

Hart Community Safety Newsletter

This Newsletter aims to provide information about how we can support those experiencing Antisocial Behaviour (ASB), current issues across the district and successes we have achieved.

We can be contacted online: [Anti Social Behaviour Reporting Form | Hart District Council](#)

by phone: Rachael **07816 109687** or Caroline **07816 109682**

or by e-mail: communitysafety@hart.gov.uk

Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Tools and Powers: Civil Injunctions

There are **two legal tests** to be met for a **Civil Injunction** - on the Balance of Probabilities i.e. *it is believed a behaviour or conduct will happen* as opposed to being proven beyond all reasonable doubt as would be required for a criminal case:

1. Where the behaviour is **non-housing related**: that **the behaviour is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress**
2. Where the behaviour is **housing related**: the **conduct is capable of causing nuisance or annoyance**

In both cases, the court has to be satisfied that the injunction being requested is just and will prevent anti-social behaviour. Injunctions replace the old 'ASBO' legislation and can therefore also be used, through the Youth Courts, against youths over 10 but under the age of 18.

Breaches of Civil Injunctions will be a **civil contempt of court** and punishable, if proven beyond reasonable doubt, with an **unlimited fine or up to two years' imprisonment**.

Achieving an Injunction against someone further empowers a landlord or social landlord as the Injunction provides an **absolute and mandatory ground for possession**.

Hart Community Safety are delighted to have just been granted their first **Civil Injunction** against a persistent and determined perpetrator of ASB that has plagued multiple neighbours with extreme noise, foul language and verbal abuse for over 12 months. The Injunction was granted with a **Power of Arrest** to ensure that any continuation of the behaviour will result in arrest to be heard at court as a **Breach** of the **Injunction**.

Working with Schools to Tackle Exploitation

Protecting our young people from the risks of being drawn into exploitation from drug gangs and organised crime is a priority for Hart Community Safety and the other partner members of the wider North Hampshire Community Safety Partnership.

Hart Community Safety are offering secondary schools across the district a heavily subsidised interactive and immersive experience on the **Drugs Bus** in the run up to the summer holidays to engage year 7 students in discussion around the realities of being drawn into exploitation and the potential life changing consequences.

There will also be a pop-up event coordinated by Police, Hart Community Safety and the Children's Services specialist team in exploitation, the Willow Team, at Frogmore Community College on 19th July 2021.

Keyless Car Thefts

We are pleased to share that the spate of keyless car thefts that occurred across the district in April does not appear to have continued through May and June so far. These crimes are most often committed by well organised groups who will move around areas to reduce their likelihood of identification and capture, so we are unlikely to avoid them coming back to the district at all.

These thieves commonly target high value and high power cars, often BMW and Audi, so we would advise all owners of high value, high power vehicles to implement these simple, practical, security measures to combat the issue:

- Steering Wheel lock
- Wheel clamp
- Faraday bag to keep the keys in - this prevents thieves from picking up and relaying signals from your key by providing a complete signal blocker for your vehicle key fob

What is our current key message?

Summer is here and it's a time for relaxing and enjoying the fine weather (while it lasts) but that doesn't mean that we should revel at the expense of the peace and enjoyment of others.

Following these simple guidelines will allow everyone to enjoy summer to its fullest:

- Whether at home or in a public park, keep noise to a level that would allow surrounding neighbours to still be able to have a conversation and be heard in their own properties and gardens – *remembering that alcohol can hugely distort the ability to control enthusiasm and volume!*
- Be mindful of language used – and how that might impact surrounding neighbours, especially those with young children.
- If there is an issue, where possible and safe to do so, approach those disturbing you and calmly ask them to reduce their volume – if this is not possible or your approach does not improve the situation and you continue to be disturbed, you should report this to Police as ASB either by calling 101 or through the following online link:

[Report antisocial behaviour | Hampshire Constabulary](#)

Key Successes

An Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) was carried out at the car park at Edenbrook Country Park opposite The Brambles following reports of persistent Vehicle/Youth ASB which has resulted in:

- regular patrolling from the local Neighbourhood Policing Team whenever resourcing allows and interaction with a number of individuals found in the locale
- ASB Warning Letters being sent out to a number of vehicle owners by Hart Community Safety
- a subsequent reduction in reported incidents of ASB in that location – long may this last!

Hart Community Safety will always look to work with the most appropriate partner to resolve an issue.

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