

OUR NEWS



FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS ACROSS ENGLAND & WALES

Are you ready for Neighbourhood Watch Week, 3rd - 9th June?



With just 5 weeks to go until [Neighbourhood Watch Week](#), are you ready for it? Neighbourhood Watch Week is a time of celebration of our togetherness and how for over 40 years, we have been making better places to live - together.

The theme this year is [MAKING THIS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE](#) and focuses on:

- [being active](#) in your community
- inviting more people to [join your scheme](#) and
- [celebrating our volunteers](#) by nominating a Coordinator for a Volunteer Recognition Award – nominations open on 3rd June

From ideas and tips on how to be more active, to conversation starters and membership flyers, we have everything you need to celebrate the week. For more information visit [ourwatch.org.uk/nweek](#); and to help us build momentum follow and share our posts on our social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)).

Join in with the Month of Community

The [Month of Community](#), celebrated throughout June, is when we come together to celebrate all the things that make our communities great.

It's an opportunity to bring our neighbourhoods closer, give back, and shine a light on our amazing communities.

June will see a month of community events and celebrations across the UK, as we get together to share friendships, have fun and support various charities and causes.

Across all our Month of Community partners there's so much to get involved with during June! Discover community events and celebrations across the UK as well as opportunities to support a variety of charities and causes.

You can find out more about the Month of Community events and how to get involved [here](#).



Order your wheelie bin sticker now

We know Neighbourhood Watch signs and stickers are a visible deterrent to criminals. They also help promote your community as one that is safer and more connected. Now, with our new [wheelie bin stickers](#) you have a new way of displaying stickers in your road.

We also have branded mugs, pens and lanyards for you to order from our online shop. We are selling them as individual items, a pack of the three different items, or in bulk for those who wish to buy items for everyone in their group (a pack of 10 lanyards, a pack of 10 pens, or a pack of 36 mugs).

[Browse our products here](#)

Follow us... [ourwatch.org.uk](#)



Safer communities with simple steps

Terrorist attacks are rare in the UK, but it is important to always remain vigilant and alert to be prepared. As a community, recognising early indicators of an attack can reduce casualties and save lives.



What can I do?

Community members can help defeat terrorism by reporting any suspicious behaviour or activity. By having more eyes and ears available, we can build resilience and help save lives.

Keep an eye out during your day-to-day commute to help recognise any suspicious behaviour. Remember, if you see or hear something that could be related to terrorism, trust your instincts and report it. For more information on how to report suspicious behaviour, click [here](#).

The ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) Awareness e-Learning is a free online course that can help increase awareness. Anyone can complete the short 45 minute course by signing up to ProtectUK and creating an account.

We encourage everyone to undergo the training to increase their understanding on how best to respond to the most likely types of terrorist activities.

To access the free e-Learning course, sign up [here](#).

You are invited to a free virtual awareness session on 24th May, 12 - 1pm, for those in the voluntary sector, on the National Counter Terrorism Policing's Protect UK platform and App. Register [here](#).

The Power of Hello

If you work within a public space and you see an individual acting suspiciously, a simple question such as "how can I help you?" could deter them.

If we encourage everyone to do this, hostile individuals can be intimidated and put off. Please note, some hostile individuals could be dangerous. Trust your instincts and report anything to the police if you sense danger. Click [here](#) for more information about encompassing the power of hello within your place of work.

Key guidance

ProtectUK offers free counter terrorism advice and guidance which helps individuals evaluate and manage the risks posed by terrorism. **It is free to access and offers in-depth, Government-approved information.**

You can access the site without creating an account, but to enjoy all the benefits ProtectUK offers, such as the e-learning and forums, you will need to sign up.

An award winning [accompanying app](#) is also on offer and provides quick, actionable guidance that can be accessed on-the-go.

Neighbours and communities across the United Kingdom are invited to share food and fun together at Coronation Big Lunches on Sunday 7th May 2023, in a nationwide act of celebration and friendship.

From a cup of tea with a neighbour to a street party, a Coronation Big Lunch brings the celebrations to your neighbourhood and is a great way to get to know your community a little better.

Protect UK encourage everyone to consider the guidance and advice mentioned above and to enjoy the Coronation weekend celebrations.

ProtectUK

Want to support our national charity?

We are a national charity that covers England and Wales and manages over 90,000 volunteers with a tiny staff team of 8 people.

We provide resources, tools and host events for our members to support them to keep their communities safe, inclusive and vibrant places to live. It doesn't cost a penny to be a member of the national movement. **We rely on your generosity so we can keep doing this. If you would like to support us in our work please consider [donating](#).**



See someone being harassed?

Crimes and harmful behaviours, such as sexual harassment and hate crime, are significantly under-reported. A key factor for this is the everyday nature of these crimes and incidents, and the fact that they have become deeply ingrained in our culture.

These incidents pervade the lives of those who experience them, no matter the severity, and are also likely to escalate. However people are becoming more aware of these crimes and the long-term implications they have on victims and communities. The tide of acceptance is turning.

We are encouraging people to ask others 'are you okay?' if they witness an incident and ultimately it is safe for them to do so. This simple action lets a victim know they are not alone and the perpetrator that you do not condone the harassment.

"If you witness someone being harassed on the street – whether they are being intimidated, shouted at, insulted, honked at, up-skirted, or are having offensive gestures or comments made towards them – when it is safe for you to do so, ask them if they are okay."

This lets them know that you stand by them, empowers the victim to report and sends a message of intolerance towards the crime. In this way we can start to turn that culture of acceptance around." John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of Neighbourhood Watch Network

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO ASK THIS QUESTION?

Street harassment often occurs in residential streets, on the bus, or in local parks and high streets when there are people around who may witness it.

There are many reasons why they won't intervene, particularly when in large groups. Termed the 'bystander effect' this occurs when the presence of others discourages an individual from intervening. The greater the number of bystanders, the less likely it is for any one of them to initiate help for a person in distress.

Disrupting the escalation early by safely intervening makes it more difficult for discrimination, harassment and hate to flourish. Asking "are you okay?" when it is safe to do so is part of a delayed intervention and part of the "5D's" methodology of bystander intervention.

For more information about the "5Ds" methodology and how to safely intervene and prevent street harassment, visit ourwatch.org.uk/streetharassment.
WANT TO LEARN MORE?

We invite you to attend a free, hour long, expert-led, online webinar "Stand-Up against Street Harassment" bystander intervention training, delivered by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, in partnership with L'Oréal Paris.

This training is highly relevant as a bystander response to all forms of street harassment, including sexual harassment, disability harassment, harassment against men, ethnic minorities, marginalised groups, and all forms of hate crime, empowering the learner to know how to support someone who is being victimised.

There is a selection of dates and times to choose from. The training is only one hour long so easy to fit it into a busy schedule. If you would like to attend this free training, please sign up today.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

MORE ABOUT THE TRAINING

Bystander intervention is the term for witness action to defuse situations and make public spaces safer. The Stand-Up training (sponsored by L'Oréal Paris and delivered by Suzy Lamplugh Trust) focuses on the "5 D's" intervention programme, originally pioneered by the international NGO Right to Be.

It encourages those who witness harassment to act by:

- Distracting the perpetrator
- Delegating by asking for help
- Documenting the harassment
- Direct intervention by speaking up in the moment, and
- Delaying by checking to see if the person is okay

The programme drives awareness of street harassment with a call-to-action on a global scale. By opening the public's eye to the scale of harassment that women in particular experience, Stand-Up aims to simultaneously discourage harassers, support victims and encourage bystanders to intervene with the aim to drive a cultural shift in the global response to street and public harassment.

The training is open to everyone - action from people of all genders and ages is vital.

Although there is a long way to go and it's certainly not the only way to end harassment, given the primary responsibility lies with the harasser, not the harassed, bystander training can be a step towards supporting and empowering victims of, and witnesses to, street harassment.

MPs sign up to our Community Safety Charter



COMMUNITY SAFETY CHARTER

TACKLING CRIMES IN PUBLIC SPACES

Sign up today and #BETHECHANGE



On Monday, 24th April, we spent the morning at Portcullis House in Westminster talking with MPs about our Community Safety Charter and the impact that Neighbourhood Watch makes across England and Wales.

We are pleased to say that 11 MPs signed up to our Community Safety Charter at the event including:

- Louie French, MP for Old Bexley and Sidcup
- Martin Vickers, MP for Cleethorpes
- Simon Fell, MP for Barrow and Furness
- Abena Opong-Asare, MP for Erith & Thamesmead
- Sir David Evennett, MP for Bexleyheath and Crayford
- Jack Brereton, MP for Stoke-on-Trent South
- Eddie Hughes, MP for Walsall North

The event was sponsored by Luke Pollard MP for Plymouth Sutton and Devonport, and Kevin Foster MP for Torbay, as part of our Community Safety Charter project in Devon and Cornwall sponsored by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Politicians were keen to raise issues that they have been battling with for their constituents around antisocial behaviour and the role of community in setting local policing priorities. They were able to access information about crime prevention activity in the areas they represent and gain a deeper insight into the work of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers.

MPs left with a better understanding of the role Neighbourhood Watch volunteers in their local community, information about our Community Charter, and knowing the relevance of the organisation in our ever-changing society.

Will you sign up to the Charter?

Launched in July 2022, the Charter signifies a way for those who use public spaces to join together to call out crime. Over 1,300 businesses, individuals, schools, Local Authorities, Neighbourhood Watch groups, MPs, Police and Crime Commissioners, community groups, Parish Councils, and even hairdressers, have signed up.

The specific topics we have focused on to date are: harassment, hate crime, antisocial behaviour, being an active bystander, dealing with confrontation and how to be a positive change in your community.

By signing up to the Community Safety Charter, people, businesses, and organisations pledge to:

1. promote a culture that does not tolerate those harmful behaviours
2. enable others to take an active stance against them
3. encourage reporting, and
4. support those affected by the crimes.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of Neighbourhood Watch Network, said, "Our Community Safety Charter enables us all – individuals, schools, libraries, bus companies, faith groups, local shops and even your local postie - to play a key part in creating an environment in which crimes such as these in public spaces are not tolerated."

Through the Charter, we provide a greater understanding of how to recognise and deal with community and personal safety issues. Bystanders can safely intervene and support victims in accessing where to get help, and how and who to report to.

The Charter enables everyone to take a positive and proactive approach when witnessing or experiencing confrontation, hostility, or harassment. Sign up at ourwatch.org.uk/charter.

MPs sign up to our Community Safety Charter



Celebrating 20 years of the UK's National Property Register

As we gear up to celebrate another wonderful Month of Community, the team behind Immobilise - the UK's national property register - are celebrating too, as a special anniversary approaches.

If you haven't already come across [Immobilise.com](https://www.immobilise.com), it's a free and invaluable tool against property crime. With close links to police and other law enforcement agencies, officers will routinely check the database to try to match recovered lost or stolen items with their rightful owners.

Founded in 2003, it's been 20 years since the site launched and it's now the world's largest free register of possession ownership details. Over 25 million users worldwide have registered over 35 million items of property in that time.

By logging your possessions, you can increase your chances of them being returned to you if they are recovered. Any updates you make – such as flagging an item as lost or stolen – are immediately available to police nationally and keeping a detailed log of your valuables can help to simplify insurance claims and police reports.

The Immobilise register is also linked with CheckMEND, the second-hand stolen property database, which can help detect stolen items and prevent them from being traded.

Marking the 20th anniversary, Les Gray, one of the founders of Immobilise, took a moment to reflect on the platform's success.

“When we first launched Immobilise, we knew its potential. To watch it flourish over the years and become the critical tool against crime that we knew it could be, has been really quite special,” Les commented.

“We've achieved a lot in the past 20 years, but there's still so much more we can do. We're excited about the future of Immobilise and the role it can play in making our communities safer.”



Any item with a unique identifier can be registered on Immobilise – from mobile phones and laptops to bikes, jewellery and musical instruments. If your item doesn't have a serial number, or anything else that might help to identify it, using a marking product like a UV pen or asset label could prove useful.

Adding a touch of uniqueness will help to match the item back to you as the owner. A number of marking products are sold through the Immobilise online shop, but the system will accept any identifiers, from any third party.

Visibly marking items as being registered – through labels or window stickers for your home, for example – can even help to deter thieves.

“The online service is totally free and is quick and easy to use. Items marked as being registered with Immobilise are less likely to be stolen, and households displaying Immobilise stickers are less likely to be targeted by burglars.”

Greater Manchester Police

[Register Your Items Now](#)

IMMOBILISE [®]
THE UK NATIONAL PROPERTY REGISTER



How smart tech can help keep an eye on your home

Security cameras can help deter intruders and antisocial behaviour, giving you peace of mind. With so many different models to choose from, we've zoomed in on ERA Protect's best-selling products.

ERA Protect Smart Home Video Doorbell



Ideal for anyone home alone, or simply so you never miss a caller, the [ERA Smart Video Doorbell](#) is a wired doorbell with sophisticated motion detection capabilities, two way talk and activity logging.

This smart doorbell is easy to fit and use, with intuitive functionality that can be tailored to your needs. Real-time live viewing means you can see, hear and speak to the visitor at the door, safely from inside your home or while you are away.

Included in the set is a video doorbell, backplate, power kit adaptor, drilling template, fixing kit, window sticker and quick start guide, priced at £33.15.

Wireless Outdoor Security Camera



See and hear what's happening outside your home from anywhere, on a smartphone or tablet with the [ERA Protect Outdoor Camera](#). It sends an alert to the app when motion is detected, and you can watch live or review recordings that are stored securely in the cloud.

ERA Protect's easy to install outdoor camera provides a crystal-clear video and sound coverage. No matter day or night keep your home protected thanks to the built-in night vision.

The outdoor camera can be used as a standalone device or combined with the ERA Protect alarm system, all of which can be accessed and controlled by a single app. The settings are intuitive and adjustable to suit your requirements.

In the box you get one WiFi outdoor camera, an aerial, connector, power supply, a quick start guide, drilling template and fixing kit, priced at £39.20.

Floodlight Outdoor Camera

The [ERA Protect Floodlight Camera](#) is an external motion-activated camera and floodlight that is controlled and viewed via an app.



For added home security this innovative system sends an alert to the app when motion is detected and at night lights up the protected area too. You can watch live or review recordings that are stored securely in the cloud.

In the box you get one WiFi outdoor floodlight, a wall mount, WiFi antenna, a quick start guide, drilling template and fixing kit, priced at £69.30.

This system can also be used as a standalone device or combined with the ERA Protect alarm system.

For more information on ERA's security cameras and to find the right solution for you, visit eraprotect.com.

What is a PayPal scam?

PayPal scams are [scams](#) carried out through fake emails or links to a fake PayPal site that asks you to enter personal payment details.

Scammers often use social engineering tactics to persuade users to click fake PayPal links and enter their credit card details or send them money. Generally, PayPal is a safe online payment system, because end-to-end [encryption](#) and [two-factor authentication](#) secure transactions.

How do I know if the PayPal email is genuine?

PayPal sends emails only for payment notifications, receipts, and promotional purposes. Any emails that PayPal does send out will address you by name, rather than an impersonal address like “Dear User.”

The primary email address for PayPal is paypal@mail.paypal.com, and this is the address that’s usually used to send account statements and notifications of changes. PayPal sends receipts using service@paypal.com. The email address paypal.me is also a legitimate domain.

What are the most common PayPal scams?

PayPal scammers have a lot of different ways to scam unsuspecting users on the online payment platform. Like all scams, they use [social engineering](#) tactics to trick you into thinking the order or payment is real. Below are the most common PayPal scams to watch out for.

- Phishing scams
- Overpayment scams
- Shipping address scams
- Advance-payment scams
- Fake or hacked account scams
- Fake payment scams

What to do if you are scammed

If you think you’re the victim of a PayPal scam, secure your account immediately. Change your account [password to something strong and secure](#) and notify PayPal if you’ve lost money as a result of the scam — sometimes they’ll refund you. Go to [PayPal’s Resolution Center](#) to report the scam.

Finally, report the scam to the police, although it will do little to help recover your funds after a scam, it may help prevent the scammer from striking again in the future.

How can I avoid being scammed on PayPal?

Always verify the authenticity of each email and transaction before you share personal or financial information, or before you send goods to a buyer.

Additionally, follow these basic steps:

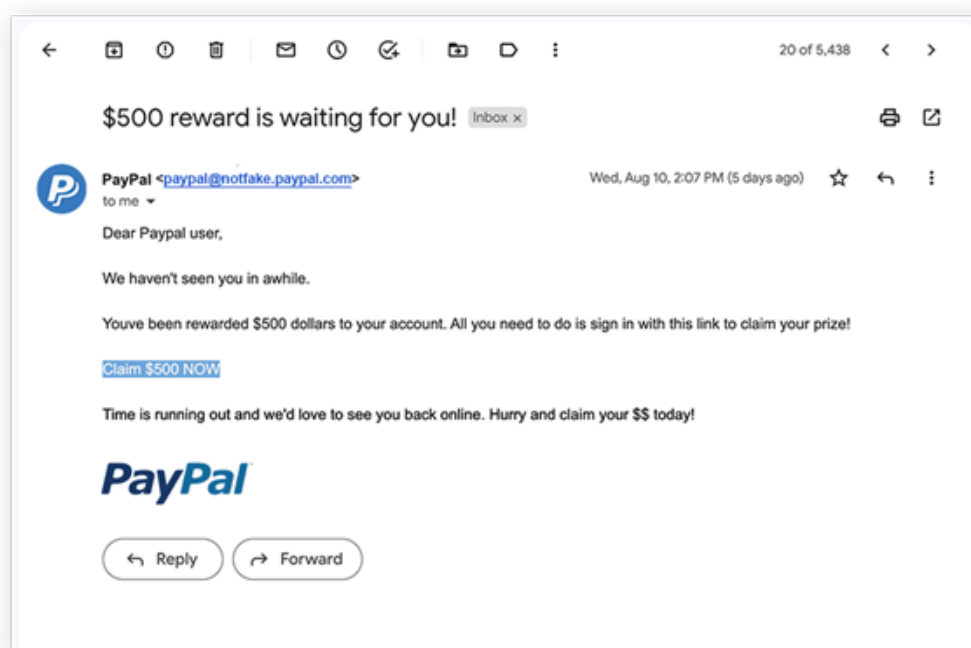
- Check for spelling errors or an unusual domain in the email address, such as .vip, .gdn, .win
- Be skeptical — if something seems too good to be true, it probably is.
- Don’t click links in emails appearing to be from PayPal, instead log in to PayPal directly and go from there.
- Don’t use delivery services you’re not familiar with.
- Don’t share personal information such as passwords or other login data.
- Sign up for PayPal’s Seller Protection Program for additional fraud protection if you’re an online seller.



Defend against scams with Avast

A great way to guard against PayPal scams is to make sure your own device is protected. Avast One is an all-encompassing, ironclad security solution against online threats. Its award-winning threat-detection engine blocks viruses and malware, and its data-monitoring tools will warn you in the event your online accounts are ever compromised.

[Get 70% off Avast One today](#)



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Recommended by Neighbourhood Watch



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PATLOCK

Neighbourhood Watch Member Discount
order a Patlock for £42.50 from
patlock.co.uk/neighbourhood-watch

SECURED BY DESIGN

**WANT TO
HELP
STOP
THIS?**



Our Community Safety Charter

EMPOWERS YOU

(as an individual, business or community group)
to reduce crimes in public spaces,
such as harassment, hate crime,
and antisocial behaviour

SIGN UP TO THE CHARTER

ourwatch.org.uk/charter

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales. CIO No. 1173349