

Louth Rural (October 2013) Neighbourhood Policing Team Area Update



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CURRENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES

Date Set: October 2013

Operation Lighthouse

It was decided at the last panel meetings for Northern and Southern area that the priority would be set to Operation Lighthouse.

We will be encouraging residents to review their home security as British Summertime has ended and the dark nights drawing in.

Opportunist thieves can take advantage of the earlier hours of darkness and it is easier for them to identify properties where no one is at home due to no lights being on.

We will be looking to identify these properties before the criminals do and offering crime prevention advice and literature.

NEXT PANEL MEETING:

The next panel meeting will be a joint meeting for both panels, it will be held on:

Tuesday 7th October at 7pm – Louth Police Station, Eastfield Road, Louth

YOU SAID – WE DID *Action against set priorities*

Reduce Summertime Crime

The priority for both panels over the last three months was set to reducing summertime crime.

Rural burglaries have continued to occur over the summer months, particularly to sheds and outbuildings. Patrols were increased in the hotspot areas.

The areas were added to tasking meaning that officers must attend the location and make note of any persons/vehicles in the area, conduct stop checks and build on intelligence. Unmarked vehicles and officers were also deployed to the areas.

Leaflet drops in the areas where the burglaries were occurring was conducted by the team, making residents aware of the incidents and asking them to be extra vigilant and report any suspicious activity to ourselves.

With the clocks soon changing and the hours of darkness becoming longer, it is important that you don't make your home or outbuildings vulnerable. If no one is going to home before it gets dark, please consider using a timer device to switch a light on before you are home. A dark property is a clear sign for thieves that it is empty. For any further information or advice on crime prevention, please contact one of the team.



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CURRENT UPDATES

Halloween and Bonfire Night

With Halloween and Bonfire night approaching, extra patrols of our rural area will be taking place. We are also doing a number of anti-social behaviour talks at some of our primary schools. We have visited coffee mornings, engagements and shops in our area and delivered Do Not Disturb Halloween posters. We have also visited victims who have previously been subjected to anti-social behaviour on and around Halloween and given them advice and reassurance. Should you have any problems around this time of year, please call us on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Heating Oil Thefts

As people begin to fill their oil tanks to heat their properties through the cold weather approaching us, it is likely that we will see a significant increase in the theft of heating oil. Please ensure that you take any precautions that you can to protect your oil. This can include improving lighting around your tank, low energy 'dusk til dawn' lights positioned close to the tank should provide sufficient light to illuminate any suspicious activity. There are also oil level gauges which can be purchased and placed into your tank which has an alarm that alerts you to a sudden drop in your oil. You may also wish to consider the installation of CCTV, however before you spend lots of money on equipment make an assessment of your needs.

Remember to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity including registration numbers of any vehicle to the Police on 101 or 999 if a crime is in progress.

LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS / EVENTS

No Cold Calling Zone

Everything is now in place for the Meadow Drive area in Binbrook to be set up as a NCCZ. We were approached by a resident on the street who requested that the area was a NCCZ, with the ladies help we visited each property in the area who all agreed they would benefit from the area being a NCCZ. We are now just awaiting the delivery on the packs and signage and then the area will be completed. If you think an area in your village would benefit from this, please contact us.

Road Safety Week

Road Safety Week this year runs from 18th November through to 22nd November. This year the theme is 'distractions'. We will be running an operation throughout the week targeting distraction such as mobile phones whilst driving; we will also be speaking with young people about the risks of using a mobile phone whilst crossing the road and also listening to music.

Christmas Crime

During the run up to Christmas, it is possible that thieves will be out looking for properties where there are Christmas presents ready wrapped and already under the tree, as an opportunity for them to steal. Please ensure that if you are going to leave presents under your tree before Christmas time that the tree is out of sight from the windows.

Winter Car Checks

Before setting off on a journey during the winter months, please check things such as lighting, screen wash, tyre tread, car batteries etc.. Also make sure you have sufficient resources should you break down or get stuck.

BE BRIGHT, BE SAFE, BE SEEN!!

As the dark nights are now upon us, we have started to receive calls with concerns about children's safety when they are out playing in the dark. If your children are outside during the darker hours, please make sure they are wearing bright, reflective clothing and stay away from any roads.

If children are walking to and from school, things such as clip-on reflectors, arm bands and stickers on clothes or school bags can help improve visibility.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS:

National Police Non Emergency Number – **101**

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111 - Trading Standards 0845 4040506. - www.lincsalert.co.uk

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