



Your Eastbourne Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)

Summer 2022 Updates and Contacts

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team and what we do

Neighbourhood Police Officers

Your Neighbourhood Police Officers for Eastbourne form part of your local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) to provide a Police presence that is accessible to, responsible for, and accountable to your local community.

Neighbourhood Police Officers strive to make life better and safer for everyone in the community; by getting out into your communities we learn of, and can understand the issues and crimes you are facing.



We spend time getting to know local people, organisations and localised issues; we then use that knowledge to help protect the community, by using a range of problem-solving skills to address issues, finding the root and the heart of the problem, and then decide on a strategy that enables everyone involved to find a solution.

Neighbourhood Police Officers are often called on to use their policing powers to solve community problems in a just and fair way to protect communities, as well as to help solve crimes and bring offenders to justice.

As well as getting to know local communities, we often work with partner agencies to support and safeguard vulnerable individuals and groups within the community to help safeguard, and prevent them becoming victims of crime or disorder, as well as working with other Policing teams, including Youth Officers and Police Integrated Offender Management Officers in supporting those who are most at risk of reoffending, to reduce their impact on your community.

Neighbourhood Police Officers also support the work of our colleagues on Neighbourhood Response Teams, and work alongside a number of supporting Officers and Police Staff to deliver the strategic priorities set within the Sussex Police and Crime Plan and the Sussex Police priorities of; protecting our communities, catching criminals, and delivering an outstanding service.

Neighbourhood Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)

Working at the heart of our communities is central to policing in Sussex, and our Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have an essential role to play in that process.

Sussex Police has hundreds of PCSOs within its Neighbourhood Policing Teams who form a crucial link between residents, businesses, the Police, and partner agencies.

As well as supporting Neighbourhood Police Officer colleagues in protecting communities, your Eastbourne PCSOs are out daily patrolling the streets of your villages and towns; identifying the issues that affect your communities and finding the most effective ways to solve them.

This support is vital in combating the root causes of crime and anti-social behaviour and allows our wider Neighbourhood Policing Team to build up detailed profiles of communities; so that targeted plans can then be put in place tailored to the specific needs of the community.



Alongside community engagement work, PCSOs also have enforcement powers which in many respects align with those of Police Officers, and can also detain people they believe have committed an offence.

These powers allow them to deal quickly with the issues that impact communities, such as issuing fixed penalty notices for littering, cycling on footpaths, disorder offences and a number of other crimes.

PCSOs can seize tobacco and alcohol from underage users, as well as drugs; and even vehicles that are being used to cause alarm, alongside the power to stop and search in authorised areas and stop vehicles for testing.

A number of engagement events continue to be held over the Summer where you can meet and speak to your local PCSOs to obtain crime prevention advice, support, as well as ask questions and report matters relating to your local communities – please keep an eye on our Eastbourne Police Facebook and Twitter pages for dates and times.

Neighbourhood Youth Officers (NYOs)

In addition, we also have dedicated Neighbourhood Youth Officers, who are responsible for helping to improve the lives of children and young people (up to the age of approximately 18) through engagement and education; both inside and outside of educational establishments, to help reduce the likelihood of them becoming victims or perpetrators of crime or anti-social behaviour.

By promoting personal safety, good citizenship and offering crime prevention messages, Neighbourhood Youth Officers work closely with school staff, a range of multi-agency partners and the wider Neighbourhood Policing Teams to identify those that are vulnerable to becoming victims, or perpetrators of crime or anti-social behaviour; in particular recognising those vulnerable to becoming victims or perpetrators of serious violence, drug or knife crimes, harmful sexual behaviours including familial abuse, missing episodes, exploitation and county lines.

NYOs also attend assemblies and provide classroom based workshops to promote awareness and highlight the consequences often involved in crimes associated with youngsters, as well working with schools and pupils to increase trust and confidence in policing and reporting amongst children and young people.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB), what does it mean?

Antisocial behaviour (ASB) is defined as 'behaviour by a person which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to persons not of the same household as the person' - Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

There are three main categories for antisocial behaviour, depending on how many people are affected:

- Personal antisocial behaviour is when a person targets a specific individual or group.
- Nuisance antisocial behaviour is when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community.
- Environmental antisocial behaviour is when a person's actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings.

Under these main headings antisocial behaviour can fall into different types, including, rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour, and rowdy or nuisance neighbours.

Littering or drugs paraphernalia, including fly posting and discarding litter, rubbish or drugs paraphernalia in any public place.

Trespassing, street drinking, nuisance noise (not involving neighbours) and begging.

Other types of ASB can also include vehicle nuisance or inappropriate use, including the misuse of go-peds, motorised skateboards, e-scooters and electric-propelled cycles.



Anti-social behaviour (ASB), what can be done about it?

Left un-tackled; we know that anti-social behaviour (ASB) can have a devastating impact on local communities and individuals.

Many ASB offences become serious issues for local residents and businesses; together with partners from local agencies and councils, we are committed to addressing localised ASB and continue to work hard to tackle such issues.

One of the ways we do this is with our additional weekly ASB patrols, each Friday and Saturday evening between 1730-2230.

Each weekend, additional Officers head out on patrol in areas which have seen an increase in, or reporting of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and youth related crime and disorder - many of these areas are visited as a direct result of local reports, and we would encourage residents to please continue to use the contact number provided below (during the hours given) to report ASB at the time it is happening directly to Officers out on the ground.

Eastbourne ASB patrols (Friday and Saturday 1730-2230) please call **07785 372050** to report incidents of ASB at the time; outside of these times, please continue to report ASB online: www.sussex.Police.uk or to us on 101 - **in an emergency/crime in action always call 999.**

Deliberate fire setting (arson)

As we head into the Summer holidays, we would like to raise awareness of the dangers and seriousness of deliberate fires following a number of recent reports.



During the month of July Eastbourne Police have seen an increase in deliberate fire starting (arson), with individuals deliberately targeting public play parks, public waste bins and grass lands across the town; primarily this has been in the parkland areas of Shinewater and the surrounds.

Arson and deliberate fires are a big problem for the Fire Service, the Police and the Ambulance Service, and endanger lives and divert valuable resources each year.

Not only is this a serious offence with life endangering consequences, it also has very detrimental effects on the local community, environment and our partner agencies including:

- Children being deprived of playing facilities
- Areas of natural beauty being damaged
- Emergency services putting their lives at risk
- As well as the cost of repair, which can be significant and is often paid for from public budgets

We ask that parents and carers speak with children in their care around the risk of fire setting, and the consequences it has not only on them but others and would encourage parents and carers to visit the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service website for the latest advice and support.

Children who play with fire may do so for various reasons, ranging from natural curiosity to a call for help - without help and guidance, fire setting behaviour can develop - leading to more serious consequences such as major injuries, damage to home, schools, property and even death.

In addition to raising awareness whilst out in your communities; Eastbourne Police will be completing regular patrols of mentioned areas, and will utilise all available powers in order to robustly protect life and prevent damage to local infrastructure and we will not hesitate in bringing offenders to justice.

Did you know? The maximum penalty for anyone found guilty of arson is imprisonment for life. This is because of the exceptional danger involved. Victims may lose all their property, be made homeless, injured, or suffer a very painful death. Even if nobody is physically hurt, you may still have to cope with financial damage.

If you have any information about arson (deliberate fires) or any other linked crimes contact the Police, or you can report anonymously on 0800 555 111 or by visiting CrimeStoppers online:

www.crimestoppers-uk.org/

Reporting a crime, 999 or online/101?

There are a number of ways you can contact Sussex Police:

Emergency calls: In an emergency where you **need an immediate response** always call 999.

If you are deaf, deafened, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, a text phone is available on 18000. (Please visit www.relayuk.bt.com/ for more information and to register).

You should use this number always if:

- A crime is happening right now.
- Someone is in immediate danger, or there is a risk of serious damage to property.
- A suspect for a serious crime is nearby.
- There is a traffic collision involving serious injury or danger to other road users.

Silent emergency calls: If you call 999 and are unable to speak to the Contact Officer, for example a violent partner is in the background, you can press 55 to initiate a 'silent 999 call', this allows the Contact Officer to prompt questions in an alternative way, you may be asked to cough, or press numbers on your phone.

(Pressing 55 only works on mobiles and doesn't allow the police to track your location).

Non-emergency calls: For all other calls that **do not require an immediate response**, please telephone 101 or report online (Calls cost 15p from mobiles and landlines, regardless of duration).

If you are deaf, deafened, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, a text phone is available on 18001 101. (Please visit www.relayuk.bt.com/ for more information and to register).

Non-emergency online reporting, advice, and contact: By visiting our website: www.sussex.Police.uk where you can speak to us about a general enquiry, or contact a specific Police Officer or member of Police Staff, as well as access a library of information and crime prevention advice to help keep you, your loved ones, and your property safe from crime.

You can also use our quick and easy non-emergency reporting forms to report the vast majority of non-emergency crimes such as reporting a crime not currently in progress - for example a stolen car, a recent burglary, or damaged property, or to give information to the Police about crime in your area.

Did you know? Contacting the Police online can save you time and help us keep the phone lines clear for those who desperately need our help in an emergency; all reports made online are assessed by one of our skilled Contact Officers – the very same people who you would normally speak to if you called 101.

Social Media

You can find and follow your Eastbourne Neighbourhood Policing Team on both Facebook, and Twitter for the latest news, daily snapshots, patrol updates, arrests and more...

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EastbournePoliceUK

Twitter: www.twitter.com/EastbournePol (neither monitored 24/7, please do not use to report crime)

You can also sign up to our weekly Sussex Alerts email online; all alerts are specific to your interests and local area; and you're in control of how often you are contacted and who you receive information from.

To sign up today visit: www.sussexalerts.co.uk to find out what is happening in your area – including witness appeals, crime updates, crime prevention advice and news.