

Community Safety Partnership Newsletter – Hinckley and Bosworth

e-newsletter winter 2023/24 edition



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Introduction

Welcome to the latest newsletter highlighting the work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in Hinckley & Bosworth, which will keep you up to date with the work of the partnership and how it is helping to keep individuals and neighbourhoods safer.

The CSP brings together a collection of people and organisations that have a real commitment to do everything in their power to have a positive impact on reducing crime, the fear of crime and to work closely alongside local communities in bringing about a sense of safety for all.

The CSP has published a three-year Community Safety Strategy which is available for download at <http://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk>

If you have your own community networks or magazines please feel free to pass on this newsletter or print articles from it.



Cllr Michael Mullaney

Joint Chair of Hinckley & Bosworth
and Blaby Community Safety
Partnership

Darker nights campaign

With darker days and nights upon us, local police forces are reminding residents how to keep their homes safe from burglars.

Unfortunately, the winter nights can make it easier for burglars to hide in darkness - and for unoccupied and unlit houses to be easier to spot.

However, Leicestershire Police's 'darker nights campaign' encourages homeowners to take simple, precautionary measures in a bid to cut-down burglaries. These steps include locking all windows and doors before leaving a property, as well as leaving a light on when you go out, or using an automatic light timer to give the appearance that you are home.

In addition, local police at Hinckley Police Station have also secured funding from Hinckley & Bosworth and Blaby's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire to support victims of burglaries with special packs which contain items such as light timers, window alarms, CCTV stickers and information leaflets. These will be rolled out across the borough to support and reassure victims of burglary.

Funding has also been secured to distribute faraday pouches to individuals with keyless cars to prevent keyless car theft throughout Hinckley and Bosworth. Faraday pouches block signals that car thieves use to remotely start cars to steal them.

Cllr Michael Mullaney, Executive Member for Community Safety said: "Burglaries can increase during winter and the darker nights. However, we are pleased to have been able to secure and provide this funding so that our local police teams are able to support victims of burglaries, and to help prevent future ones from taking place."



Op Sceptre

During November Hinckley Police took part in Operation Sceptre, a national operation seeking to raise awareness and tackle knife related crime. Operation Sceptre targets all areas of knife crime from raising awareness with the community and in particular young people about the dangers in carrying knives, as well as what they can do if they have concerns about a friend or family member who may be carrying.

During the week of operation knife amnesty bins were made available in the front office of Hinckley Police station for anyone wanting to dispose of any knives or sharply pointed items. The great news is that it is still available in the police stations for people to visit anytime and dispose of items accordingly.

Throughout the week, officers engaged in beat surgeries and knife sweeps of hot spot locations checking for hidden or discarded weapons. Proactive operations with knife wands took place around the area and groups of young people encountered on our patrols were spoken to and given advice. Police distributed advice leaflets and heart shape stress balls reminding people of the need to put lives before knives. The hearts were provided through the support of the Community Safety Partnership.

CSP Christmas Campaign

Hinckley & Bosworth's Community Safety Partnership launched a Christmas campaign to help people keep safe during the festive season. This year's annual campaign raised awareness of a number of issues that affect our community during this time of year including crime prevention tips to prevent vehicle crime and burglary, fire safety advice, personal safety information and Domestic Abuse.

The Partnership also raised awareness of Ask for Angela which is an initiative for those that feel unsafe or vulnerable when out in a bar or club so that they can discreetly approach staff at participating venues asking for 'Angela' which is a code phrase which will indicate that they require help with their situation.

The partnership also delivered workshops with young people in schools and colleges in the run up to Christmas to highlight to them the risks of substance misuse and give them advice on personal safety. Night-time economy street marshals were employed in the town centre on key nights over Christmas and New Year to improve feelings of safety and to reduce the likelihood of offences.

Cost of living support

The cost of living continues to rise, affecting us all.

Living with less money or staying on top of everything can be a struggle.

If you're worried about the cost of living and want to know what support is available for budgeting, debt help or to ease the squeeze visit [Cost of living support | Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council \(hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk\)](https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/costoflivingsupport)

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

Welfare Support Service
Drop-in advice session
Every Wednesday 10am to 2pm
Hinckley Hub

No appointment necessary
Advice on benefits
Grant applications
Maximising your household income
Food bank referrals
Household Support Fund
Maximising your household income
Minimising your outgoings
Help with white goods

email: costoflivingsupport@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk  

BILLS

DEBT

Warm Welcomes

Warm Welcome...

Warm Welcome spaces are opening their doors to local communities, offering everyone a free, warm, welcoming and friendly space. They are a great place to connect with your community.

As it turns colder, public buildings, community hubs and private spaces across the borough have opened their doors to help people keep warm and provide a friendly, safe and comfortable place. The offer at each venue will vary but will **always** include the opportunity to meet other people and have a hot drink. There may also be opportunities to have a snack or warm meal, take part in activities, learn new things and make use of free internet. You can also access a range of information, support and guidance on issues such as energy saving, wellbeing, money and budgeting.

To find a warm welcome location near you visit:

www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/warmwelcome or tel: **07557 816741**

Please **check frequently** as this directory is regularly **updated with new locations**.

If you would like your venue added to this list email:

Jennifer.fry@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council



Warm Welcome Grants

A grant scheme funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to support the development and sustainability of warm welcomes throughout the Borough has been launched. So far 16 organisations have applied and successfully received a grant of £1200.

Cllr Michael Mullaney, Executive Member for community safety said: "I am delighted that we can help provide grants for these hugely positive and much needed facilities. We have seen a wide range of locations open across the borough and the positive impact they are having in their local communities and being able to access this funding will help expand their work further when it's most important."

You can find out more information about the fund and the eligibility criteria by visiting www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/warmwelcomegrant

Deadline for applications is 1st March 2024 or until the funding for the programme has been fully spent (whichever is sooner).

Community Houses

Newbold Verdon craft group worked on various projects last year including peg bags, glasses cases, scrap booking and air-dry clay.

To help support the library, the group made Christmas gifts to sell, and donated the proceeds to the library.

The crafts are varied and often the ladies share a craft they are skilled in. The group meets every Friday from 10am – 12 noon at Newbold Verdon Library, Main Street. There is no charge for the crafts, however, there is a small charge of 50p for a cuppa. New members are always welcome and there is no need to commit to every week if you can't make it.

To find out more, please call in to the library on a Friday or ring Rachel Duncan or Shirley Cobby on (01455) 255941/255942.



Sir Ian McKellen and the Royal Shakespeare Company praise drama group



A new drama and singing project, Grays Drama Academy based at the Meadows has been praised for helping young thespians learn about Shakespeare whilst building confidence and learning new skills.

The academy which is a private business has been supported by community house staff members.

In a message to the group, The Royal Shakespeare Company said: "We would like to express our admiration for the work you are doing in Leicestershire. It is commendable and your values very much align with the work that our Learning and National Partnerships lead on."

Football sessions to combat crime and ASB



Young people are being offered free football sessions to promote self-development and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

Funded by the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Commissioner, the Premier League Kicks programme is delivered by Leicester City in the Community on behalf of Hinckley & Bosworth Community Safety Partnership.

The sessions are run at Green Towers Youth Club in Hinckley for young people aged between 11 and 16 in term-time only.

Project leaders are working in partnership with the local beat team to provide a consistent place for young people to meet and take part in safe, physical activities after school in their community.

A four-week pilot programme took place at Heath Lane Academy during October and a friendly tournament was held between the young people from Heath Lane and Green Towers which was attended by the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Rani Mahal and Councillor Michael Mullaney.

Councillor Michael Mullaney, Executive Member for Community Safety said: "The programme provides positive opportunities for young people to get involved in sport. More than 80 young people took part during 2022/23, with at least 30 youngsters enjoying the sessions each week. The partnership initiative has proven to be a fantastic initiative for young people to meet others in a safe and welcoming environment, build relationships with the police and have fun at the same time by playing football."

School workshops

During 2023 officers from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council have been busy delivering a wide range of workshops to schools engaging with more than 3000 young people.

Working with 1732 students in 9 secondary schools and North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College and 1668 students in 16 primary schools the numbers have far exceeded expectations.

Workshops vary and examples of these are based on diversity, wellbeing, anti-social behaviour, safer driving, student councils, climate change and 'working with us' to showcase the careers available in local government.



The Healthy holidays event is just one example which is a partnership between Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Turning Point and Leicestershire Police which is delivered to sixth formers.

Students taking part in the healthy holidays event at The Hinckley School in December

The event was delivered to The Hinckley School and Brookvale Groby Learning Campus which looked at all areas of safety and health including cyber safety, drugs and alcohol, anti-social behaviour, relationships, diet and exercise and relaxation. Students got involved in activities which included a personal safety quiz, testing reactions wearing mock drunk goggles and oxygen level tests to see the impact of rest and relaxation.

Healing together

Sixteen children have participated in a healing together programme which community safety staff deliver for children and young people aged between 5-16 who have been impacted by domestic abuse. The programme helps children/young people learn about how their body and brain can work together to help them feel safe and calm. Healing Together is a 6-session trauma informed programme that enables children/young people to access early intervention by people they trust, and in a space they feel safe.

For more information please email: childrens.support@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

Domestic abuse outreach service

My Recovery from Trauma

Artwork completed by domestic abuse outreach service users depicting their journey to recover from the trauma/s that they have experienced and the impact that this has had on them has been on display in the Hinckley Hub reception area since November 2023, in conjunction with the White Ribbon Campaign, and at the Atkins Building in Hinckley for a week during January 2024.

The display will return to the Atkins Building alongside the Children and Family Wellbeing Service's Service User Group's artwork, which was also in conjunction with the White Ribbon Campaign from Monday 4th – 9th March.

Please find time to visit the displays and leave a comment for the service users in the comment box.

For domestic abuse advice, help or support visit www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/domesticabuse for more information.

To contact the council's Domestic Abuse Outreach Service telephone- call or text 0796620218, alternatively call 01455 238141 and ask to speak to the Domestic Abuse Outreach Service in our Community Safety Team.
Email DomesticAbuseOutreachService@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk



Artwork on display completed by service users

Neighbourhood Mental Health Cafes


Leicester, Leicestershire
and Rutland

Neighbourhood Mental Health Cafés

For times when you're struggling to cope

Neighbourhood Mental Health Cafés offer local support for people who need immediate help with their mental health.

The cafés are drop-in centres for anyone to come and talk to us about their mental health in confidence - no appointment needed. They are run by partners on behalf of the NHS.

We have supportive, trained staff who can listen and provide the practical support you need.

Scan the QR Code or visit:
www.leicspart.nhs.uk/services/neighbourhood-mh-cafes





Neighbourhood
Mental Health
Cafés

For times when you're struggling to cope

Celebration for our Ukrainian community



The event to reflect and celebrate Ukrainian independence was attended by more than 170 people. Held at the Meeting centre in Hinckley the event was supported by the Borough Council. Guests enjoyed live music by a Ukrainian singer and traditional songs were sung by some Ukrainian children.

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine more than 100 generous families in Hinckley and Bosworth have opened their homes and lives to Ukrainians and more than 200 Ukrainians have been welcomed into the borough.

Executive Member for Housing and Community Safety, Cllr Michael Mullaney added: "This was a fantastic event where we all came together to celebrate our Ukrainian community as well as all the fantastic leaders, hosts and families who have supported them through difficult times. Our thanks to everyone who attended, as well as to all borough residents who have welcomed our Ukrainian community with open arms."

Game, set and match for tennis fans

The borough's Ukrainian community have been filmed by Sports England for a heart-warming documentary.

Guests of all ages were filmed as they gathered to socialise and enjoy a day of tennis thanks to a collaboration between the Borough Council, Sports England and Hinckley Tennis Club.



Throughout the year the organisations have arranged a series of free tennis sessions with the aim to help Ukrainian guests integrate into their new surroundings.

Sports England filmed the event to recognise the importance of these sessions which bridge cultural gaps and enrich lives.

Executive Member for Housing and Community Safety, Councillor Michael Mullaney, said: "This was a wonderful, heart-warming event to celebrate the strength and resilience of our wonderful Ukrainian community."

Community resilience – winter weather

Throughout the year, the Local Resilience Forum plan how they respond to emergency situations to assist the Emergency Services with their response. During an incident, the Emergency Services will prioritise situations where there are immediate threats to life.

There is a lot you can do to prepare for potential emergencies during the winter. The likelihood of a severe weather-related emergencies is obviously greater in the winter months. The following is a list of things you could do before any potential emergency.



- Check if you live in a flood risk area. This gives the risk of flooding from rivers and surface water due to heavy rain.

<https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk>

- Signing up for flood warnings will keep you better informed of the risks in your area.

<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>

- Flood Wardens – Our Flood Wardens are a great asset to their communities as they are able to give advice and information and report any concerns. Do you have a Flood Warden in your area? Do you know how to get in touch with them? Are you interested in becoming a Flood Warden yourself? If you have any queries in relation to this, contact us via email

communityengagement@leics.gov.uk

- Occasionally, residents do have to evacuate their homes if the impact is significant. You could plan in advance for what you might need to take with you if you do need to leave your home. This is the link to the LLR Prepared website to give you some ideas of what you may need:

<https://www.llrprepared.org.uk/prepared-residents/grab-bag/>

