

Hart Community Safety Newsletter

This Newsletter aims to provide information about how we can support those experiencing Antisocial Behaviour (ASB), current issues across the district and successes we have achieved.

We can be contacted online: [Anti Social Behaviour Reporting Form | Hart District Council](#)
by phone: Rachael **07816 109687** or Caroline **07816 109682**
or by e-mail: communitysafety@hart.gov.uk

Festive Season Reflection

The weeks leading up to and over the festive season can present as much excitement for some people as it can challenges for others, depending on their circumstances and the meaning it holds for them. The anticipation of connecting with family and friends, exchanging gifts and sharing good food can bring lots of joy to those able to enjoy it, but for others, the same anticipation can be overwhelming and create pressures that make a peaceful approach to the festive season hard.

The practicalities of - or indeed the complete lack of - organising meals, parties and gifts, facing financial hardship, loneliness, dysfunctions in family relationships, issues around increased alcohol intake are just some of the reasons that can instead build a sense of dread around Christmas, creating anxiety, stress or depression and worry about how to cope – and, this year once again, there will be many families unable to connect with one another as they had hoped or planned due to rising numbers of Covid-19 cases and resultant self-isolation periods.

This is a timely reminder to reflect upon our own gratitude and wellbeing - and to look out for our family, friends, neighbours and members of our wider community as we head into this festive season together, remembering that **Safeguarding is Everybody's Business**.

Helping you to support yourself and others, here are some useful contacts to keep to hand during the festive season and beyond:

Here for Hart - We all need a bit of support or guidance from time to time, but it's not always easy to know who can help or where to begin. This webpage offers information and links to a range of support and resources to assist you around money worries, housing situation concerns, advice on employment or training, or on how to help improve your health and wellbeing.

<https://www.hart.gov.uk/hereforhart>

Citizens Advice Hart - available to everyone for advice, on any topic, although they are reserving face-to-face appointments for those who cannot contact them by phone or email. They are closed between Christmas and New Year, but will available again from 4th January, 2022.

Adviceline **0800 144 8848** Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm / <https://citizensadvicehart.org.uk/>

Hampshire Social Care and Health – if you are concerned that you or another adult is being neglected, harmed or abused in any way, please do not ignore it. You can use the online forms on their website to provide details to get help or call the numbers given below:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/adultsocialcare/contact/start-a-referral>

0300 555 1386 / 0300 555 1373 (Out of Hours) for concern about an adult

0300 555 1384 / 0300 555 1373 (Out of Hours) for concerns about a child

In an **Emergency** call **999**

Samaritans – 116 123 / jo@samaritans.org

Mental Health Crisis Support – 111 **Hampshire Domestic Abuse Advice Line** - 03300 165 112

Hart Voluntary Action - 01252 815652 / info@hartvolaction.org.uk / <https://www.hartvolaction.org.uk/>

If you are a Hampshire resident and would like support related to the Covid-19 pandemic, please call the **Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline – 0333 370 4000**

In the spirit of gratitude, we also to take this opportunity to be **thankful for everyone who helps to support others**, paid and unpaid, and who will make a difference this festive season and into 2022.

StreetSafe Update

This government online tool, which lets members of the public anonymously pinpoint on a map a location where they don't feel safe and why, has been extended now beyond its initial trial period and is providing some interesting data.

Introduced as part of the Government's response to tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), [StreetSafe](#) can also be used to identify areas where there are fears caused by other things such as ASB and environmental issues.

No crime needs to have been committed in order to indicate where you feel unsafe, and it is important to remember that the StreetSafe tool should **not** be used to report crimes.

For crimes, report to police by calling 999 if anyone is in immediate danger or a crime is in progress. For non-urgent crimes please call on 101 or [report online](#) and use the most appropriate form.

Festive Season Shopping Safety Tips

Online Shopping

- Ensure shopping websites are authentic by carefully checking the address is spelled correctly.
- Make sure payment pages are secure.
- Don't pay for goods by transferring money directly to people or companies that you don't know.
- Check that a holiday or any travel you book is genuine by researching it thoroughly.
- Purchase event, concert tickets etc. from official sources.
- Keep a look out for unexpected emails and text messages urging you to click on a link or attachment.

In-Store Shopping

- Don't leave your handbag hanging on or in, the shopping trolley. Keep it with you and always closed securely.
- Whilst loading shopping into your car, don't allow yourself to be distracted or accept help from well-meaning strangers.
- Always shield your PIN when using cash machines or chip and pin machines.
- Fraudsters sometimes fit devices to cash machines that trap your card – if your card is retained, contact your bank immediately.
- When not using your contactless cards, keep them in an anti-theft blocking sleeve to prevent the details from being read by card scammers.
- Store your card company and bank's 24-hour contact number on your mobile phone – these numbers can usually be found on the back of your cards.
- Call your bank or card company ASAP to stop the card if it is stolen or you notice any unusual transactions on your account.

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