

»»» JULY 2025 ««« OUR NEWS



Enjoy a safe summer

July is a busy month for community and crime prevention. Kicking off with Resolve's antisocial behaviour (ASB) awareness week. The government have also announced a safer summer blitz and a ninja knife amnesty, ahead of the ban starting in August.

There's also a lot of wonderful community activity to share. If you have a great story to share, email comms@ourwatch.org.uk.



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Young people and ASB

Stories in the press or online about antisocial behaviour, are often illustrated by images of hoodie-wearing youths. But young people are as impacted by, and victims of, antisocial behaviour as much as any other group.

The Youth Council developed a campaign 'ASB and us', to educate young people about what ASB is, what causes it, the relationship between ASB and mental health and the impact on young people and their communities. [Find out more.](#)

Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Week

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Neighbourhood Watch supported antisocial behaviour (ASB) week, which ran from 30 June - 6 July. It's led by [Resolve](#) and it is the UK's national ASB Awareness Week.

Antisocial behaviour is consistently one of their biggest concerns for NW members. But because ASB is a term that covers a range of behaviours, recognising what ASB is, can be difficult and reporting it can also be confusing. We've produced a guide to recognising, recording and reporting ASB, and a 14-day ASB diary, to help you evidence issues. You can find out more and [download them on our site](#).

Summer blitz on ASB

Dr Fatima Eltinay and Abbie Coleman from Derbyshire NW joined Home Secretary Yvette Copper, for the launch of the summer safety blitz in Derby.

Over 500 towns will see increased police presence, stronger prevention and enforcement action by police and councils to support safer high streets this summer.

The plans include ramping up the use of targeted enforcement powers against troublemakers – including banning perpetrators from hotspots. Find out more on our [website](#).



Knife surrender scheme

The government is taking action to halve knife crime within a decade through its [Safer Streets Mission](#).

To deliver that mission the government wants ban dangerous weapons, tighten the sale of knives online, have tougher sentences and more early intervention.

Deadly ninja swords will be banned from 1st August. In July, the government is running a surrender scheme across England and Wales to offer safe disposal of ninja swords at designated police stations. Find out more detail about surrendering ninja swords, including guidance and images, [here](#).

For those wishing to surrender other types of bladed weapons, not in police stations, there are community surrender bins and a mobile surrender van in communities across London, the West Midlands and Greater Manchester in partnership with knife crime charities, [Faz Amnesty](#) and [Words4Weapons](#).

Find out more detail about surrendering weapons via these schemes on this [GOV.UK link](#).

Tackling antisocial behaviour

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ERA

Antisocial behaviour can have a huge impact on those who experience it, and communities as a whole. But with a range of antisocial behaviours falling outside of the remit of the police, what can you do to help keep your community safe, peaceful and unified?

Keep lines of communication open

When it comes to keeping your community cohesive, open channels of communication can be helpful – you'll have the chance to address any behaviours that bother you before things may escalate. Neighbourly disputes can have a big impact on all parties involved, so always try to keep conversations calm and collected when raising any issues.

Recognise, Record and Report

Antisocial behaviour can take many forms, including excessive noise, littering, and household disputes. It's important to keep a record of any incidents to offer insight into how often these issues are occurring, and to provide details if you decide to take formal action to tackle the behaviour. Report antisocial behaviour early to prevent it from escalating, whether to your local authority, housing provider, or the police. Find more information on the right place to report the issues you're experiencing [here](#).

An ERA of harmonious communities

ERA has a history of working together with Neighbourhood Watch to help create safer, more secure communities. ERA's [alarm systems](#) provide alerts through the ERA Smart Home App, allowing you to update your neighbours if there are any incidents; by choosing a [system including a live siren](#), you'll signal that you take security seriously, providing a visual deterrent for antisocial behaviour.

To learn more about ERA visit www.eraprotect.com

Summer safety tips

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If you are lucky enough to be going away this summer, you may want to think about protecting your home.

Our advice is to think WIDEN - run through this quick checklist before you go away or leave your home. If you have all these covered, then you'll have the best possible protection against burglary. The acronym stands for:

W - windows

I - interior

D - doors

E - exterior

N - Neighbours.

Prevention is always best. Don't let a crime ruin your well-earned break. We know it can be busy, and sometimes stressful, trying to get ready to go away, but it really is worth taking the time to keep your home secure.

TRAVELLING

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance offers several key benefits that can provide peace of mind and financial protection. Ideally, your insurance should start from when you make your booking to cover any changes or cancellations prior to your date of travel.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Share your travel itinerary with a trusted friend or family member. Regular contact can provide updates with any changes to your plans, as well as keeping up to date with news back home.

RESEARCH

Local customs and laws vary widely depending on your destination. Researching and knowing what to expect can help you avoid potential issues. Familiarise yourself with local emergency numbers before travelling.

Travel safety is important whether you're staying local or travelling further afield. Being vigilant, prepared, and informed helps to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip.

TRANSPORT

Choose licensed taxis or use an official app for local information and help with booking public transport. If renting a vehicle, ensure it's from a reputable company. CDW insurance typically covers any damage to your rental vehicle while in your possession.

DOCUMENTS

Make copies of your passport, driving licence, travel insurance, and other important documents. Keep them separate from the originals and consider storing digital copies or screenshots.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Don't leave your belongings unattended. Secure your luggage using TSA-approved locks. Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. A money belt or hidden pouch helps to keep your valuables safe. Be mindful of your surroundings when using your phone.



Information provided
in association with





Off on your summer holidays?



Don't let your gear go missing



You're on holiday to relax. But crowded airports, cafés, beach bars and stations are hotspots for opportunistic theft. The last thing you want while switching off is your stuff disappearing.

AlarmID is a compact, 100-decibel tamper alarm that helps protect your valuables when you're not watching. Designed to protect your:

-  **Luggage at the airport**
-  **Backpack on public transport**
-  **Handbag bars/restaurants/cafes**

If someone attempts to take your things, the AlarmID cable will need to be unplugged or cut, triggering a loud siren alerting you and everyone around to the theft.

Key Features:

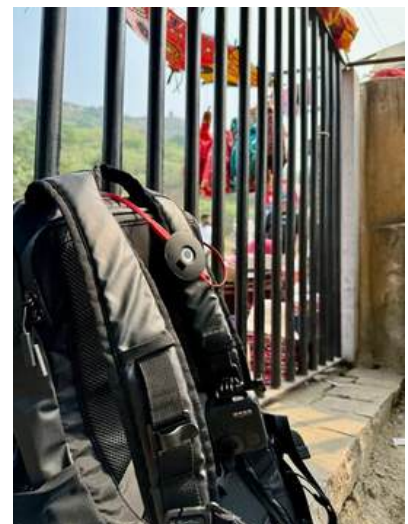
-  **100 decibel tamper alarm**
-  **Arm/Disarm with your fingerprint**
-  **2 metre cable to easily secure items**
-  **Long battery life**
-  **Lightweight and discreet**
-  **Trusted by 1000s of happy customers worldwide**



[Watch the video](#)



[Grab yours today](#)
[Special price £38 >>>](#)



Worried about knife crime?

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Halving knife crime won't be easy, but action on violent crime is effective.

When we read about fatal stabbings of young people making headlines across the country, it is both heart breaking and frightening.

Every child's life lost is devastating, not only to their families but also to their communities. It is very understandable that you might feel overwhelmed by the scale of the problem,

But it's important to keep the issue in perspective,. And to remember that there are concrete actions we can take to address the issue. While knife crime is a serious issue, with rising trends in certain areas, it's not necessarily the biggest or most widespread crime,

Knife crime is a significant concern, particularly in London and other urban areas, but it doesn't represent the largest portion of overall crime, according to a report from the Institute for Government.

Useful organisations and resources

If you want to know more about what you and your community can do to help there are several organisations doing effective work in this area.

- Ben Kinsella Trust has advice for parents and guardians.
- Lives not knives works to prevent youth crime and violence.
- St Giles Trust supports young people at risk of youth violence.

You can also find Neighbourhood Watch information on violence on our website.

PLAN YOUR FUTURE, YOUR WAY



We can't predict the future, but it's possible that you or your loved ones may be unable to make critical decisions due to illness, accident, or old age.

Without proper documentation, your family may be left to navigate a complicated and costly legal process.

That's where Future-Proof Estate Planning comes in, providing expert assistance to ensure you're fully prepared.

WHAT'S AT STAKE?

Without a valid Will, you lose control over what happens to your assets. The state decides who inherits, based on fixed rules that may not reflect your wishes. This can cause delays, legal issues, and disputes among loved ones. Your estate could even go to people you never intended, while those closest to you are left with stress and uncertainty. A Will is your voice when you can no longer speak.

THE BENEFITS OF LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY (LPA)

An LPA ensures that someone you trust can make important decisions on your behalf if you are unable. There are two types of LPA- one for health and care, and one for financial decisions. Without an LPA, your loved ones will have to go through a lengthy and expensive court process to be given authority to manage your affairs.

EXCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH OFFER - SPECIAL PACKAGE JUST FOR YOU

Taking the first step can feel daunting, so Future-Proof Estate Planning is offering an exclusive Neighbourhood Watch deal with **20% off!** Get your affairs in order with ease from the comfort of your home. Choose from: **Package 1:** 2 LPAs + Free single Will - £479 (was £599) **Package 2:** 4 LPAs + Free mirror Will - £957 (was £1,199) These packages let you create legally binding documents quickly, with full support throughout.

DON'T LEAVE IT TO CHANCE - TAKE ACTION TODAY

Take advantage of this exclusive offer now and ensure that your family won't face unnecessary hardship later. Contact Future-Proof Estate Planning today to secure your Neighbourhood Watch discount and take the first step in safeguarding your legacy.

[CLICK HERE](#) OR CALL 0800 847 7150

(QUOTE: NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH)

Community news

Happy birthday Red Lion lane!



Red Lion Lane in South East London celebrated their 5th birthday! Over 30 neighbours came together to enjoy food, music and birthday cake in the sunshine.

Coordinator Dan O'Loughlen created the group when he decided to bring his neighbours closer together during the dark times of Covid.

The group has grown to over 60 houses, and neighbours come together to take part in litter picks, a Christmas charity event called Light Up the Lane. They have raised over £1500 for local charities.

A lovely afternoon was had and birthday cake was shared. Here's to another 5 years of successful community in SE18.

Gillingham Dorset Neighbourhood Watch

Residents have formed a Speedwatch group to monitor traffic in Bay Road. The group is run in conjunction with Dorset Traffic Police.

The aim is to remind drivers of the 30mph speed limit, to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

It's a really important initiative, as the volume of traffic averages around 200 vehicles an hour during the sessions.

Give them a wave or a beep if you see them!

