

Constable's COUNTY



AN UPDATE ON POLICING
FROM THE EAST, WEST AND
SOUTH OF THE COUNTY

JUNE
2020



SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY



Suffolk Police and
Crime Commissioner

Making Suffolk a safer place to live, work, travel and invest

INTRODUCTION

The word unprecedented has never been used so often as it has in the past few months but it really is the best word to describe what we have been going through since this deadly pandemic took hold.

We are living in very testing times and it's a remarkable achievement by the whole of Suffolk that, by and large, the original request by the government to stay at home, save lives and protect the NHS has been very successful. There can be no doubt this collective effort is having a hugely positive role in curbing the pandemic both locally and nationally.

The lockdown is now very gradually being adjusted with some minor relaxations, but currently the advice remains; stay at home, work from there if you possibly can and keep washing those hands. That said, many people have been going to work throughout this crisis not only to look after the sick and vulnerable but also for keeping essential services going both in the private and public sectors. For this we are extremely grateful since without their commitment the difficulties we all face could have become almost insurmountable

As the lockdown eases, we must continue to deploy our common sense and play our part in keeping society safe. Our police force has faced a difficult task enforcing the public health advice, but they have risen to the challenge with flying colours. I'd like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Constabulary; officers and civilian staff for the excellent work they are doing.

At the time of writing we've had excellent weather and everywhere looks lush and green, almost lulling us into a false sense of security that all is well. And yet, whilst there are some encouraging signs the level of infection has peaked, I don't believe society will return to normal (whatever that might be) for some time and we need to be patient.

Ultimately, the advice is there for good reason and that is to minimise the risk of infection so please for everyone's sake "Stick with it Suffolk". Keep doing what you are doing to keep yourself and your communities safe and we will get through this together. Thank you.

**Police and Crime Commissioner
Tim Passmore**



Coronavirus is the biggest challenge the UK has faced. Thanks to the behaviour and actions of the Suffolk people, while sadly suffering tragic losses of life, the spread has slowed for now. However, the easing of lockdown restrictions is not a green light for us to go back to normality - the pandemic is not over and the virus still poses a significant threat. It is vital that we build on our shared sense of responsibility to help minimise the risk of spreading Coronavirus in Suffolk and keep the county a safe place. Therefore, we must adhere to social distancing, use our common sense, be aware of all the advice and guidance, and maintain our personal hygiene to stop the spread of the virus.

As we move forward we will continue to police in the same way - from the outset officers have been advised to use discretion when dealing with people flouting the rules and this has not changed. The message is very clear and the emphasis has been around engaging, education and encouraging people to understand why the lockdown has been put in place and why it is important restrictions are respected, and to draw attention to community spirit and responsibility. We

will continue to keep you safe, working with you, maintaining your support so the new government guidelines can be effective now and in the future as the easing of restrictions continues.

Like all of us since this pandemic started to change our lives we have adapted the way that we currently police the county. The police service I believe is good at dealing with a crisis. All of your officers and staff have responded fantastically to ensure that not only have we played our part in supporting the government and the NHS, but that we continue to uphold the law and keep you safe in the traditional policing way. It is wonderful that we are still receiving such a volume of thank you letters. I can assure you this means the world to us knowing the appreciation you have in our dedication to keeping you safe.

Thank you all.

**Chief Constable
Steve Jupp**



EAST

Area Commander



Superintendent Paul Sharp

You can report a number of non-urgent crimes online via our website - suffolk.police.uk/contact-us
You can also call the police on 101 to report crimes and other concerns that do not require an emergency response.
In an emergency, always call 999.

Lowestoft SNT

Lowestoft, Beccles and Bungay

June's warm summer breeze has made many venture out for exercise more often, but don't forget it's important that you still observe social distancing - remember #stickwithsuffolk. You may have seen us patrolling in the Beccles, Bungay and Lowestoft, dealing with any issues such as anti-social behaviour and criminal activity.

East CID have had some great results of the last two months. A 44-year-old man from Lowestoft was jailed for over three years in connection with a number of offences, including burglary and assault. Anthony McLeod, of Victoria Terrace was sentenced to a total of 38 months' imprisonment. Also, a 33-year-old disqualified driver from Lowestoft was jailed, after he stole a car following a burglary in the town. Thomas Morgan, of Montgomery Avenue was sentenced to 20 weeks' imprisonment. He was also disqualified from driving for an additional 12 months, with an extension period of 10 weeks (so a ban of 62 weeks in total).

We are aware of scammers claiming to be from HMRC, offering financial support as a result of coronavirus. If you receive a text, email or call claiming to be from HMRC that asks you to click on a link or give info such as your name, credit card or bank details, it's a scam. To keep up to date with scams in the area you can visit Action Fraud <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

We've had reports of theft from sheds and garages, so check your security via our helpful '1st Principle' guide which can be found on our website with other helpful crime prevention information - <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/crime-prevention-z> After checking the shed or garage security, why not turn your eyes to the sky and see if you can spot the Swan comet, the brightest comet of the year, which you should be able to see until mid-June. Until next time, PC Amy Yeldham.



Inspector Nick Aitken



Engagement Officer PC Amy Yeldham

Halesworth SNT



Inspector Mark Jackson



Engagement Officer PC Simon Green

Halesworth, Leiston and Eye

Since the imposition of Covid regulations on 23 March, policing has adapted, with even routine police work needing to accommodate government regulations and social distancing requirements. However, crime continues, with some crime types decreased in number and others having increased. Criminals don't respect the regulations, and some have used the health crisis as an opportunity.

Of those crime types which have increased, burglaries & robberies at convenience stores are included. A series of robberies occurred at the end of March at a number of stores in our area and investigations carried out by Halesworth officers led to the arrest of five suspects. Another at Hoxne occurred in early May, with a 32-year-old male arrested within hours. These are great results and thanks must go to those members of the public who have supported our enquiries and provided good evidence, leading to early arrests.

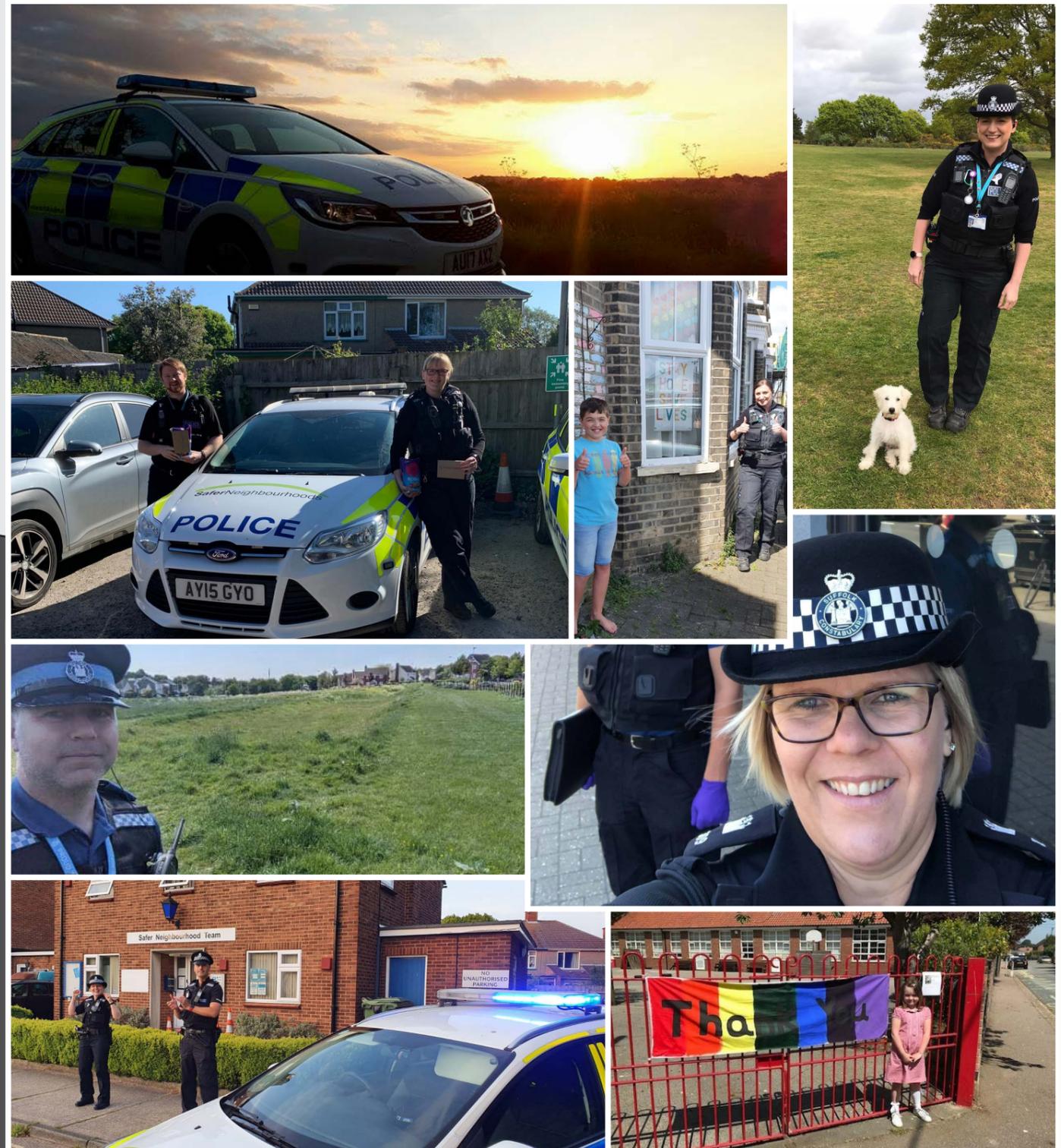
At the end of April, Halesworth officers made a routine stop check of panel van on the A140. The driver ran off immediately, before officers approached him. It soon became obvious why, with £22k worth of stolen plant machinery found in the back. Two males were later arrested.

With so many people remaining at home and travelling less, it has meant more opportunity for crimes being observed in action and visual evidence provided. Thank you to all those who have helped with police enquiries. In many cases, it has been the prompt notification of crime being seen that has led to arrests. If you believe you are watching a crime being committed, always dial 999.

Stay safe and look out for others in your area such as neighbours, friends or relatives.

SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

IMAGES TAKEN FROM SUFFOLK POLICE SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS



SOUTH

Area Commander



Superintendent
Kerry Cutler

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Ipswich West & Hadleigh

The coronavirus pandemic has changed the way we work and our engagement calendar is looking very different. We have taken this opportunity to engage differently. For example, you may have seen an increase in 'Facebook Live' sessions coming from different places across the county and there have been more foot patrols, engaging with the queues!

We have joined the 'clap for carers/keyworkers/NHS'. A few children have been surprised by us visiting with a packet of chocolate eggs for their amazing efforts with their 'keep safe' posters. Keep an eye on our social media accounts to stay informed on crime prevention advice such as information on how to identify scams.

In the Hadleigh area property was recovered and offenders detained after a number of thefts from a quarry were reported and plant machinery damaged with red diesel stolen. Community intelligence and targeted proactive located four males unloading a thousand litres of red diesel between a van and garage – all were arrested.

Since the start of lockdown, the people of Suffolk have responded really well to the restrictions and the majority of the public we have encountered have been really positive and receptive to our 'engage, explain and encourage' approach. Some of you will have seen our social media posts and 'Facebook Live' broadcasts which have been providing an update on the situation around Suffolk. These have been well received and we plan to continue these in the future.

Despite the current situation, we have continued to focus on our policing priorities. Our main priority is a series of burglaries that are occurring across the southern area of Suffolk. The burglaries are taking place overnight and involve the theft of plant machinery, power tools and 'ride on' lawnmowers. We have increased night time patrols and are encouraging the public to review the security of their garages, sheds and outhouses. Crime prevention advice can be found on our website under 'First Principle'. Our other main priority is focussing on 'cuckooed' addresses. This term refers to the practice of criminals involved in the supply of drugs taking over the homes of vulnerable people and dealing controlled drugs from that location. We are working closely with Ipswich Borough Council to safeguard the victims of this type of crime. Several offenders have been arrested and drugs and cash recovered from various addresses. I would urge anyone who suspects that this is happening in their local community to report this to us via our website.

Ipswich West SNT



Inspector
Kirsty Graefe



Engagement Officer
PC Mike Small



Engagement Officer
PC Sarah George

Ipswich Central

Despite lockdown there are still people visiting the town centre daily for essential shopping and work. This has been managed well by the stores, with staff on the doors at all times to limit the number of customers entering. The vast majority of public are sticking to the government guidelines regarding social distancing when queueing. Where necessary, we are speaking to individuals and only as a last resort issuing penalties, which has been minimal. We are in regular contact with local businesses and conducting increased high visibility patrols in the town centre and Norwich Road area.

ASB, begging and rough sleeping in the town has reduced. Thanks to the borough council funding beds and accommodation for the homeless during lockdown, the number of rough sleepers for a short time dropped to zero. Unfortunately, there has been a minimal rise. With the combination of good weather and lifestyle choices it is not unexpected. This funding is due to cease on 25 June so PC Gary Austin will be looking to start his rough sleeper outreach patrols again. This is where agencies look to make contact with any rough sleepers and get them to engage with the services available to them. Amongst other things Gary has been busy working with partner agencies to address the issue of 'cuckooed' dwellings.

The Central SNT have had good results detaining drug dealers with proactive patrols in and around the town centre after receiving intelligence from local residents. It highlights how important community led intelligence is. Officers regularly receive photos or videos from members of public who own security doorbells and other security devices. This allows the SNT to identify suspects and target them in the locations they are using. This has led to dealers being arrested and charged, after some significant quantities of drugs and cash were seized during stop searches. The SNT have also been conducting plain clothes patrols and changed shifts to accommodate some late night working to combat the burglary dwellings that have been occurring around the area. We continue to highlight crime prevention messages via social media and when out on patrol, particularly now the weather is getting warmer and people leaving their windows open.

Community engagement during Covid19 has been impacted so we are using technology to great benefit. PC Mike Small and I recently had a 'Zoom' conference with Project 21 charity for downs syndrome children and young adults. Mike set up a 'Zoom' call with the charity founder along with some of the children and young adults who are supported. Mike has done a lot of amazing work with the charity, demonstrating what the police do and about staying safe. This is a fantastic charity that Mike got to demonstrate his 'flossing' dance skills online after some coaching from the children. Mike clearly had spent some quality time practising his moves beforehand!

Ipswich Central SNT



Inspector
Vicky McParland



Engagement Officer
PC Dominic Woodmansee

Ipswich East, Felixstowe & Woodbridge

Despite Covid19 the SNT have continued to provide core duties. During regular foot patrols the public have positively received our encouragement to stay safe and adhere to guidelines. Elsewhere, warrants have been conducted alongside regular checks at addresses where the occupants are at risk of being used in the commission of drug offences. As part of our Easter campaign I was able to visit many children who had made heartfelt posters to brighten the streets. I have taken time to speak to some of our more senior residents, therefore providing a new face (from afar) to talk to when isolation has been hard. SNT officers have been conducting speed checks, particularly in areas where residents raised concerns and this has resulted in a number of tickets being issued.

As Community Engagement Officer for Felixstowe and Woodbridge I have been out in the community on my bike speaking to members of the public. I have continued to spread crime prevention messages and community crime updates via local radio and social media. I have been working closely with Felixstowe Safer Neighbourhood Team to provide high visibility patrols. There were a number of thefts from motor vehicles in the Trimley St Mary area and following patrols and social media posts to highlight these offences there have been no further reports to date. Officers have been tackling drug offences and a number of stop searches have been carried out with quantities of Class A and B drugs recovered together with drugs paraphernalia linked to the supply of drugs. Anyone concerned about drug related activity in their neighbourhood should contact police on 101 or anonymously to Crimestoppers 0800 55 11 or www.crimestoppers-uk.org

The Woodbridge Safer Neighbourhood Team with response officers have been patrolling the area to prevent further thefts from sheds and burglaries from out buildings. Social media and Police Connect have been used to make residents aware of what is happening in Woodbridge and surrounding villages and to prevent rural crime.

Ipswich East SNT



Inspector
Sally Henderson



Engagement Officer
PC Rachael Partridge



Engagement Officer
PC Hannah Creasey

WEST

Area Commander



T/Superintendent
Simon Mills

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Mildenhall SNT

Mildenhall

During the last few weeks of lockdown we have engaged with the community in a different way. We have been patrolling beauty spots and supermarkets, assisting other key workers in helping keep the community safe. We ran a competition that saw us driving round Forest Heath looking for posters in the windows displaying the 'Stay Home, Keep Safe' message and @SuffolkPolice written on them. We gave mini-eggs to those who took part and had fun meeting all the young people at a suitable distance.

We have now been joined by Sgt Pete Maxfield in the SNT team. He has spent nine years working as a sergeant in custody. He has previously worked with SNT and knows the area well. He's looking forward to getting out and about and meeting you all.

PCSO Rachel Darville has been delivering a pack of groceries to families who receive free school meals in Newmarket. The packs contain enough food for two meals and snacks donated by local businesses in conjunction with the local Roman Catholic church. She has enjoyed helping out and getting to meet so many families.

We have been focusing on motor vehicle crime in the district and have been working in conjunction with USAF to highlight our ongoing efforts around crime prevention. Advice on this can be accessed by anyone on the force website: <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/crime-prevention-z>

We hope that we will soon be able to see more people out and about enjoying what our county has to offer. Until then stay alert, control the virus and save lives and 'stick with it Suffolk'.



Inspector
Mark Shipton



Engagement Officer
PC Helen Self

Bury St Edmunds

Through the recent unprecedented times of Covid-19, we have continued to work with our partners and communities ensuring people feel safe. I have carried out numerous interviews with local news teams, whilst supporting my officers carrying out high visibility foot patrol in and around Bury St Edmunds.

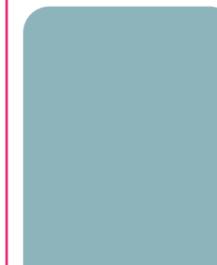
We have also worked closely with the Western Area Neighbourhood and Partnership Team in delivering mini eggs over the Easter period to many houses displaying home-made "stay at home posters". Being able to communicate in this way with the younger generation has been a key strategy for us in ensuring they feel valued and supported at a time when so much has been taken away from them.

Over the last two months we have carried out 16 disruption visits to properties believed to be either 'cuckooed' or known to be selling drugs. Whilst the underlying priority for these visits is about preventing the further supply of drugs and protecting the vulnerable occupants, it has also led to a number of arrests along with the seizure of drugs and cash. We continue to look at innovative ways of working with the British Transport Police and our partners looking after the road networks to reduce the threat of drugs being brought into our area.

Bury St Edmunds SNT



Inspector
Matt Paisley



Engagement Officer
currently vacant

Sudbury & Haverhill SNT



Inspector
Kevin Horton



Engagement Officer
PC Jon Gerrish

Sudbury & Haverhill

The Sudbury and Haverhill Safer Neighbourhood Teams have been out and about patrolling local communities and engaging with the public during this very unusual time. It has been fantastic seeing the community showing their solidarity with all the lovely rainbow posters in their windows which have been bringing a smile to all the key workers. 'Clapping for the NHS' has been a firm date in the diary since it started. Officers have clapped with the community to show our support for all the hard work that the NHS are currently doing. Our blue lights have been flashing to bolster support for this important occasion.

The Safer Neighbourhood and response teams have been working hard to ensure the communities stay safe as crime unfortunately continues and criminals try to exploit this difficult time. Police officers have been working with partners agencies to tackle drug dealing and associated criminality. This includes a survey carried out with residents, as well as working with Babergh District Council and Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service to discuss arson attacks that have taken place in the area and how to prevent further incidents. Over three weeks, up until 14 May, 29 individuals were stop-searched in the Sudbury area while two warrants were executed at addresses within the town. In total, an estimated £3,000 of drugs and cash were seized, alongside three offensive weapons. 13 individuals were arrested or cautioned for drug related offences and possession of offensive weapons.

We have also been working innovatively with the local town and parish councils in Haverhill and Sudbury by holding 'virtual' online meetings to stay connected which we know is so important at this time. It has been great to see the support of the local councillors to help make this happen and we look forward to attending in person many engagements when the time is right!

Stowmarket SNT



Inspector
Shawn Wakeling



Engagement Officer
PC Stefan Henriksen

Stowmarket

Although Covid-19 regulations have changed some elements of our day to day policing and engagement, much has remained unchanged. We spent a week carrying out proactive patrols across the area, with stop searches being carried out and drugs seized. Following a number of burglaries in Rickingham, we increased patrols, and made sure crime prevention advice was readily available, and were supported by our local Neighbourhood Watch.

The way we are engaging is slightly different as community events are currently cancelled. Instead, we are joining members of our community to show our appreciation by 'clapping for key workers'. We met a lot of our young people in the community over Easter with our 'Stay Home, Saves Lives' poster competition, and we gave out dozens of bags of mini eggs to lucky winners.

We are getting out and about patrolling the area, and have also been getting on our police bikes, although these aren't equipped with blue lights at the moment. We will continue to engage with our communities whenever we can, and we hope to see you all in the future when things get back to normal.



Update from the Rural Crime and Wildlife Policing Team

Sgt Brian Calver

With the fall in vehicle noise over the last couple of months I've really enjoyed hearing birdsong ringing across our countryside and even clearly in our towns. With all this fine weather and many people having more time on their hands, some may be tempted to take on large gardening or agricultural projects. Those singing birds are a keen reminder that we are square in the nesting season and it is an offence to intentionally disturb any nesting bird, including a schedule one bird such as a barn owl, a bittern or harrier. Additionally, it's an offence to cause damage to the nest or eggs, so it's really important to check before undertaking any significant hedging or tree work that might have an impact. People can still cut their hedges during this period, but it's generally better to wait until late autumn/winter if you can when you can be sure that no damage will be done.

Whilst many Suffolk residents been in lockdown due to the coronavirus outbreak, sadly criminals have still been looking to exploit opportunities in rural areas. There are those that pose as officials or call at remote locations on spurious grounds, often to assess what can be stolen either there and then or to return at a later time. Police have recently had several reports across the county of thefts from rural outbuildings and farms. In general mowers, quadbikes and farm machinery such as tractors and chainsaws have been taken. Village sports facilities with green keeping equipment such as bowls and cricket clubs have also been targeted.

With this in mind if you are a farmer, landowner, small business owner, involved in your local church or community facility, or reside in a rural area I would urge you visit our website for [newly updated, detailed crime prevention advice](#).

Amongst a whole range of key information it also covers security advice and tips for outbuildings and sheds, allotments, caravans, farms and livestock.

The more layers of security that you can put in, the harder it is for the thief and it also increases the chances of them being caught. Good locks, security lighting and CCTV are always advisable but in addition you can also improvise and think out of the box. A cheap and easy way of alarming tools or valuable equipment is to use inexpensive personal attack alarms. Fix the alarm to the item securely with cable ties. When storing the item in a shed, thread a fixed wire or strong fishing line through the loop on the on the personal alarm as shown below and fix it to a fixed secure point. Try to keep it discrete so the thief can't see it. When they try to remove the item, the alarm will go off. These are cheap when bought in bulk online so you can secure many individual items.

It's also advisable to lock things together with strong cycle cable locks. This additional layer of security just makes it harder for thieves.

Continue to be vigilant for any unexpected callers. Although of course some may be genuine, it is always wise to make a record of information if you have concerns. Ideally this would include descriptions of the people involved and any associated vehicles. Do report any suspicious behaviour or people to police. The chances are that you won't be the first to be concerned and it helps police to have the fullest picture possible of suspicious activity, leading to positive outcomes.

Information from members of the public have assisted our investigation after the remains of two sheep were found in Grundisburgh having previously been stolen from a field in Tuddenham St Martin. Three men have been arrested and bailed in connection with this incident. Police are grateful for assistance from our communities and urge people to remain vigilant and report any concerns.



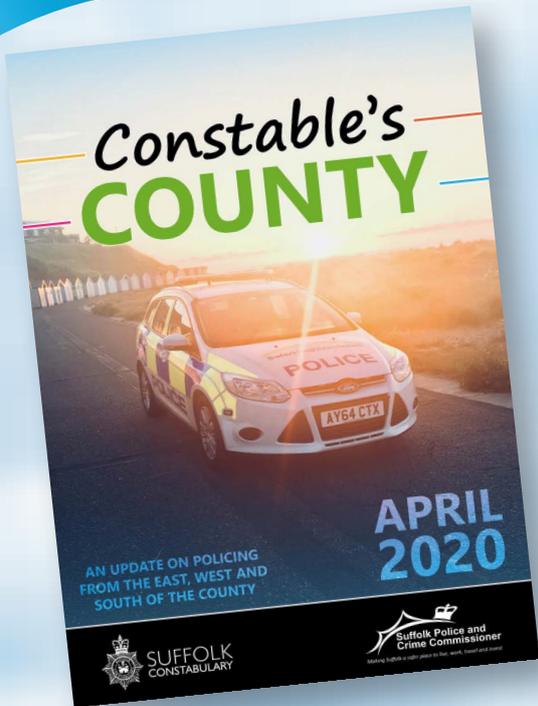
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SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

DESIGN OUR FRONT COVER!



Draw, photograph or create digitally a new front cover for our magazine. The image should include something about Suffolk.

Please design them in PORTRAIT and at A4 paper size or larger!

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BY FRIDAY 26 JUNE 2020!**

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WILL WIN A £25
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