



NEIGHBOURHOOD
WARDENS



Horsham
District
Council



Denne, Trafalgar, and Forest Neighbourhood Councils

Neighbourhood Warden Report February 2025

Patrols

In February, I was on foot patrol in the community for 118 hours. This allows me to complete Hotspot patrols and provide a high visibility presence in Horsham.

February contained a Half Term and so we saw a rise in young people in town. Despite the weather, we did see young people and their families in town, and it was great to see families enjoying time off together.

Patrol time included 68 hours in Denne. Most time of the time in Denne is spent in the town centre. This gives me an opportunity to link in with the shops and businesses, market, residents, and young people. However, I also covered the residential areas in Denne.

I spent 27 hours 30 minutes in Forest which included covering areas such as Bennetts Field and New Street and some community venues such as Hilliers Garden Centre.

I spent 22 hours 30 minutes in Trafalgar this month and visited Victory Road Recreation ground and riverside walk amongst other known locations.

Community engagement/events/meetings.

New Office! Albery House:

This month I moved over to the new office with the rest of the Community Safety Department. It's great to be settling into our new office which is located at the West end of Swan Walk.

Our new address is:

Horsham District Council
Albery House
Springfield Road
HORSHAM
West Sussex. RH12 2GB



Horsham Market:

I continue to stay in close contact with Horsham Market and speak with the market stall holders. This month I have responded to the concerns about an individual who may be stealing from the market. I encouraged all theft to be reported to Sussex Police and informed the Neighbourhood Policing Team. Horsham Market is a wonderful hub of the community, and I would encourage anyone to attend on a Thursday, Friday or Saturday.



Please take a look at Horsham District Council's events page to stay up to date:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/community/events-in-horsham-district>

West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Safety Meeting:

We held the first WSFRS Safety Meeting in Albery House. This gives us an opportunity to talk about buildings and places that potentially could be of concern. We discussed the fire at Gardner and Scardifield and the phenomenal response from WSFRS. A small crew contained the fire as effectively as possible, and we commend them. A further 'Well Done' to the HDC staff who came out, in their own time, to help support the displaced families. This was an effective response, and everyone should be proud.

We also discussed fire safety doors and their importance in holding back fires and saving lives. This was after we experienced some damage to several fire doors in the car parks, these doors are to be replaced as soon as possible.

Finally, we discussed a few events which would benefit from a WSFRS presence. WSFRS also complete 'Safe and Well' visits to vulnerable people. If you know anyone who may benefit from this then please get in touch. More information on 'Safe and Well' visits can be found here:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/west-sussex-fire-and-rescue-service/home-fire-safety/safe-and-well-visit/>

Sussex Police and Anti-Social Behaviour

Sussex Police:

As a Neighbourhood Warden I have regularly patrolled with our Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) and continue to share Information with them. We have a dedicated 'Town Team' of six PCSO's. During February, I had approximately 45 calls with the PCSO Town Team, and we completed 21 joint patrols.

I received some reports of phone thefts in Horsham Town this month. We encourage residents to keep their phones in a secure location and to try to stay aware of their personal belongings and items of value while in town. Sussex Police have been informed.

In Forest Neighbourhood, PCSO Christina Laws is the local PCSO. This month I discussed Hillier's Garden Centre with PC Knight. Sussex Police are currently focussing on Garden Centres in a bid to reduce theft and create a better, safer Horsham.

In Trafalgar Neighbourhood, PCSO Kyle Berriman is the local PCSO. PCSO Berriman and I frequently meet to discuss Trafalgar Neighbourhood and attend community events together. I spoke with Kyle this month to pass on several pieces of intel and create some plans for Summertime and potential joint projects / meets.

If there any community events you believe would benefit from a visit from the Neighbourhood Wardens and / or PCSO's then please get in touch, and this can be arranged.

ASB:

We had reports of people trying to gain access to the empty Groundsman's house by the Cricket Club. I assessed the house with our properties team and found this was not fully secure. The current Groundsman for the cricket club then fully secured this building and we haven't had any reports since.

We also received several reports of young people cycling down West Street in an anti-social manner, such as wheelies. Although no accidents were reported, this is not acceptable. I spoke with a group of the young people who were doing this and they dismount when they see me.

Cycling

This month I have asked 14 cyclists to dismount on West Street, 12 of these dismounted. 2 cyclists chose to continue to cycle. I have been speaking with the Neighbourhood Policing 'Town Team' to discuss cycling on West Street with a specific focus on delivery cyclists. We are currently finding the TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) which prohibits cycling on West Street.

Bike thefts are still prevalent, and members of the public can order their own anti-theft stickers from The Bike Register <https://www.bikeregister.com/>

Sussex Police have also shared information on how to secure your bike appropriately:
<https://www.sussex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/how-safe-is-your-bike/>

Older residents, vulnerable people and youth

Youth engagement:

February saw a normal rise in young people in town due to half term. It was lovely to see our local young people enjoying the town on their time off.

Please keep an eye on our events page for holiday activities and events for young people during the school holidays. This half term we had: Bird-box building at Warnham, Crafts at Horsham Museum, Forest School and Den Building in Leechpool Woods.

I continue to engage with the regular young people out and about in Town centre and further afield. I often see the same young people and have slowly built a relationship with our known faces. They usually respond well to guidance and advice when it is needed, and I regularly link in with Sussex Police who can complete home-visits and meet parents when it is required.

School Engagement:

I visited the Queen Elizabeth II School this month and met with the Headteacher. I took the time to listen to the travel arrangements and then got to witness the process from start to finish. The school has a large number of students with complex needs and the staff are managing the pick-up and drop-offs well. I have linked the school with the Senior Road Safety Officer at West Sussex County Council. I am hoping they will be able to further assess, with more expertise, and provide some measures to diminish some of the strain on both the school and the Road users.

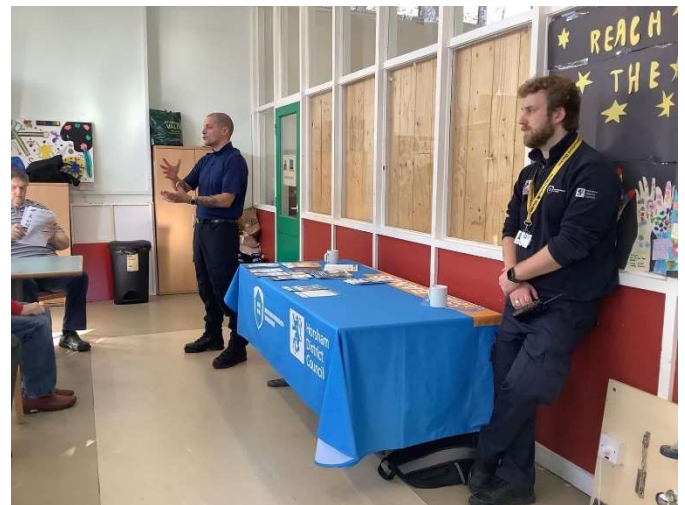
Older Residents:

AGE UK continue to provide activities and support for our older populations. Please see February's activities and join in. <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/westsussexbrightonhove/about-us/contact-us/>

Vulnerable Residents:

This month I completed a Scams Talk at the Strawford Centre. This is a day centre for people over the age of 18 with a variety of care and support needs. This meant the scams talk was kept brief and clear. We had a great conversation with the group who engaged really well. I would like to say thank you to the staff at the Strawford Centre for such a warm welcome and support. I did this visit in collaboration with PCSO Rico Pereira and with the support of resources from Mencap.

I encourage members of the public to support local charities such as Horsham Matters <https://www.horsham-matters.org.uk/> and Turning Tides <https://www.turning-tides.org.uk/> should they wish to donate to support anyone they believe to be homeless.



Signposting:

I had 38 conversations described as ‘Signposting’ this month. This can be anything from our local foodbanks and community fridge to reporting abandoned trolleys. During our foot patrols we spend a lot of time discussing with residents the support and resources available to them. Please see our resource page for the services we regularly signpost to.

Safeguarding:

Our approach to safeguarding is changing slightly at Horsham District Council and new Safeguarding Champions are being trained within the Council. This is in response to WSCC having an incredibly high demand with Safeguarding referrals. This will ensure we have tried to utilise all resources and services available before we complete an official ‘Safeguarding Referral’.

Safeguarding is still a constant responsibility and although I did not complete any official Safeguarding referrals to WSCC in February, I continue to signpost and refer to services of support for those who require help.

Reporting crime and anti-social behaviour

<p>999</p> <p>or report online www.sussex.police.uk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A crime is happening now. • Someone is in immediate danger or at risk of harm. • Property is in danger of being seriously damaged. • A serious disturbance to the public is likely. 	<p>101</p> <p>or report online www.sussex.police.uk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All non-emergency incidents where the crime has already happened or there is no immediate risk of harm. 	<p>CrimeStoppers. 0800 555 111</p> <p>crime-stoppers-uk.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To report crime 24/7 anonymously. • CrimeStoppers is not the police – it is an independent charity working to help communities. • Information given will be shared anonymously with the police. 	<p>British Transport Police 0800 40 50 40 Text 61016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-emergency incidents on a train or at a station can be reported direct to the British Transport Police online: www.rtp.police.uk/reportcrime. • There is also a Railway Guardian app. 	<p>Horsham District Council communitysafety@horsham.gov.uk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report general anti-social behaviour and repeated public nuisance to the ASB team at Horsham District Council. • You can also report litter, fly-tipping, graffiti, dogs and dog fouling online: www.horsham.gov.uk/report.
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See it. Report it.

Reporting crime and ASB means we can work together to reduce it.