

Community Safety

The newsletter from
Hart District Council



Issue 37 May 2024

This Newsletter aims to provide information around safeguarding and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), raise awareness of current issues across the district and promote the good work of our partner agencies and celebrate the successes we have had.

We can be contacted online: [Report antisocial behaviour | Hart District Council](#)

by phone: [01252 774476](tel:01252774476) or by e-mail: communitysafety@hart.gov.uk

Prom Season – Having Fun Safely



As the academic year comes to a close, many Year 11 and 13 students will be eagerly anticipating the opportunity to celebrate the conclusion of their respective academic chapters.

Prom night for year 11s is a particularly special milestone, celebrated much more now than ever. It is crucial to ensure that our young people stay safe while they enjoy the festivities, especially at any after-party they may be planning to attend.

Here are some key safety tips to discuss with any young person embarking on prom celebrations:

Plan ahead: Encourage your child to share their plans for the night, including the party location, who they'll be with, and how they'll get there and back. Make sure they have a safe, reliable way to return home, whether it's a pre-arranged lift from a trusted adult or a reputable taxi service.

Stay in groups: There is safety in numbers - remind your child to stay with their friends throughout the night and to look out for each other. It is essential that they know never to leave anyone behind or alone, including anyone going off with someone they don't know, especially if they are under the influence of alcohol or any other substance.

Know the host: Make sure your child is attending parties hosted by responsible individuals. If the party is at someone's home, there should be an adult present to ensure things stay under control.

Avoid substances: Discuss the dangers of alcohol and drugs. Many young people may feel peer pressure to indulge, but it's important they understand the risks involved, including impaired judgment and the potential for dangerous situations.

Emergency contacts: Ensure your child has a charged mobile phone with important contacts saved, including yours and other trusted adults. Remind them that they can call you at any time if they feel unsafe or need assistance. Inform them to always keep their phones with them and not to leave it on a table or bar. Make sure that the phone 'find my location' is switched on so you know where your child is.

Of course, some of these subjects are tricky to discuss with young people who feel they want to be treated like adults, but by having open conversations about these safety measures and stressing that this advice is about them taking responsibility for themselves and their friends, we can help our young people have a fun

and memorable prom night while staying safe. Involvement and guidance from trusted adults in their lives is key to making sure any celebrations are a positive experience for everyone involved.

Hampshire Constabulary have some further advice for parents/guardians on their Safe4Me website:

[Parent/Carers – Safe4Me substances](#)

[Parent/Carers – Safe4Me teenage relationships](#)



Month of Community & Neighbourhood Watch Week



For over 40 years, Neighbourhood Watch have been making better places to live – together.

1st – 7th June 2024 marks this year's *Neighbourhood Watch Week* as part of the wider celebration of the [Month of Community](#) - an initiative in place every June, which seeks to provide the opportunity to come together to celebrate everything that makes our communities great and bring our neighbourhoods closer, give back, or shine a light on some of the amazing people and/or things happening in our communities.

The theme for Neighbourhood Watch this year is '**Local efforts, big impact**' and focuses on celebrating the positive impact of local community activities, inviting more people to join a local scheme and celebrating volunteers by nominating a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for a [Volunteer Recognition Award](#) – nominations open on the 3rd of June.

There are many benefits of being part of a local Neighbourhood Watch scheme:

BE PROTECTED

- Feel and be safer
- Receive expert, easy-to-follow local and national crime prevention advice
- Be invited to crime prevention webinars
- Be consulted on your crime and community opinions
- Receive discounts in our **shop** and partner product offers
- Enjoy a 50% exclusive NW member discount on SimpliSafe home security systems



BE CONNECTED

- Request to, or be invited to, join a Scheme or start a new Scheme
- Manage your membership options and opt-in to police and other updates
- Remain an Individual Member even if you move home

For more information on a Neighbourhood Watch scheme close to you, see: ourwatch.org.uk

Community in Motion

The Hart Community Safety team have done its first delivery this month of this empowering training session in active bystandership and have received the following feedback:

"I thought 'this is not for me' and 'I'd rather walk away' but I have learnt that there are things I can do without having to confront a situation head on, but that could make a huge difference and prevent things escalating."

"I would really recommend it; the session was thoroughly enjoyable and informative."

Please contact the team if you are keen to attend this training and we will keep you informed about future opportunities.

If you have received this monthly **Hart Community Safety Newsletter** forwarded to you and you would like to subscribe and receive it directly, please drop us a line with your request at:

communitysafety@hart.gov.uk