

Community Safety

The newsletter from
Hart District Council



Issue 28 - August 2023

This Newsletter aims to provide information around safeguarding and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), raise awareness of current issues across the district and 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: Rachael **07816 109687** / Caroline **07816 109682**
or by e-mail: communitysafety@hart.gov.uk

Tackling ASB in Fleet Town Centre

Whilst reporting remains relatively low for ASB in the town centres across Hart, a spate of ASB in Fleet in the Hart Shopping Centre, along Fleet Road and the immediately surrounding areas has led to increased patrolling focus on the area for Police and some early intervention and enforcement work including Community Protection Notice and ASB Warning Letters being issued which is hoped will prevent matters from escalating further.

What remains clear across all forms of ASB is that tackling it requires a partnership approach and, in this case, there is a huge part to play by the Fleet BID ([see more info on their Facebook page](#)), the retailers, the Hart Shopping Centre team and the wider community in conjunction with Police and the Hart Community Safety Team and plans are in place to build up joint working further.

Reporting is key and ensuring that we are upstanders rather than bystanders when it comes to reporting or evidence provision can make a huge difference to the positive outcomes that can be achieved. As a member of public witnessing ASB, we would never advise that you put yourself at risk to intervene, but we would ask that you advise the retailer (or the security staff if you are in the Hart Shopping Centre) of what you have witnessed or experienced **and** report to police with as much detail as possible:

- call 999 in an emergency where life or property is at immediate risk
- or for non-emergency, call 101 or [report online](#)

Together we can make a difference.

Your Police Cadets Need You!

The Volunteer Police Cadets scheme provides a safe environment where young people can learn as individuals, develop positive relationships with the police and actively support the community. Volunteering as a Cadet Leader could be a very personally rewarding thing to do and could enable development of skills to inspire young people to become good citizens.

Whilst many leaders come from the policing family, adults from all walks of life are welcomed and they particularly encourage those without a policing background. Vetting to the highest national standards, including an enhanced DBS check is provided and there are opportunities to become a leader no matter how many hours a week/month you are able to volunteer.

For more information, see [the Police Cadets website](#) or send an enquiring e-mail to: volunteer.police.cadets@hampshire.police.uk

Why Language Matters

The teenage years can be a time of big changes, confusion, experimentation, and growing independence. It's also a time when some teenagers start being interested in romantic and sexual relationships. Although this is a natural part of growing up, there are situations where an age difference or power imbalance within a relationship should be a warning sign of potential safeguarding concerns around child sexual exploitation.

So, when is an 'older boyfriend' just an older boyfriend or a potential risk to safety?

Case reviews that have been undertaken highlight that, if there is any suspicion that a child might be at risk of sexual exploitation, it's important to:

- ask questions that explore the nature of the young person's relationship
- be curious about the labels and language the young person and their peers use to talk about the relationship

If you still have concerns that there may be an exploitative relationship contact [Children's Services for advice on what to do to](#).

Community Safety in Action

Issue

Reports received of suspected youths gaining access to an abandoned and privately owned building and creating damage to building/contents and potentially putting themselves at risk.

Response

Evidence required to take any action against individuals for either ASB or criminal damage so both Police and Hart Community Safety advise continued reporting of all incidents and provision of evidence where available. Hart Community Safety enquire about ownership of building.

Action

Hart Community Safety send a letter to owner of property to advise ASB and potential criminal damage has been reported within their property and they are reminded that trespass is a civil matter for them to manage. They are further reminded that as the owner of the property, they have owner's liability for any injury that may occur on their property, regardless of whether it occurs as a result of trespass.

They are requested to take suitable measures to prevent continued access to the property or provide appropriate security measures to protect their building and report any issues with evidence, if ongoing.

Outcomes

Hoped for outcome is for the building owner to make safe the property and prevent continued access and therefore remove both the potential for harm to trespassers and the opportunity for further ASB or criminal damage.

Reminder of Upcoming Hart Youth Achievement Awards



Fleet Phoenix is excited to announce that we will be celebrating the amazing achievements of the young people in our community with the first Hart Youth Achievement Awards in October. With the help and sponsorship of local organisations, we would like to publicly recognise and celebrate the incredible work and successes of young people locally.

THE AWARDS:

Volunteering Award, Fundraising Award, Environment Award, Courage Award, Community Champion Award, Sports and Arts Award and Entrepreneur Award.

WE NEED YOUR NOMINATIONS
BY 15TH SEPTEMBER!

SCAN TO
NOMINATE



Each award will have two age ranges; Juniors (up to 16 years old) and Seniors (17 to 25 years old).

Young people need to live, or be educated in Hart to be nominated.

With thanks to...



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