

Community Safety

The newsletter from
Hart District Council



Issue 64 August 2026

This Newsletter aims to provide information around safeguarding and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), raise awareness of current issues across the district, 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** or by e-mail: communitysafety@hart.gov.uk

Summer and Anti-Social Behaviour

With schools now broken up for the summer, residents may notice an increase in activity in parks, open spaces and residential areas. Whilst the vast majority of young people enjoy their holidays responsibly, the longer days and increased socialising can sometimes lead to a rise in reports of **anti-social behaviour (ASB)**.

Hart District Council defines ASB as behaviour that most people would consider unreasonable and which causes **harassment, alarm or distress** to others. Examples can include noisy or disruptive behaviour, vandalism, criminal damage, threatening or intimidating behaviour, verbal abuse, littering, graffiti and the inappropriate use of vehicles.



It's important to remember that not everything people find annoying is classed as ASB. This can include children playing, neighbours carrying out DIY at reasonable times, general day-to-day living noise, or groups of people gathering in public spaces where no nuisance or criminal behaviour is taking place.

How to Report ASB

If you're experiencing or witnessing anti-social behaviour though, please report it as follows:

- **In an emergency, always call 999**
- For non-emergency police matters, call **101**
- Report ASB to Hart District Council using this online form [Report Anti-Social Behaviour](#).
- Where possible, provide supporting evidence such as photographs, videos or independent witnesses to help support investigations.

By reporting concerns promptly and providing as much information as possible, you can help us work with partners to keep Hart a safe and enjoyable place for everyone throughout the summer holidays.

Cannabis: What You Need to Know

Cannabis remains one of the most common issues reported to the Community Safety Team. As the warmer weather continues and more people open windows and spend time outdoors, we often see an increase in reports relating to cannabis use and associated concerns. Many people are surprised to learn that **cannabis is a Class B drug**, meaning it is illegal to possess, give away or sell.

The Law

- Possession of cannabis can result in **up to 5 years' imprisonment**, an unlimited fine, or both.
- Supplying cannabis to another person – including friends or family – can result in **up to 14 years' imprisonment**, an unlimited fine, or both.

Working Together to Tackle the Issue

The Community Safety Team works closely with **Hampshire Police**, housing providers and landlords to tackle cannabis-related concerns. However, these cases can be challenging to investigate as the smell of cannabis alone is not sufficient evidence for enforcement action, and police powers to enter a property are limited where simple use is suspected. **That doesn't mean nothing can be done.**

Building the Bigger Picture

The key to resolving ongoing issues is **consistent reporting**. Every report helps partners build an evidence base and identify patterns of behaviour.

If you are affected, please record:

- Dates and times of incidents
- Details of any vehicles involved
- Descriptions of people attending the property
- CCTV, Ring doorbell or other video footage where available

How to Report Concerns

- Report concerns to **Hampshire Police** via [Hampshire Police Reporting](#).
- Contact the Community Safety Team at **communitysafety@hart.gov.uk**.
- If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact [Crimestoppers](#).

Support is Available

If you or someone you know is struggling with cannabis use or addiction, help is available:

- **Inclusion Hampshire** – support for drug and alcohol misuse: www.inclusionhants.org
- **Catch22** – support with substance misuse, exploitation and wider wellbeing issues: www.catch-22.org.uk
- **Hampshire County Council Safeguarding Services** for [adults](#) and [children and young people](#)



Remember: If something doesn't feel right, report it. Even if a single incident doesn't seem significant, your information could be the missing piece that helps build a clearer picture and enables partners to take action.

Hart Youth Achievement Awards 2026

Nominations are now open until 25 September 2026 in two age categories – up to school year 6 and school year 7 to age 25 across the following categories: Community Champion, Courage, Academic Achievement, Fundraising, Group Achievement, Sports and Arts and Volunteering.

Get your thinking caps on, share with others and submit your nominations [here](#).

Help us to all celebrate the wonderful young people in Hart!



Safeguarding: are you worried about someone?

If someone is in immediate danger, always call 999.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have concerns about an adult who may be at risk of harm, abuse or neglect, or you are worried about the way they are behaving which you feel may be harmful to others, please report this to [Hampshire Safeguarding Adults](#) so they can provide the right support and protection.

For any concerns relating to a child or young person, referrals should be made to [Hampshire Safeguarding Children](#) so that they can receive help as early as possible.

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