



**EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**



CSP Newsletter

February 2024

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**Working together to help make East Cambridgeshire
a safe place to live**

Join the East Cambridgeshire volunteering campaign

Since the Covid pandemic, the numbers of people volunteering have seriously declined, in some cases leaving organisations and charities without the necessary capacity to support the services required by the most vulnerable across our district.



Two partners of the CSP - Cambridgeshire County Council's Communities Team and Voluntary Community and Action East Cambridgeshire (VCAEC) have pulled together a group of interested parties, including Ely Cathedral, Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service, Soham Community Association, National Childbirth Trust and the Integrated Neighbourhood Partnership together with media partners, Spotted in Ely, to create a campaign to raise awareness of the importance of volunteering and how we can all work together to interest more people to volunteer.

Angela Haylock, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of VCAEC, which is leading on the campaign, said: 'As the district's volunteer centre, we know that organisations are struggling, as we are, to get volunteers.

'We are sure there are people out there who would enjoy giving up some time to help others. We need to create opportunities which are flexible and fit into people's lives, whether it is one hour a week or just volunteering at an event every now and then and make it easy for them to do this. We hope to create a positive image of volunteering locally where people are keen and proud to volunteer.'

The group is interested to hear from charitable groups, parishes and organisations who need volunteers, and/or individuals experienced in volunteering who would help shape the campaign. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Angela Haylock via the following email angela@vcaec.org.uk or 01353 666166.

Neighbourhood Watch and ATM Watch



Neighbourhood Watch is recognised for empowering local communities to reduce crime and for helping to build community spirit among residents.

Each neighbour within a scheme is asked to take care of their property, keep an eye on their area, look out for anyone or anything that is out of place and report this to their coordinator and where necessary, the police.

Neighbourhood Watch is not just there to reduce crime but to build local communities and encourage people to be more neighbourly. When Neighbourhood Watch started over 40 years ago it was not necessary to ask people to chat to their neighbours as most were chatting away over the garden fence. This is no longer part of modern life, people are more isolated in their own homes, often not knowing the names of those that live two or three houses along the street from them.

One of Neighbourhood Watch's objectives is to help people feel at home in their community and have neighbours they can call on if they feel the need. Crime information is also passed from the police to Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Coordinators, who then pass these messages to the scheme members for the appropriate action to be taken.

Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) play a crucial role in communities by providing convenient, accessible, and essential banking services. ATM raids often involve criminal activities such as breaking into ATMs, using explosives, or engaging in violent acts. One of the best ways to prevent this crime is simply by regularly observing who is using the machine and when. Members and supporters of Neighbourhood Watch are in an ideal position to raise levels of community awareness and vigilance. If you are a member of Neighbourhood Watch or Ecops you can join an ATM watch interest group.

For further information contact Kevin Evans using the following telephone or web address, 01353 614892 or www.ourwatch.org.uk, opens in new window.

Stop Hate UK

Stop Hate UK is a leading anti-hate and anti-discrimination organisation for corporate, statutory, and community sectors. Today, they operate the UK's only free dedicated 24-hour anti-hate crime reporting service for all monitored strands of a person's identity or perceived identity (disability, race, faith/religion/belief, sexual orientation and transgender identity, as well as alternative subculture and gender/misogyny).

The Stop Hate UK team also remains vigilant in responding to calls from individuals affected by hate crimes, offering them the necessary support and assistance they require. Since September 2023, the team has successfully reached out to over 7,500 individuals, amplifying awareness about hate crimes across diverse segments of society.



Engagement has been completed with schools, law enforcement, elected officials, refugee groups, council workers, professionals and young adults through colleges and universities. Stop Hate UK have also actively collaborated with charities. Efforts have included radio appearances, comprehensive safeguarding sessions, discussions addressing Islamophobia, participation in mental health forums, presentations at conferences and involvement in disability roundtable events.

Find out more information at www.stophateuk.org, opens in new window.

New Shop Watch pack launched



On 5 December 2023 the Shop Watch pack was launched at East Cambridgeshire District Council, funded by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Police and Crime Commissioner.

It is the first step in bringing businesses together to tackle shoplifting and anti-social behaviour in shops.

The pack contains the safer business book, a Shop Watch poster and window sticker, shoplifting prevention poster and postcard. Also included is a keyring with a QR code that when scanned takes you to the Cambridgeshire police reporting website.

To date 50 folders have been handed out to retailers in East Cambridgeshire and the aim is to get one to all retailers. If you would like more information please email ECCSP@eastcambs.gov.uk.

Safer Communities Fund

The Police and Crime Commissioner has funded the following projects as part of its Safer Communities Fund:

- bells, which attach to purses and alert the owner if someone tries to steal them, along with Keep Safe leaflets and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) card holders, which stop bank cards being scanned, have been handed out to members of the public
- shoplifting prevention posters, postcards and keyrings have been handed out to all retail businesses in Ely and placed into the new Shop Watch packs
- CCTV has been provided for Cheveley Recreation Ground
- more than 100 kits to mark tools so they can be easily identified if stolen have been handed out by the police, these will mark, on average, up to 5000 tools
- over 50 Shop Watch packs have been handed out to local retailers

The Community Safety Partnership would like to express its thanks to the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding these amazing projects.

Find out what East Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood policing team are focusing on with this report from Sergeant Mat Lupton-Pike:



Every 3 months East Cambridgeshire Police use a combination of our own data and your feedback via our community policing survey to set priorities for each of our Neighbourhood Policing Teams to focus on for the coming quarter.

We met with members of the public on Tuesday 9 January where the priorities until April were set. They include:

- violent crime
- anti-social behaviour
- knife crime
- drug dealing

If you missed the meeting and would like to join our next meeting on 3 April. Please register online to be sent the meeting link.

What we've been up to in East Cambridgeshire:

- called to another van stuck under the bridge in Ely
- road safety talk at Swaffham Bulbeck Primary School
- returned some sheep to their field after they blocked the road between Isleham and Prickwillow
- called to an uninsured driver with a provisional licence on the A1123
- visited Ely Scouts
- knives and a baton were handed into Ely Police Station

You can find more updates like this on our Policing East Cambridgeshire Facebook page.

News from the Court

Driver jailed after head-on crash injured three generations.

Arrests rise and hotline calls double in drink drive crack down.

You can find more articles like these in the [news section of the Neighbourhood Policing Team's website, opens in new window.](#)

Finally, your information helps us to understand the types of issues affecting you and your local community and informs our quarterly neighbourhood policing priorities. To have your say, please head to our website [Community Policing Survey \(office.com\), opens in new window.](#)

Community safety team updates

Police Cadets

East Cambridgeshire Police Cadets have the largest number of dedicated young people that attend a weekly session in Cambridgeshire. The police cadets support several local events such as Haddenham Steam Rally, Pride Ely, Aquafest in Ely, Wilburton fireworks, the CSP event at Ely Cathedral and a bike marking event. They link in regularly with the East Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Policing Team and assist them with community and safety events. Lizzi Wales, Community Co-ordinator for young people and families and Harriet Sugg, the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer for East Cambridgeshire District Council, have been working with the Police Cadets, delivering a series of safeguarding evenings which have focused on online safety, county lines and knife crime and speed monitoring sessions in Haddenham and Ely.

Library

A recent workshop took place with East Cambridgeshire libraries, which cover Burwell, Soham, Littleport and Ely. The main focus of this workshop was to talk about the different approaches when dealing with children and young people, the importance of welcoming children and young people into the library and how to deal with anti-social behaviour.

Hate crime training

A hate crime is any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a personal characteristic, specifically actual or perceived race, religion/faith, sexual orientation, disability and transgender identity.

It is widely accepted that hate crimes are under reported. Not all victims are comfortable with reporting their experiences directly to the police. Some victims may find visiting police stations intimidating or daunting, some may not be aware of alternative ways of reporting, or they fear being outed in terms of their sexuality or disability.

Third Party Reporting Centres (TPRCs) overcome these barriers by providing an alternative way to report a hate crime. They give confidential advice, help a person report it, and support the person along the way. The person can remain anonymous if they wish, and they don't need to have contact with the police if they don't want to.

The CSP offers hate crime awareness training and training for organisations wishing to become a Third Party Reporting Centre.

There are currently 5 Third Party Reporting Centres in East Cambridgeshire located at Littleport Town Council, Sutton Parish Council, Fordham Parish Council and The Lighthouse, Ely, The Kite Trust, Ely and the CSP would love to increase the number.

Please get in contact if you would require more information on this or would like to arrange training at ECCSP@eastcambs.gov.uk, opens in new window.

Slower is safer



40 local people, including 6 pupils who make up Robert Arkenstall Primary School's Road Safety Squad and their parents attended the launch of the Road Safety Campaign in Haddenham on 31 January.

This initiative is a continuation of work carried out by Haddenham Parish Council and Robert Arkenstall Primary School last year to promote road safety and discourage HGVs from using the village as a shortcut.

Speed monitoring and 'Lorry Watch' took place in early 2023 and during March 2023 some central village roads were designated 20mph.

Cambridgeshire County Council has been involved from the start. Lizzi Wales and Cal Easey from the Communities Team have been working with the Road Safety Squad and applied for funding from the East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership to pay for the merchandise to be used in the campaign.

Stephen Thompson, Chairman of Haddenham Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the launch and commended parish councillors on their passion for road safety. He explained that the poster designed by a school pupil called Noah, will be the road safety brand and shared some of the results of the recent work.

He also thanked AG Wright, EJ & RE Clark and MLH as fine examples of commercial vehicle operators who always drive safely and observe the speed limits.

Lizzi Wales introduced the 6 members of the Road Safety Squad who are all from year 6 at the Robert Arkenstall Primary School. These students had the following comments:

- Hettie spoke about their aim 'To help make sure everyone has a safe journey to and from school'
- Joseph thanked Haddenham Parish Council for their support and for organising a school visit from hauliers Turners of Soham
- Charlotte acknowledged 'A grant from the Community Safety Partnership to fund the project'

- Holly thanked local businesses and farmers for their support and displaying the poster on vehicles
- Leila explained that ‘We are providing free wheelie bin stickers to every family in school and pre-school who live within the 20mph zone’
- Emily explained parents may sign up to a ‘Parent Pledge’ and read out the pledge – ‘As a parent, I promise to drive slower, be safe, be more aware, to use my eyes and not to take risks. I promise not to use my phone when driving and to respect lives

Lizzi summarised with ‘This initiative is a great example of collaborative working between 3 different council entities, local businesses, schoolchildren, parents and villagers with a shared aim to make our roads safer for all.’





EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE
Working together to improve community safety



The Community Safety Partnership is made up of organisations working together together to protect their local community from crime and to help people feel safe

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