



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK ENGLAND AND WALES

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

1) OVERVIEW

Neighbourhood Watch is a valued voluntary grass root movement with its strength in building strong communities, preventing crime and working to support community resilience and community spirit.

Collectively, the movement is facing new and emerging risks, threats and opportunities. If it is to remain relevant, attractive and effective in our communities, working alongside police forces and local authorities, we need a holistic and joined up approach to how the movement develops now and in the future.

At the Neighbourhood and Home Watch Network (NHWN) AGM on 13 July 2016, a new governance structure was carried with a majority vote from 10 Regional Representatives and Trustees. The principle of this Agreement was agreed and the voting members of the charity were extended from regions to Police Force Areas (42 plus four voting members for London - which will be reviewed as London is developed). It was agreed that to become a voting member, the Neighbourhood Watch Police Force Area Association (NWFA) must sign up to this Agreement.

It was also agreed that a new organisation will be set up. The current Neighbourhood and Home Watch Network is a charity and Company Limited by Guarantee; the new organisation will be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and will be called the 'Neighbourhood Watch Network – England and Wales'. Assets from NHWN will be transferred to the new CIO. This agreement is based on this new charity status. On signing this agreement, the (NWFA) is agreeing to become a voting member of the new 'Neighbourhood Watch Network' (NWN).

Alongside these changes, feedback from Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / London Borough representatives identified the need for a framework to work to and a template outlining how they could be supported by their Police and Crime Commissioner, their police force and/or local authority.

This Partnership Agreement has been developed to support this within one document.

2) CONSULTATION

The development of this Partnership Agreement has been consulted on over a 6 month period during 2015/16 and has taken account of the views of Trustees and Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / London Borough Association representatives from across England and Wales. This included specific consultations with South Yorkshire, Hertfordshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales. It was also discussed at the Logo Licence Focus Group meeting on 8 September 2016.

The views expressed are summarised below:

- Make it easy to use - jargon free
- It needs to be a robust framework but with flexibility to allow for local delivery whilst protecting the values and integrity of the Neighbourhood Watch Brand.
- It needs to allow for the different stages of the development that each Neighbourhood Watch Force Area may be at.
- A Code of Ethics needs to be included to support the management of issues at all levels
- Neighbourhood Watch Force Area Associations need to hold their own logo license and to oversee and manage the integrity of the Neighbourhood Watch Brand.

This Partnership Agreement outlines a clear set of principles to support the continued development of the Neighbourhood Watch movement while allowing for local governance and discretion within these principles for Neighbourhood Watch Force Area and London Borough Associations.

3) REVIEW PERIOD

If Neighbourhood Watch Police Force Area Associations do not sign the agreement, the NWFA will not be a voting member of NWN and the Board of Trustees will make considerations to restrict resources allocated to them by the charity including the use of the trademark, marketing materials and public liability insurance.

This document will be reviewed again no later than March 2018 (March 2019 for London Boroughs). All signatories will have the opportunity to feedback any matters for review as part of this process. Once the revised Partnership Agreement is published, signatories will be invited to re-sign it.

It is anticipated that any subsequent Agreements will be reviewed every three years.

What does a Neighbourhood Watch Force Area Association need to have in place?

A governing document, a Partnership Agreement including a trademark licence and a democratically elected committee

An elected lead representative as a voting member for the national charity

What does a Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / London Borough Association need to do or work towards?

Complete and submit an annual self assessment

Administer and manage the Scheme Register in their locality

What is good practice for a Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / London Borough Association to have?

A Strategic Plan

An Action Plan

An Engagement and Communications Plan

A Bank Account

An Information Sharing Agreement with their police force

Template documents are available in the Knowledge Base on the Neighbourhood Watch website (www.ourwatch.org.uk)



**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH FORCE AREA / LONDON BOROUGH AREA
ASSOCIATION AGREE TO:**

1. Provide leadership, strategic direction, advice and guidance to Neighbourhood Watch (NW) schemes across their locality.
2. Support the collective governance of the Neighbourhood Watch Network - England and Wales via an elected Force Area / Borough Association representative who will vote at a national level on behalf of the Association.
3. Disseminate relevant national and local communications and information to Scheme Coordinators.
4. Operate to the Neighbourhood Watch **Code of Ethics**.
5. Work in partnership with the Police and other local agencies across their locality.
6. Seek opportunities to ensure that their membership is representative of individual neighbourhoods and local communities.
7. Facilitate communication between Scheme Coordinators, including the sharing of ideas and best practice.
8. Ensure the effective management, promotion and maintenance of up-to-date Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and Coordinator data on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Register.
9. Complete an **Annual Self-Assessment**.
10. Manage the Neighbourhood Watch Trademark license and comply with **Neighbourhood Watch Brand Guidelines**.
11. Support, where appropriate, national sponsorship campaigns and initiatives and produce audit reports as required.

Signed on behalf ofForce Area/London Borough Association

Name

Position held within the Association

Date



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK AGREE TO:

1. Represent the interests of the movement in all it stands for.
2. Raise the profile of the movement to the best of its abilities and within available resources.
3. Be a conduit between Central Government, key influencers and other national organisations to ensure that the movement is represented as and when needed, and lobby groups if needed.
4. Ensure that grassroots members' voices can be heard by engaging with and consulting its 'voting members' on matters pertaining to Neighbourhood Watch.
5. Ensure that the Board of Trustees have the depth of understanding, knowledge and experience to act in good faith to protect the brand and the movement as its legal guardians.
6. Facilitate the professional and ethical standards for Neighbourhood Watch nationally including monitoring use of the Neighbourhood Watch brand by unlicensed companies or parties.
7. Host national campaigns such as National Neighbourhood Watch Week and events such as National Awards.
8. Provide and maintain a digital presence on behalf of the movement, including a national website signposting visitors to Associations.
9. Commission and fund the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Register and ensure all Force Area / Borough Associations have administrative access to it.
10. Identify and secure resources as and when they become available for Force Area / Borough Associations such as; public liability insurance, crime prevention resources, window stickers and a free communication platform.
11. Support the continued development of Neighbourhood Watch nationally by commissioning research, working with partners such as the College of Policing and Home Office to identify and test what works and share effective practice.
12. Identify and source or deliver relevant training and development to build capacity and support Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / Borough Associations and coordinators
13. Identify and manage national sponsorship and national funding opportunities for the benefit of the movement.
14. Where there is no Association in place, implodes, or is suspended, to work with members and police to develop a new or restructure a new committee. To protect the interests of the membership, whilst this work is being undertaken.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Lynn Farrar, Chair

Template for use if no Service Level Agreement or Memorandum of Agreement is in place with the Association and the police – Amend or include extra points where needed.



[Insert Police Logo]

[FORCE / BOROUGH] POLICE* AGREE TO:

1. Actively support and assist the Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / Borough Association and its members across [Force / Borough].
2. Nominate a strategic lead to have responsibility for supporting the development and implementation of Neighbourhood Watch across [Force / Borough].
3. Provide a single point of contact (SPOC) to liaise with the Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / Borough Association and the Neighbourhood Watch Network.
4. Ensure that Neighbourhood Policing Teams forge and maintain links with Neighbourhood Watch Area and Scheme Coordinators.
5. Provide timely and relevant information to the Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / Borough Association and Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.
6. Consult with the Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / Borough Association and Neighbourhood Watch Network on relevant issues that are likely to affect Neighbourhood Watch in (Force / Borough) and its membership.
7. Support the Neighbourhood Watch Force Area / Borough Association to promote Neighbourhood Watch and recruit new members.
8. Put into place if not already, an information sharing protocol, including (if relevant) membership details.

Signed on behalf ofForce Area/London Borough

Name

Position held within the Force

Date

Template for use if no Service Level Agreement or Memorandum of Agreement is in place with the Association and the Police and Crime Commissioner – Amend or include extra points where needed.



[Insert PCC Logo]

[FORCE AREA] POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER AGREES TO:

1. To support the continued development of Neighbourhood Watch in their force area.
2. To engage and consult with Neighbourhood Watch in relation to the Police and Crime Plan and any subsequent strategies.
3. To include and promote Neighbourhood Watch as part of their Communications and Engagement Plan.
4. To develop joint priorities with their Neighbourhood Watch Force Area Association.
5. To encourage partnership working between Neighbourhood Watch, other community safety partners and their police force.
6. To consider how their commissioning framework supports and enables citizen participation, particularly Neighbourhood Watch volunteers across crime prevention projects and initiatives.

Signed on behalf ofPolice and Crime Commissioner

Name

Position held within the OPCC

Date