Community Safety

The newsletter from
Hart District Council



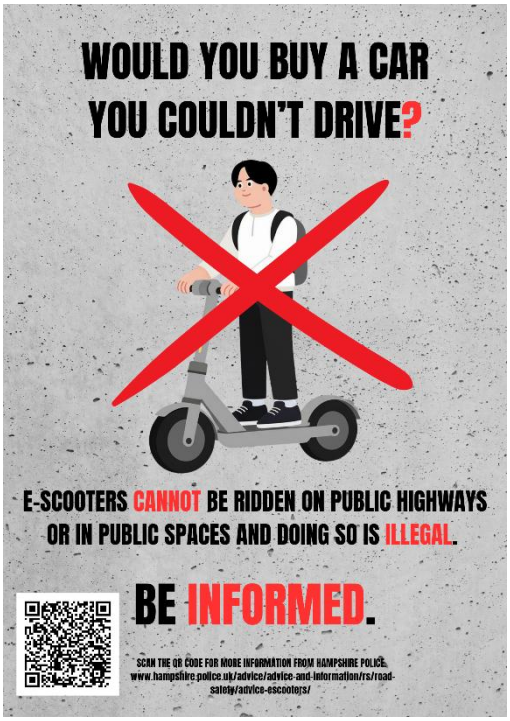
Issue 66 October 2026

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

Thinking of buying an e-scooter for Christmas? Think again!

E-scooters might be appearing on Christmas lists this year, but before buying one for a child or young person, it's important to understand the law.



Privately owned e-scooters are **illegal to ride** in public places, including roads, pavements and parks. They can only be legally ridden on **private land** with the landowner's permission. Anyone using a privately owned e-scooter illegally could face a fine, penalty points on their driving licence, and the scooter could be **seized by police.** E-scooters are treated as motor vehicles under the law, meaning requirements that apply to motor vehicles can also apply to them. Unlike authorised rental e-scooters, which have third-party motor insurance provided by the rental operator, privately owned e-scooters cannot legally be ridden on public roads.

So, while an e-scooter may seem like an exciting Christmas present, it might not be the best choice for children and young people. Unless they have access to suitable private land with the landowner's permission, there is nowhere public where they can legally ride it.

Darker evenings: Keep your home secure

As the evenings get darker, it's a good time to check your home security. A few simple steps can help make your property less attractive to burglars.

Remember to:

- Lock doors and windows, even when you're at home.
- Use timer switches for lights if you're going to be out after dark.
- Keep house and car keys out of sight and away from letterboxes.
- Keep sheds, garages, gates, tools and ladders secure.
- Keep valuables out of view and consider property marking.
- With Christmas approaching, break down packaging from expensive gifts and put it inside your recycling rather than leaving it on display.

Further Advice:
Hart residents who are over 60, disabled or particularly vulnerable due to disability or long-term illness may be eligible for a free home security and safety check from the Blue Lamp Trust Safe Home Scheme. Visit the link or call 0300 777 0157 for more information.

You can also contact **Hart District Council Community Safety** on 01252 774476 or by e-mail via communitysafety@hart.gov.uk

Lock up. Light up. Look out for each other.

Have a happy and safe Halloween!

Halloween should be fun for everyone, whether you're heading out trick or treating or having a quiet evening at home. If you're trick or treating around Hart this Halloween, please remember to stay safe and respect your neighbours. For some older or vulnerable residents, unexpected callers after dark can be frightening. Hampshire Alert asks trick or treaters to look out for 'No Trick or Treat' posters and to respect residents who do not answer their door or do not wish to take part.

A few simple tips for a safe evening:

- Children should go out with an adult or responsible group.
- Carry a torch and add reflective material to costumes to help you stay visible.
- Take extra care when crossing roads and keep children away from the road.
- Never enter a stranger's home or accept a lift from someone you don't know.
- Plan your route and make sure older children know when they need to be home.
- If someone doesn't answer or displays a 'No Trick or Treat' sign, respect their wishes and move on.



When choosing costumes, Hampshire County Council also recommends checking for a UKCA or CE mark and using battery-operated tealights or glow sticks in pumpkins rather than open-flame candles.

Remember, Halloween is about treats, not tricks that frighten people or damage property.
Let's help make Halloween in Hart safe, respectful and enjoyable for everyone.

Stay safe this Bonfire Night

Once the excitement of Halloween is over, we quickly head into Bonfire Night. Whether you're watching fireworks or enjoying a bonfire, make safety the priority this Bonfire Night.



- Buy fireworks only from reputable retailers and check for a UKCA or CE mark.
- Follow the Firework Code and keep children and young people away from fireworks.
- Keep pets safely indoors and provide them with a quiet place away from the noise.

Have fun, stay safe and be considerate of those around you this Bonfire Night!

Safeguarding: are you worried about someone?

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If someone is in immediate danger, always call 999.

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