



CASTLE POINT DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
SIX MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ISSUE THREE : NOVEMBER 2022 TO APRIL 2023

Email thecpdnw2021@btinternet.com

Welcome to the third issue of the six monthly newsletter since October 2021 and the last issue had a print run of over 2,000 thanks to everyone who agreed to distribute hard copies and it is by email too!

On occasions I am asked to explain what Neighbourhood Watch is all about and bearing in mind that I have been involved for over twenty eight years I find this a challenge as there are so many activities that we in Castle Point District Neighbourhood Watch action and so I shall explain it this way:-.

Neighbourhood Watch started in the UK in 1982 so this year is its 40th Anniversary and Essex County NW Association was formed in 1995 so a few years ago we celebrated our 25th Anniversary and the Association has over 140,000 members including those on Facebook and Whats App and of course there has been a regular increase in Castle Point District membership which has proven that we have been successful in helping to reduce the opportunity of crime throughout our District thanks to the excellent relationship we have from Essex Police . You may like to know that Essex County NW Association comprises fourteen Districts managed by District Co-ordinators who are there to help and support anyone who wishes to be part of Neighbourhood Watch where they live. Our main objective is to help reduce crime by distributing information from reliable sources who are Essex Police, The Police Fire and Crime Commissioner's Office , Essex Fire & Rescue Service , Crimestoppers and Victim Support. Also we believe that we are very good at reducing the fear of crime too by ensuring that everyone has someone to talk to and discuss any possible concerns such as bogus callers and scams. We also advise you whom you may contact at your local Police Station. We will always do our very best to ensure that the information we have for you is in a format that you understand.

So if you know anyone who would like to be part of Neighbourhood Watch in Castle Point District we can provide, window stickers, wheelie bin stickers, security door wedges, 24 hr timers, purse bells & straps, No Cold Caller stickers, contactless card protector wallets, UV pens (to mark your personal items as an extra security) , members guides and

badges as well as many other useful items too. There is also a Castle Point NW District weekly newsletter (by email).

You may like to know that Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association website is easy to access which is www.essexnwa.co.uk and you can click on the District where you live (Castle Point) to find out what is happening near you regarding Neighbourhood Watch and of course do not forget the excellent Castle Point Facebook Group either!

As your Castle Point District Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator I am here to be of support to anyone who would like Neighbourhood Watch information especially those who may feel vulnerable (whatever their age) and those who may have difficulties in communication, hard of hearing , visually impaired or deaf/blind.

We acknowledge also that there are many who have no need or any access to the internet so we keep in touch them as often as possible as that is what Neighbourhood Watch is all about!

If you are interested in becoming a local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and would like a street sign it is important that you complete a form which I will send to you and needs my approval before I send it to Essex Highways as they need to give their approval too!

By the way Neighbourhood Watch is FREE to all members as we have funding from The Police Fire & Crime Commissioner's Office .

So if you know anyone who would like to be part of Neighbourhood Watch advise them to contact me.

Clive Stewart, Castle Point Neighbourhood Watch District Co-ordinator on email or telephone .

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As usual this newsletter is printed on paper from FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) which is an environmental organisation that ensures the protection of world's forest and their inhabitants.



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FRAUD PREVENTION CO-ORDINATORS

We would like to introduce ourselves.

We are Fraud Prevention Co-ordinators with Essex Police. Our role comprises four elements Prevention, Education, Awareness and Safeguarding. Essex Police groups the County into 3 local policing areas, North, South and West.

Tammy Blest is responsible for the North; covering Braintree, Uttlesford, Chelmsford, Maldon, Tendring (includes Harwich, Clacton & Walton), Colchester.

Nikki Godfrey-Shaw is responsible for the South; covering Basildon, Castle Point, Rochford, Southend.

Caroline Plaktienko is responsible for the West; covering Thurrock, Brentwood, Epping, Loughton, Waltham abbey and Harlow.

The Co-ordinators work closely with Action Fraud and on a weekly basis receive a spreadsheet detailing the victims in the past 7 days for our appropriate areas. We all review the data analysing the threat, harm and risk of all the victim, but concentrate on identifying high risk vulnerable victims of fraud consisting of those over 75 years of age, repeat victims, those suffering with mental health or generally in poor health and romance fraud victims within the county ensuring that the appropriate referral, visit or intervention is offered in order to prevent reoccurrence.

We act as the point of contact for the identification, coordination and management of vulnerable victims of fraud within the county, ensuring a victim centred approach is undertaken. We carry out risk assessments on vulnerable victims to determine the course of action that offers the best protection and support as well as in-person victim visits to ensure that we have safeguarded them to the best of our ability.

No two days are ever the same for us; one week we could each have 80 victims on our list from Action Fraud and 20 of those are vulnerable victims whom all need safeguarding but the following week we may only have 50 and 10 vulnerable victims but each have 6 talks and events booked. We also assist with the safeguarding, advice and care for victims that have an Essex Police investigation whereby an officer has been assigned to them and we are the support for that officer. Essex Police in partnership with Victim Support are one of only 3 forces that offer a Support Group for victims of Romance Fraud. The Co-ordinators work with the victims and complete referrals to the group and support this group by attending the sessions. As Co-ordinators we develop, enhance and maintain relationships with external partner agencies and charities to assist in effectively promoting fraud prevention, raising awareness of current scams, providing crime prevention advice along with products and signposting the public in where they can get help if they have become a victim. This happens in varying forms; talks to various Societies, WI groups, U3A, various Disability Groups, Sheltered Housing Complexes, Knit & Natter Groups. We also attend markets, fetes, libraries and anywhere we feel the public will benefit from us being there. On a regular basis we have a pitch at Saffron Walden Market, Epping Market and Rochford Market and attend local events in partnership with our Community Policing Team. These include Coffee with Cops, Street Beats and Community Awareness Days. We all enjoy attending these events and interacting with the public on Fraud Prevention, as the more people we educate the less victims there will be. If you feel that you are a member of a group who would benefit from a Fraud Awareness & Prevention Talk or have an event that you feel having us there would benefit your community then please get in contact with us at fraud.coordinators@essex.pnn.police.uk

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