.

The messages contain information about crime and events in the area, local policing priorities and crime prevention advice. Once signed up, you can 'edit your interests' to make sure you see what is relevant to you.

Thousands of households are already signed up.

If you would like to join them, you can register by visiting www.hertsconnected.co.uk