

NORFOLK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLINE

Issue 07 | July 2026



Increased Growth, New Digital Initiatives and Community Success Across Norfolk

Working Together for a Safer Norfolk

From expanding local schemes to strengthening digital communication, Norfolk Neighbourhood Watch continues to build safer, more connected communities while tackling emerging challenges across the county.

Neighbourhood Watch Activities

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual General Meeting

You are warmly invited to attend our forthcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will be, conveniently, held online this year. No need to navigate traffic, you may join us from the comfort of your home.

- Date:** Thursday, 27 August 2026
Time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Venue: Microsoft Teams (link to be emailed to registrants prior to meeting)
RSVP: If you wish to attend, please reply to this invitation.
Agenda: To be emailed prior to meeting

We encourage you to join us at our AGM to hear updates about the Association's activities, plans, and how you can become involved.

Meeting at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) – 12 August 2026

Members may recall the support that the OPCC offered Norfolk Neighbourhood Watch this time last year. In fact, we held a very successful AGM at the OPCC offices in Wymondham last August. As time progressed, however, it became apparent that the support was unable to be delivered for a wide variety of reasons, but we carried on and, due to limited resources, focussed on our digital platforms.

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Now, with a new Police & Crime Commissioner in place, we felt it would be prudent to reach out once again for operational support. We will meet at the OPCC next Wednesday (12th) to discuss areas of support we need, including:

- online coordinator support
- delivery of regular targeted communications
- registration of new schemes
- maintenance of an accurate county-wide membership database
 - audit and cleanse neighbourhood watch scheme records
 - identify and monitor active schemes
- further develop our website
- develop downloadable guidance and resources

An update from next week's meeting will be provided at our AGM on 27th August, as well as in the August Newsline.

Coordinator online drop-ins

We hosted monthly drop-ins until June of this year. However, reduced attendance has led us to move to quarterly drop-ins. Keep an eye out for email notification of the next drop-in (likely last Thursday in September). We are always happy to hear from you between meetings, please reach out directly to the team with any questions, comments, ideas, or concerns.

Key NNW priorities for 2026

The focus continues to be:

- ✓ Improving digital communication and coordinator support
- ✓ Increasing recruitment and volunteer engagement
- ✓ Strengthening relationships with police and partner organisations
- ✓ Sharing local success stories and best practice
- ✓ Exploring new funding opportunities to support schemes
- ✓ Expanding community safety initiatives across Norfolk

GivingLottery

Thank you to everyone who continues to support Norfolk Neighbourhood Watch through the GivingLottery!

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What is the GivingLottery? GivingLottery is an exciting weekly lottery that raises money for good causes in the UK. All good causes supported by the lottery will benefit the UK and its residents.

Play the lottery, support good causes in the UK - it's that simple! Tickets for the lottery cost just £1 per week, with a top prize of £25,000! A weekly draw takes place every Saturday night.

Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT! Additionally, your weekly ticket is automatically entered into a regular "Super Draw". The "Super Draw" prize being awarded on 29th August is a £2,000 luxury European holiday or take the cash.

From every £1 ticket you buy, 60p will go to good causes in the UK. Norfolk Neighbourhood Watch receives 40p of the 60p from each ticket purchased. To date, we have raised £84 from supporters.

If you are interested in supporting NNW in this way you can sign up to the GivingLottery, visit our NNW GivingLottery page www.givinglottery.org.uk/support/norfolk-neighbourhood-watch. Good luck!

Police & Crime Commissioner update

Reform candidate and former senior Metropolitan police detective Mr Colin Sutton has succeeded Sarah Taylor as the new Police & Crime Commissioner. The post is due to be abolished in 2028 when the powers pass to the new mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk. That means Mr Sutton will be the fifth and, as it stands, final person to hold the post.

During his time with the Met Police, Mr Sutton led the investigation which culminated in the conviction of serial killer Levi Bellfield for the London murders of Amelia Delagrange in 2004 and Marsha McDonnell in 2003, and the attempted murder of Kate Sheedy in 2004. Bellfield was sentenced to a whole life tariff in 2008.

The PCC's powers include being able to hire and fire the chief constable and setting the constabulary's budget, including how much council tax goes to the police. They publish a Police and Crime Plan which sets out the force's priorities and commission services for victims of crime. The present plan includes references to the importance of community organisations like Neighbourhood Watch, and the police engaging more tangibly with local communities.

Mr Sutton and the Chief Constable will still, themselves, be held accountable by our elected County Councillors, via attendance at the Police and Crime Panel at County Hall. These meetings take place 4 times a year and maintain a "check & balance" on their performance.

It's a tough ask at the moment with police resources focused elsewhere, but Mr Sutton promised in his campaign to end "two-tier policing – scrapping DEI policies and restoring

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equality before the law; get police back on the beat; and increase stop and search; deliver value for money; “police the streets not tweets”. This is a tall order in just under two years!

Crime statistics

Being involved with Neighbourhood Watch usually means you’re interested in what’s going on in your area, including crime.

Want to check the latest crime statistics for your region of Norfolk? Visit "[Your area | Norfolk Constabulary](#)" and enter your postcode.

From the Norfolk Community Partnership Newsletter, August Edition (link to more information by clicking on sub-headings)

Crime and Policing Act 2026

“The Crime and Policing Act 2026, effective from 29 June 2026, introduced major reforms across public order, criminal justice, victims’ rights, and law enforcement powers. Key changes include strengthened protest and public order measures, new offences relating to purported intimate image generation, firearms licensing reforms, and an expanded definition of offensive weapons. The Act also prioritises victim compensation in confiscation proceedings, places the Victims’ Right to Review Scheme on a statutory footing, replaces outdated vagrancy provisions with new offences, broadens law enforcement access to DVLA data, and introduces provisions enabling potential corporate criminal liability across all crimes.” Link to more information:

New Norfolk campaign urges drivers and motorcyclists to share the road safely - Norfolk County Council

“The Norfolk Road Safety Partnership has launched a new campaign aimed at reducing the number of serious and fatal collisions on our county’s roads involving motorcyclists”

Young people encouraged to Chill on the Hill over the summer holidays - Norfolk County Council

“Norfolk County Council's Targeted Youth Support Service has teamed up with Castle Quarter to run the free relaxed activities in Norwich Castle Gardens aimed at young people aged 11-17.”

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Community cohesion and hate crime | Norfolk PCC

If you have any information relating to community tensions or hate-related crimes, please report it using one of the following methods:

- Online: **Norfolk Constabulary website**
- Email: **communitytension@norfolk.police.uk**
(please note: this inbox is not monitored during weekends)
- Phone: 101 for non-emergencies
- Emergency: Dial 999

To further support this work, please refer to the **[constabulary web page](#)** and NCSP resource pages: **[NCSP Community Cohesion and Hate Crime](#)**.

Stop Hate in Norfolk (SHiN)

“Stop Hate in Norfolk (SHiN) is Norfolk’s third-party reporting process.

Third party reporting centres are places within the community where you can confidentially report hate crimes or incidents without having to contact the police directly. Hate crimes or incidents can be reported whether you are a victim or witness.”

Interested in being more involved? Join us on the NNW team!

Bring your unique skills and ideas!

Norfolk Neighbourhood Watch has made a lot of progress over the past few years. The two years working with Norfolk Police Community Safety Department was particularly intense. However, we have since gone on to develop an initial website (update in the works), and expanded our reach with many more schemes now registered.

You are part of Neighbourhood Watch because you care about your community, are interested in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and building community relationships. This is an exciting time to join the team, where you can help to shape the future direction of Neighbourhood Watch in Norfolk.

To express interest, reach out to us at norfolknnw.adm@gmail.com with your contact details and we will get back to you. Thank you!

Best wishes,

The Norfolk Neighbourhood Watch Team

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