

📢 Sussex Alerts Update – Saltdean, Rottingdean & Ovingdean

From your local PCSO

Hello everyone!

I would like to wish everyone a happy new year as we start 2026 with a very cold welcome! I'm sure December was busy for you all, as it has for us at Sussex Police! I have been trying my best to pop around and be visible as much as possible around Rottingdean, Ovingdean and Saltdean!



It was a very cold end to 2025 and start of 2026 – making it much harder to get up in the mornings!

With the cold weather, comes lots of ice and darker days. It is essential you keep yourself safe and take some actions to try and minimise any risk of injury. Please keep an eye out for ice on the road! You may have a grit/ salt box in your local area. When icy conditions are forecast for the next day, spreading grit/salt on sloped areas can help with driving conditions and minimise the chances of cars sliding on ice!



It is also essential to check light on your vehicle are working adequately, this includes your head lights, high beam lights, indicators and reversing lights.



With the icy conditions, it is important to ensure that tyres on vehicles are suitable for the slippery conditions. Tyres should have a minimum tread of 1.6mm depth across the central three-quarters of the tyre. If your tyre tread falls below this number, these should be replaced immediately. Some cars may have tread wear indicators built into the technology in their vehicle, making a warning light appear on the dashboard. It is essential that vehicles are monitored and checked to ensure they meet the safety regulation for road use. This helps to ensure you, and other road users are safe.

Continuing with the ice conditions, it has been lovely seeing groups out enjoying the colder weather, may this be a brisk walk along the seafront for some fresh winter air, or groups sledging with the light snow we received! Whilst on patrol I had witnessed some individuals on top of the frozen pond at The Green in Rottingdean.

Whilst it is great to see people outside, I want to remind individuals who may feel inclined to walk on frozen over water like ponds and lakes of the dangers. The ice on frozen ponds can be unpredictable in thickness therefore making this dangerous to those wanting to walk on the ice. Ice may appear thicker on the water edge, but may be thinner, making this easier to break when weight is applied. Falling through ice can lead to hypothermia, of which can be life threatening, further to this, when someone falls through ice, they may not be able to locate their original entrance point, making it hard to resurface.



If an individual does fall in, please do not attempt to get into the water to rescue them. Phone 999 immediately and help will be there as soon as possible!

This is a polite reminder to please avoid walking on iced over water as this can be extremely dangerous and could lead to death. Within the whole of Sussex, there have been reports to police all over the county of several individuals engaging in walking on ice.

Keeping safe

I know I have previously included this information in my older ward updates, but it's a brilliant resource to have to hand and may be exceptionally useful one day -

With the change in season, it's important you keep yourself safe and warm! Sometimes it can be difficult to know what support is available and who to go to for help. I would like to make you aware of the Sussex Resilience Campaign with the Priority Services Register. This campaign has been created to help those who may not have access to online facilities to be better prepared if there are any disruptions to utility services caused by severe winter weather.

The campaign is run by a forum made up by partnership agencies including the NHS, Councils, Police and Emergency services – all of those who help to keep Sussex safe!

Keeping yourself safe and prepared can sometimes be a challenge, especially with the change in weather. If you're over 60 - or have health or care needs, young children, or rely on medical equipment - you should be eligible to join. Being on the Priority Services register means your utility companies know you may need extra help.

To join for yourself, or on behalf of someone else with their consent, you can get started by calling the free campaign phone line on 0800 998 7103. Alternatively, if you have access to online devices, you can visit www.thepsr.co.uk.

YOU CAN'T CONTROL THE WEATHER.

YOU CAN BE PREPARED.

Storms and cold snaps can disrupt power, water and other essential services.

Take three simple steps now and be ready for whatever winter brings.

- 1. Join the Priority Services Register**
Free extra support if services are disrupted.
- 2. Pack a "just in case" bag**
Have essentials to hand.
- 3. Know who you can call**
Write down key numbers and contacts.

CALL 0800 998 7103 FOR FREE TO FIND OUT MORE.
OR VISIT WWW.SUSSEX.POLICE.UK/BE-READY

1 JOIN THE PRIORITY SERVICES REGISTER (PSR)

If you're over 60 - or have health or care needs, young children, or rely on medical equipment - you should be eligible. Being on the PSR means your utility companies know you may need extra help if services are disrupted, such as priority updates, doorstep checks and bottled water supplies. **IT'S FREE TO JOIN.** Call **0800 998 7103** to get started or visit **www.thepsr.co.uk**

2 PACK A "JUST IN CASE" BAG

Having a few basics to hand makes all the difference, such as:

- Torch and batteries
- Warm layers (blanket, jumper, socks)
- Long-life food that doesn't need cooking
- Bottled water
- Medicines
- Important phone numbers
- Mobile phone power bank.

3 KNOW WHO YOU CAN CALL

Write down key numbers, such as your utility companies, council, GP, and trusted neighbours or family. Keep the list with your bag - you may not be able to access numbers stored on a mobile phone if the power runs out.

NEED MORE HELP?
CALL 0800 998 7103 TO FIND OUT MORE AND TO REQUEST A FREE BOOKLET ON STAYING SAFE IN EMERGENCIES.
OR VISIT WWW.SUSSEX.POLICE.UK/BE-READY

SUSSEX RESILIENCE FORUM
NHS
East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

SUSSEX RESILIENCE FORUM
This information is provided by the **Sussex Resilience Forum**, the partnership of agencies - including the NHS, councils, police and emergency services - that keep Sussex safe.

I spent a lot of December trying to get around and talk to as many people as possible! It's been a great end to the year, and I feel I have been welcomed by everyone – thank you so much for the kind response for the past few months whilst I have been finding my feet in the new area!

As always, I continue to help and work with others in the community to help better the area and to keep one another safe! If you ever have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself! My details are listed at the end of this update.

Top 3 Ward Priorities

For the meantime, my main priorities for the area are -

- Keeping safe in the icy and cold weather – Ensuring roads are clear and safe and any hazards are sorted and soon as safely possible – this includes any road closures or icy conditions.
- Providing support to those who may need some extra help! In the Police we have duty of care and ensure your wellbeing is our priority, where appropriate, we work with the multi-agency safeguarding hub with child and adult social care to ensure everyone is safe. With the colder weather, it can be hard financially to keep yourself warm and your fridge full. If you know of anyone in need, please consider getting in contact with social care yourself online or by calling. Any welfare concerns, please do phone 101 and we will help where we can!
- Monitoring the local area for graffiti – It was brought to my attention there had been some hateful posters in the Rottingdean area, I have since targeted extra patrols to the area and surrounding locations to ensure this behaviour has not continued. Please do report any behaviour if you spot any offensive posters or graffiti in the area.

Crime Statistics over the past month (Correct at time of typing)

- Anti-social behaviour reports – 1
- Burglary reports – 0
- Criminal damage reports – 0

Meet your ward PCSO

I have the following days booked for community beat over the coming months -

Monday 19th January 2026

Thursday 19th February 2026

Wednesday 18th March 2026

Tuesday 14th April 2026




Over these dates, I will be around the area interacting with as much of the community as possible!

As always, if anyone would like to talk to myself over general queries, get advice or book me for visits, engagements or meetings, please call 101 or submit an online request on the Sussex Police website. You can simply state your request - this will be passed on to myself, whereby I will respond when available.

And finally...

Stay in Touch

If you need to report anything or seek advice:

-  **Call 101** for non-emergency matters
-  **Report online** at www.sussex.police.uk
-  **Always call 999 in an emergency**

A big thank you for the continued support and warm welcomes received while on my travels around the area!

Many thanks,

PCSO Lottie Pullen

PCSO for Saltdean, Rottingdean and Ovingdean