

News in Kent

Edition 1 – a publication from Kent Police for parish councils

Introduction

This is the first Kent Police newsletter designed exclusively for Parish Councils. We would like to develop this newsletter into a regular communication to cement what is already a productive partnership.

Having spoken to many chairs and parish council representatives at the Kent Association of Local Councils AGM in November, I fully understand the support parish councils can provide in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and enhancing community safety.

This first edition provides an explanation of the government's Crime Mapper website, where you can obtain details of crimes and incidents within your area, as well as accessing the details of your local Neighbourhood policing teams. It also highlights the variety of ways in which you can follow the latest news on Kent Police's activities, either locally or county wide.

I would like to thank all the parish councillors and clerks for their support in the past and look forward to continuing our productive relationship in 2013.



T/Assistant Chief Constable
Matthew Nix

www.police.uk – National crime-mapping website

A national website was created by the Home Office to provide details of local crime, policing and, more recently, criminal justice outcomes for all the forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The site provides a range of helpful information in an easily accessible format including:

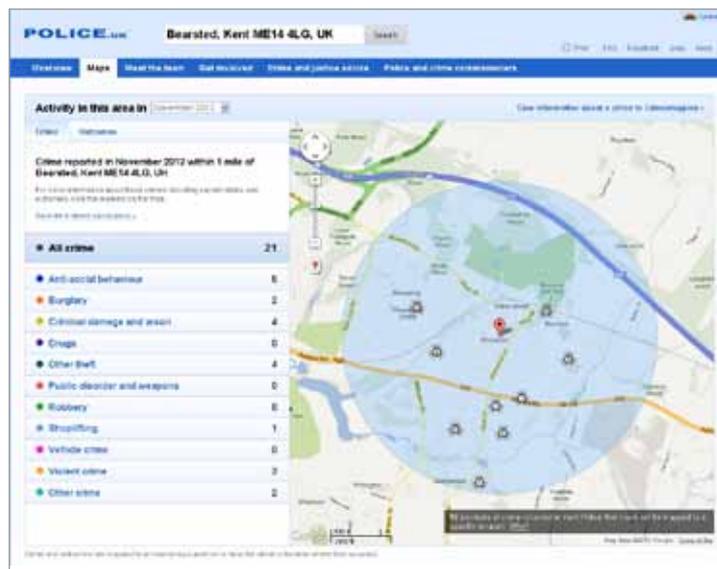
- street-level maps showing crime and criminal justice outcomes – the data is updated monthly by police forces and criminal justice agencies
- a new 'Compare My Area' tool, which enables visitors to compare crime in their local area with that in other similar areas
- details of local neighbourhood policing teams and beat meetings, as well as links to force websites, YouTube pages and Twitter feeds

- advice on crime prevention as well as information about joining or setting up a Neighbourhood Watch group.

The site was introduced to make it easier for the public to access information about crime and anti-social behaviour where they live or work. It has proved very popular across the country.

Major recent developments on police.uk include:

- the addition of information on justice outcomes
- pinpointing relevant crimes to points of interest such as train stations, shopping centres and nightclubs
- information about Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs)
- and a new 'Compare My Area' tool.



Options for future development include:

- publishing the specific locations of those crimes in which privacy is not an issue
- increasing the frequency with which data is released
- making greater use of interactive tools and social

media functionality to support accountability and engagement between local people, the police and PCCs.

For more information visit the Home Office online [guide to Crime-mapping](#).



Kent Police

Protecting and serving the people of Kent

Predictive Policing in Kent

You may have seen recent media coverage about a new initiative we've recently introduced.

Predictive Policing is a natural extension of intelligence led methods pioneered in Kent and has been developed in the USA where it has been effective in bringing down crime rates by up to 25%.

It analyses data to assign the probability of crime occurring in a specific place at a specific time. It uses advanced mathematics and analysis of human behaviour overlaid with historic crime data.

Predictive Policing helps address the root causes of crime and anti-social behaviour rather than looking solely at the symptoms and will be used a tactical option as part of the force's current policing model.



Predictive policing is being trialled in north division – we plan to roll it out in the rest of the county in the Spring of this year. One of the many benefits of this new approach will be an increase in targeted foot patrols to prevent crime happening in the first place.

Vehicle security

Thieves will seize an opportunity if they can, so make sure you take a few quick measures to keep your vehicle secure.

Lock the doors and close the windows and sunroof whenever you leave your vehicle, and take any belongings or sat navs with you – even a jacket may seem appealing to a thief.

When parking your vehicle, use an immobiliser or steering lock if you can, and park in a garage, secure car park or well-lit area if possible. Tucking in wing mirrors and putting down the aerial may also help to discourage vandals.

For more safety tips, download your guide to vehicle security at www.kent.police.uk/yourguide

Keeping in touch

Kent Police is always looking for new ways in which the public can access information about our work. For example, there is now a bespoke e-newsletter for every district published every fortnight.

To sign up, simply visit: www.kent.police.uk/enews – you can get the latest crime prevention advice and news on what we are doing to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour straight to your email box or smart phone.

For fast-time information, follow any of our district Twitter accounts, or for a countywide perspective, the main Kent Police account [@kent_police](https://twitter.com/kent_police)

For a list of all our social media accounts visit: www.kent.police.uk/news/social_media/social_media.html



Secure your property

With Christmas now over, make sure you take steps to keep expensive gifts or new items like televisions, bikes, laptops or phones safe from thieves.

Make a note of any serial numbers, identifying features or marks, and keep receipts somewhere safe. When you go out, remember to secure your home properly and keep valuables items out of sight, away from windows or doors.

Security-marking valuable items and registering them on a national property database (such as immobilise.com) may also help the police to identify your items and return them to you if they are recovered after being lost or stolen.

For more advice on protecting yourself, your home or your property from crime, visit www.kent.police.uk/staysafe

Your guide to...

Our new range of 'Your guide' leaflets offer practical information on staying safe, crime prevention and how to contact Kent Police if you wish to report a crime, need help or advice.

The leaflets cover a wide array of topics including home and garden security, property marking, securing your vehicle or bicycle and how to deter and report rural crime.

You can pick up the leaflets at your nearest police station front counter or download the full range from our website www.kent.police.uk/yourguide

Residents reduce speed on Kent's roads

Nearly 5200 speeding vehicles were recorded and reported in Kent between 1 January and 15 October 2012, thanks to Community Speed Watch schemes.

In Kent, over 350 practitioners help reduce the number of deaths, injuries and collisions on the road through schemes managed by community groups, parish councils or residents' associations.

To find out more, visit www.kent.police.uk/speedwatch

Contacting Kent Police on 101

You can call Kent Police on **101** to report non-urgent crimes or other issues which do not require an emergency response. The number is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

You can also call **101** to speak to your local neighbourhood officer, to make a general enquiry or to make us aware of a policing issue where you live.



What classes as an emergency?

Calling **101** for situations that do not require an immediate police response helps keep 999 available for when there is an emergency.

An emergency is when a crime is in progress, someone suspected of a crime is nearby, someone is injured, being threatened or a life is at risk, or there is a traffic incident involving personal injury or danger.

Other ways to contact Kent Police

There are many other ways you can contact Kent Police to report a crime or get the latest news, advice and information.

For details, drop in to your local police station, talk to your neighbourhood officer or visit our website:

www.kent.police.uk/contactus

To sign up for a copy of the fortnightly e newsletter for your area, visit www.kent.police.uk/enews



For non-urgent issues or to contact your local officer, call **101**



In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, call **999**



If deaf or speech impaired, text **'police'** and your message to **60066**



For news and advice visit **www.kent.police.uk**



Follow us on Twitter **@kent_police** or find your local account at **www.kent.police.uk/socialmedia**



Find us on Facebook



Chat to officers online **www.kent.police.uk/onlinemeeting**



Sign up for your district e newsletter **www.kent.police.uk/enews**