

Sussex Alerts Update – Saltdean, Rottingdean & Ovingdean

From your local PCSO

Hello everyone!

Welcome to February's ward update for Saltdean, Rottingdean & Ovingdean! Thankfully it looks like the darker and wet mornings are coming to an end and we are welcoming the start of spring!

Anti-social behaviour

Over February, we received some calls regarding youths causing issues around Saltdean causing a nuisance and causing disturbances around the residential areas of Saltdean. These youths had been knocking on doors, kicking bins and running around the area. If you happen to witness anyone causing a nuisance please phone this in on 999 or 101 depending on the situation. When it comes to incidents involving youths, we work with Brighton's Youth team and the local schools to ID any children involved. From this we can work with the children involved to prevent incidents from reoccurring.

Recent Burglaries

Within February, Sussex Police received calls regarding residential burglaries in Rottingdean, as well as attempted burglaries – these were prevented due to quick thinking neighbours deterring these individuals involved.

When it comes to burglaries and when you first become aware you may be a victim of a burglary or may have witnessed someone's property being burgled, please call 999 immediately. Our investigating officers will prioritise forensic opportunity in search for linked suspects. If possible, please do not touch anything, leave your belongings in their original position you found them and call 999. Our call handlers are trained to help guide and support you through the process until investigating officers can arrive on scene.

For advice to deter burglaries, please have a read below and consider implementing some of the target hardening -

- Ensure door and windows are locked – even if you're still at home!
- Bolts on exterior doors are another way to ensure you are safe, keeping another layer of protection.

- Consider motion sensor lights outside of your property, and lights inside your property on a timer – this is recommended for when you leave your property for an extended amount of time or on holiday.
- Where possible, install CCTV cameras, Ring doorbells or fake cameras covering your property - these alone can be a great deterrent for suspects targeting your property. Please be aware of filming laws when installing cameras. If you are confused about these, please don't hesitate to get in contact with myself and I will assist with giving advice regarding your property.
- If you're going on holiday, you may feel inclined to post some holiday photos online on social media – please be aware that this in turn advertises to the online world that your property is vacant. We advise against posting holiday photographs until you return home!
- Get to know your neighbours! Within the ward, there is a strong network with Neighbourhood watch. I work closely with neighbourhood watch with both organisations informing each other of any recent incidents and advice around certain topics.

Rogue traders

It has come to my attention that recently there have been some rogue trader's door knocking in the local area. If you have builders knocking on the door, stating there are issues with your property and they can help you out, please be aware this may be a scam. Whilst some incidents can be genuine, some individuals will try their luck and target those who may be deemed as vulnerable. Sadly, in the Saltdean, Rottingdean and Ovingdean area, we are seeing some of the highest reports of rogue traders due to the older population in the area.

If you believe a rogue trader is in the area, or has knocked at your door, where possible if they have travelled in a vehicle, please try to ascertain the VRM of their vehicle. From this, officers can perform checks to ID and investigate those involved.

Top 3 Ward Priorities

For the meantime, my main priorities for the area are -

- Targeted patrols around residential areas – Following an increase in the number of burglaries in the area, I have been targeting patrols around residential areas to help deter and prevent any suspicious activity. I will continue to monitor ongoing within the area. If you see or hear something that doesn't look right, please do phone this in via 999 or 101 depending on the situation. We are always

here to help where we can – please remember without reports, it's hard to know what is always going on without reports.

- Rogue traders – I have been keeping an eye out for any suspicious activities regarding rogue traders, this has included CCTV trawls to help ID anyone involved.
- Anti-social behaviours – with the warmer weather on the horizon, I think we can all agree it's much nicer to get outside and enjoy the lighter and drier weather! With this, can pair higher rates of anti-social behaviour! It's nice to enjoy the better weather, but with this, can come those individuals who may take it a little too far, weather this be consumption of alcohol, driving or general behaviours. We are here to keep everyone safe! Additional patrols will be carried out in hotspot areas. If you see something that doesn't look right, please phone this into us and we will help where we can.

Crime Statistics over the past month (Correct at time of typing)

- Anti-social behaviour reports – 7
- Burglary reports – 3
- Criminal damage reports – 1

Meet your ward PCSO

I have the following days booked for community beat over the coming months -

Wednesday 18th March 2026 -

General ward day

Tuesday 14th April 2026 –

You can find me at Saltdean Lido at 0930am-1230pm for advice and support

Thursday 7th May 2026 -

You can find me at Rottingdean Seniors Tea Club at 1000am-1200pm

Friday 29th May 2026 -

You can find me at Saltdean Seniors Tea Club at 1400pm-1600pm

Sunday 7th June 2026 -

General ward day

Monday 13th July 2026 -

You can find me at Saltdean Lido at 0930am-1230pm for advice and support

Over these dates, I will be around the area interacting with as much of the community as possible!

As always, if anyone would like to talk to myself over general queries, get advice or book me for visits, engagements or meetings, please call 101 or submit an online request on the Sussex Police website. You can simply state your request - this will be passed on to myself, whereby I will respond when available.

And finally...

Stay in Touch

If you need to report anything or seek advice:

-  **Call 101** for non-emergency matters
-  **Report online** at www.sussex.police.uk
-  **Always call 999 in an emergency**

A big thank you for the continued support and warm welcomes received while on my travels around the area!

Many thanks,

PCSO Lottie Pullen

PCSO for Saltdean, Rottingdean and Ovingdean