

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM (SNT)

CROFTON PARK NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2026 EDITION



Welcome to the **Crofton Park Autumn Edition 2026**, bringing you the latest news, community updates, and local highlights.

Since moving from SNT to a different department within MPS, **Sergeant Munday** has left a significant positive impact on the Crofton Park, Perry Vale, and Forest Hill wards. Throughout his tenure as Sergeant, he has been an invaluable asset, consistently demonstrating professionalism, commitment, and leadership. He has successfully led and supported numerous operations, remained fully engaged with local ward issues, and maintained excellent standards in all his dealings with colleagues, partners, and the community. His dedication and proactive approach have greatly benefited the wards he served.

We are also delighted to introduce our newly assigned **Sergeant Chris Lewis**, who will be serving the Crofton Park community. We look forward to working with him and wish him every success in the new role.

Before we share the latest local news, we'd like to bring you up to speed on some recent administrative changes. As many residents will know, the new councillors for Crofton Park have now settled into their roles and are already working closely with local partners and community groups to represent residents' interests.



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Speak Safe: Helping our children feel safer

Speak Safe is an anonymous online reporting tool designed to give children and young people aged 10–18 a voice. It allows them to report specific areas in their communities where they feel unsafe, whether that is on their walk to school, at a local park, or around the shops.

How it works

It takes just 30 seconds to complete. Children simply need to:

Scan the QR code or visit www.speaksafe.co.uk.

Answer three simple questions: **WHAT**, **WHERE**, and **WHEN**.



Your Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) is a group of Met police officers dedicated to serving your local community. The team is made up of officers based in your area (or 'ward'), supported by additional officers from the wider area. Each team consists of at least one Police Constable (PC) and one Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

The role of the local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) is to address issues raised by the community, working closely with residents, local councillors, partner agencies, and community groups to identify concerns, tackle local crime and anti-social behaviour, and help make Crofton Park a safer place for everyone.

- **Community-Led Policing:** They operate directly within local ward boundaries. Their tactical priorities are set by the public via localized "Ward Panels" rather than police headquarters.
- **Visibility & Trust:** They act as "bobbies on the beat" to build relationships, gather local intelligence, and increase public reassurance.
- **Early Intervention:** They work closely with local councils, housing associations, and schools to educate youth and resolve ongoing disputes before they escalate.

Main Issues Addressed:

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB): Nuisance behaviour, localized rowdiness, and youth disorder.

Quality-of-Life Concerns: Vandalism, graffiti, littering, abandoned vehicles, and speeding.

Localized Crime: Open-air drug dealing/substance misuse hotspots, petty theft, and localized burglary deterrence

Theft of/from Motor Vehicle

Violence Against Women and Girls

Arson and Criminal Public Order offences, drug-related offences within residential properties

Robbery, Road Safety - Community Road Watch operation

Project SPEAK SAFE

Project Speak Safe, a vital safeguarding initiative running across all secondary schools and colleges in the London Borough of Lewisham. Working in close partnership with the Metropolitan Police and Local Authorities, this project aims to create safer environments for all young people in our communities.

? What is Speak Safe?

It is a simple, completely anonymous online survey that allows young people to share concerns or locations that have made them feel unsafe. Taking only 30–60 seconds to complete, it gathers quick details on what happened, where, and when.

⚡ How this initiative protects our community:

- 📍 Identifies Danger Zones: Helps map out specific locations and patterns of concern.
- 🚓 Targeted Action: Supports police with targeted patrols and early intervention.
- 🗣️ Amplifies Youth Voice: Gives young people a direct say in improving local safety.
- 🛡️ Prevents Crime: Aims to tackle issues early before they escalate into serious incidents.

Scanning the QR code or visiting the website takes you to a very short survey. This will take between 30-60 seconds to complete. The survey is anonymous, that means we don't collect data about you only about the incident that you are telling us about.

This doesn't replace reporting crime, if you have been the victim of an incident, please report calling 999 or online or speak with your teacher.

Speak Safe is to help bridge the gap between those people that make us feel unsafe and rob us of our safety before criminality happens, so we can stop criminality happening and can STOP victimisation from happening.

SCAN ME TO BEGIN



Website: www.SpeakSafe.co.uk

WHY USE SPEAK SAFE?

What you have experienced doesn't have to happen to another child or young person. We can help protect others and PREVENT further bad things happening to yourself or to your friends.

But in order to do that, we need you to tell us where, when and what happened so we can task local police officers to that area, to investigate further and to keep you safe

We want to work with you to help you enjoy your community. Walking to school, going to the shops, any activity you choose to do should be something you can enjoy without fear of crime or harassment.



SPEAK SAFE

Helping us to keep you and your friends safe



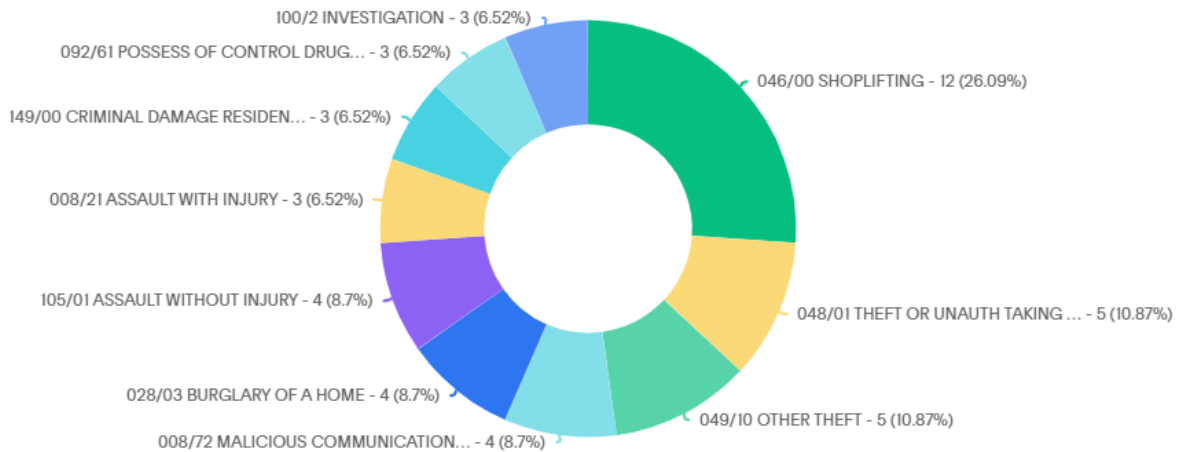
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Top recorded crimes for the last 30 days:



Arson and Criminal Damage has continued its downward trend, with recorded offences falling from **12 in August to 3 in September**, indicating a significant reduction in this offence category. **Vehicle offences**, including theft of and theft from motor vehicles, have also decreased, dropping from **10 recorded offences in August to 7 in September**. While this represents a positive trend, vehicle-related crime remains an ongoing issue and continues to require monitoring and preventative action.

Public Order offences, drug-related offences, and robbery remain areas of concern, as the number of incidents reported continues to be comparatively high despite reductions over the reporting period. While these offence categories have not experienced the same level of decline as theft, criminal damage, and vehicle crime, they continue to contribute significantly to overall demand and warrant ongoing monitoring and targeted preventive activity.

Crofton Park has seen shoplifting as the most recorded offence, with **12 incidents reported in the last 30 days**. Theft of and from motor vehicles remains another recurring issue, with **five incidents recorded**, alongside several other theft-related offences.

Month	Total	Percentage
Sep 2025	136	9.8%
Oct 2025	123	8.9%
Nov 2025	123	8.9%
Dec 2025	90	6.5%
Jan 2026	91	6.6%
Feb 2026	94	6.8%
Mar 2026	103	7.4%
Apr 2026	101	7.3%
May 2026	147	10.6%
Jun 2026	117	8.5%
Jul 2026	143	10.3%
Aug 2026	115	8.3%

Top reported crimes

Most commonly reported crimes during Aug 2026

Violence and sexual offences	32
Anti-social behaviour	14
Shoplifting	14
Vehicle crime	14

[Crime prevention](#)

All Crimes (115)

All Crimes (115)

- Anti-social behaviour (14)
- Bicycle theft (3)
- Burglary (8)
- Drugs (4)
- Other theft (12)
- Public order (7)
- Robbery (3)
- Shoplifting (14)
- Theft from the person (1)
- Vehicle crime (14)
- Violence and sexual offences (32)
- Other crime (3)



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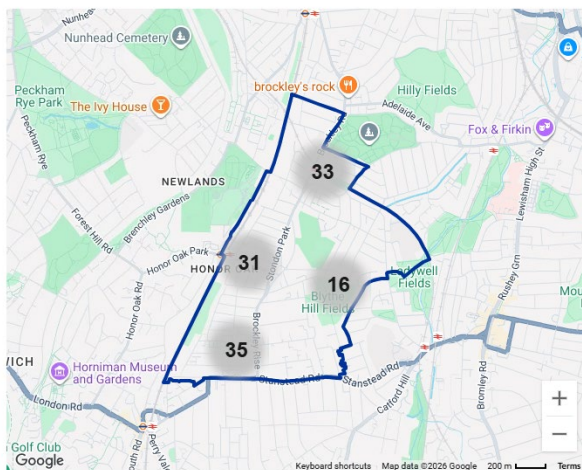


While offences levels in Crofton Park continue to fluctuate, total recorded offences fell from 143 in July to 115 in August with the proportion decreasing from 10% to 8.3%.

Incidents of **assault without injury**, where victims have contacted police to report minor offences. In addition, officers have dealt with assaults where injuries have been sustained and recorded.

Residential criminal damage is another area of concern, with reports of an offender spray-painting Ring doorbell cameras at residential properties. These incidents are currently being investigated by officers. **Residential burglary** has also been a concern in Crofton Park, with **four burglaries reported within the last 30 days**. These incidents have impacted residents and continue to contribute to crime levels across the ward.

Non-crime incidents remain the most frequently recorded, followed by **Violence Against the Person**, which accounted for **27 offences in September 2026**. Theft has shown a notable improvement, with reported offences decreasing significantly from **27 offences in August to 18 offences in September 2026**. This reduction suggests a positive downward trend in theft-related activity, while violence-related offences continue to be a key area of concern.

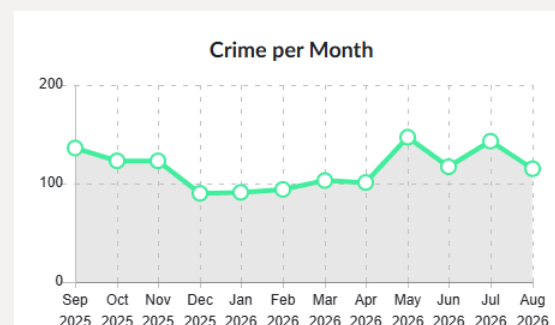


The map of offences can be accessed by visiting Crofton Park Ward on the Metropolitan website under Crimes and Priorities.

[Crofton Park | Your area | Metropolitan Police | Metropolitan Police](#)

Crime levels in your area

Crime for last year



[View as a list](#)

Reports relating to the possession of controlled drugs predominantly involve offenders using controlled substances inside residential addresses.

The consumption of controlled drugs inside private residential properties or communal areas in Crofton Park is a matter handled jointly by the **Metropolitan Police Service** and **Lewisham Council's Community Safety teams**.



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Cuckooing 'Cuckooing' is when someone takes over the home of a vulnerable person.

Cuckooing is when criminals take over someone's home to use it as a base for crime.

The victim's home may be used for:

- dealing drugs storing weapons
- sex work other illegal activities

Criminals usually target vulnerable people.

- someone with a drug or alcohol problem
- someone with money troubles
- someone with a mental health issue or disability
- an elderly person

Cuckooing is a serious form of exploitation, but it often goes unrecognized. A perpetrator might pose as a friend and offer support, food, money, or utilities to gain access to a property.

Having gained access to the property, they take over and exploit it for criminal purposes. As a result, the vulnerable person is exposed to exploitation, violence, and homelessness.

What are the signs of cuckooing to look out for?

It can be difficult to spot cuckooing as the exploitation is often carried out behind closed doors. However, there are some things to look out for that might indicate that someone is being cuckooed. These include:

- an increase in anti-social behaviour
- people accessing a property in unconventional ways, e.g., through a window or over a wall
- an increase in cars and bikes around a particular property
- an increase in the number of people coming and going into the property, including late at night
- a property becomes noticeably more unkempt
- you're worried about someone and have a gut feeling something is wrong

By using the victim's home, the criminal hopes they can avoid the police.

While a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) covers public drug and alcohol consumption across Lewisham, drug activity taking place inside or emerging from properties (such as persistent chemical/cannabis smoke, heavy foot traffic, or "cuckooing" of vulnerable residents) requires building localized intelligence to prompt police warrants or property closure orders.



How to Report Property-Based Drug Activity in Crofton Park

- **The Metropolitan Police:** For ongoing concerns regarding drug use or suspected dealing inside a property, file a report through the [Metropolitan Police Crime Reporting Portal](#) or call **101**.
- **Crofton Park Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT):** You can contact the dedicated local ward officers directly at CroftonPark@contact.metengage.co.uk to share intelligence. The team frequently monitors hotspot streets (such as Malham Road and Dalrymple Road) based on resident feedback.
- **Lewisham Council & Social Landlords:** If the property is council-owned or managed by a housing association (e.g., Pinnacle, Clarion), report the anti-social behaviour directly to the landlord or via the [Lewisham Council Reporting Portal](#). Landlords and the council have the legal authority to issue warning notices, seek closure orders, or pursue evictions for breaches of tenancy related to controlled drugs.
- **Crimestoppers (100% Anonymous):** If you are worried about being identified by neighbours, you can submit an untraceable report via the [Crimestoppers UK Website](#) or call **0800 555 111**

Road Safety remains a key priority for Crofton Park residents. The local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) is keen to work closely with schools and nurseries to promote road safety awareness, helping to educate young people and support the prevention of road traffic incidents.

In line with the latest Department for Transport road safety strategy, the local SNT is also conducting **Community Road Watch** operations. These initiatives aim to address speeding concerns, encourage safer driving behaviour, and improve road safety for all members of the community.

Road Safety Strategy 2026

The UK's Road Safety Strategy 2026 aims to reduce deaths and serious injuries on the roads by 65% by 2035.

Stringent new road safety measures have been proposed by the Government after warnings that “dangerous complacency” has set in over the past decade in England, with the country overtaken by more than 20 other European countries in reducing fatalities.

The strategy sets out a range of policies to support this aim and to improve overall road safety. It focuses on 4 themes:

- supporting road users
- technology, innovation and data for safer vehicles and post-collision care
- ensuring infrastructure is safe
- robust enforcement to protect all road users

The strategy shows a move away from incremental change to an evidence-based approach tackling root causes and includes tougher enforcement and collaborative work to improve the road network and post-crash responses.

The strategy includes new consultations on:

- 🚗 A minimum learning period for new drivers
- 👁️ Mandatory eye tests for drivers over 70
- 🍷 Lowering the drink-drive alcohol limits
- 📱 Additional safety technology in new cars
- 🚔 Tougher penalties for uninsured drivers



Officers are actively working to prevent further offences through targeted patrols, crime prevention advice, and the investigation of reported incidents. Stolen vehicle offences remain an ongoing concern. Through effective intelligence gathering, PC Dempsey assisted in locating stolen a vehicle in the Firs Close area, which was recovered and returned to the rightful owner



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With an emphasis on the new Road Safety Strategy and concerns raised by the local community, **Crofton Park Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)** is taking a proactive lead in delivering **Community Road Watch operations** in locations where speeding has been identified as a significant issue.



These initiatives are focused on roads where excessive vehicle speeds have a direct impact on residents, particularly during peak traffic periods and school closing times, when pedestrians, including children, families, shoppers, and commuters, are most likely to be travelling home. Through targeted enforcement and community engagement, the SNT aims to improve road safety, address residents' concerns, and reduce the risk posed by speeding vehicles.

Local volunteers are encouraged and welcome to take part in Community Road Watch sessions, supporting efforts to raise awareness of speeding and helping to make Crofton Park's roads safer for all road users. **Residents interested in participating can express their interest by emailing the Crofton Park SNT inbox or through the Met Engage platform.**

Community involvement is vital in helping to identify problem locations, raise awareness of road safety issues, and support efforts to reduce speeding and improve the safety of all road users across the ward. Community Road watch gives residents the opportunity to work side by side with their local police teams, and use speed detection equipment to identify speeding vehicles in their communities. Warning letters will be issued where appropriate, and the information can help to inform the future activity of local police teams

We are working in partnership with Transport for London and City of London Police (CoLP) to run Community Road watch a road safety initiative which aims to reduce speeding in residential areas.



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Domestic Abuse Statistics UK

REFER DIRECT
Victim Referral, Simple & Quick.

ASSIST
National Injunction Database



Figure 1 <https://www.ncdv.org.uk/domestic-abuse-statistics-uk/>

Violence Against Women and Girls remain a national emergency with millions of people in England and Wales experiencing violence, abuse and exploitation. VAWG and Public Protection offences account for at least 1 in 5 crimes, with reporting rates continuing to increase. There are still victims that never report these crimes. The National Centre for Violence Against Women and Girl and Public Protection has produced its first Strategic Threat Risk Assessment that brings together data from across policing and partners which identified 5 critical threats: domestic abuse, repeat perpetrators, child on child abuse, image-based abuse and public space sexual offending. With domestic abuse accounting for 645% of all VAWG crimes reported.

VAWG and Public Protection Insight

An emerging and significant finding across **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)** and wider public protection crime is the increasing involvement of **young people as both victims and offenders**. Analysis indicates that approximately half of child sexual abuse offences involve offenders aged between **10 and 17 years**, while **17% of VAWG-related offences are linked to teenage relationship abuse**.

These findings highlight the critical importance of early intervention, strengthened safeguarding measures, and targeted support for children and young people before harmful behaviours become entrenched and lead to more serious offending.



Figure 2 <https://www.ncdv.org.uk/domestic-abuse-statistics-uk/>

A second key area of concern relates to **repeat perpetrators**. Around **24% of VAWG suspects are repeat offenders**, demonstrating the importance of early identification, effective offender management, and proactive disruption tactics. This presents an opportunity for partner agencies to work collaboratively to prevent future victimisation, reduce harm, and safeguard those most at risk. The emergence of **AI-generated indecent material involving children** presenting new safeguarding challenges. Technology is increasingly being used as a means through which abuse is perpetrated, amplified, and experienced, enabling offenders to reach a wider number of victims, exert greater control, and cause harm beyond traditional physical boundaries. This evolving threat



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underscores the need for continued investment in digital safeguarding, awareness raising, and early intervention strategies to protect vulnerable individuals from technology-enabled abuse. Overall, these findings reinforce the need for a prevention-focused approach that combines safeguarding, education, enforcement, and partnership working to address both the root causes and emerging forms of violence and abuse.

A third and particularly concerning trend is the growing role of **technology in facilitating abuse**. **Image-Based Abuse (IBA)** is one of the fastest-growing threats within the VAWG landscape with to work collaboratively



Figure 3 <https://www.ncdv.org.uk/domestic-abuse-statistics-uk/>

The police response to preventing harm and reducing associated risks focuses on investing in digital capabilities, improving the identification and management of repeat perpetrators, and strengthening collaborative working with partners to address repeat offending across the criminal justice system.

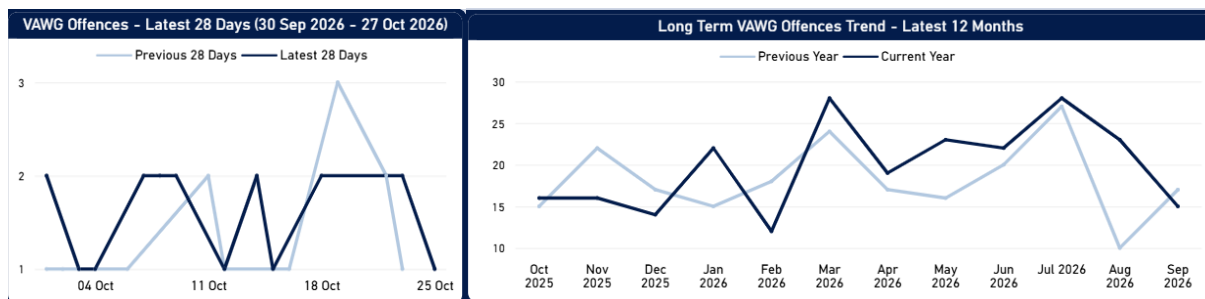


Figure 4 Data Analysis - DDaT - VaWG

Figure 5 Data Analysis - DDaT - VaWG

Among the **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)** offences recorded in Crofton Park, the majority relate to **Domestic Abuse, Harassment, Stalking, Rape, and other Sexual Offences**. Incidents involving **Coercive and Controlling Behaviour** also continue to feature prominently, highlighting the ongoing need for safeguarding, victim support, and proactive intervention to protect those at risk and bring offenders to justice.

Figure 6 NCVPP - VAWG and Public Protection Strategic Threat Risk Assessment

VAWG Offences:

- Domestic Abuse Flagged
- Honour Based Abuse Flagged
- Rape
- Other Sexual Offences
- Exploitation of Prostitution
- Stalking
- Harassment
- Coercive and Controlling Behaviour
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Non-fatal Strangulation and Suffocation



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Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

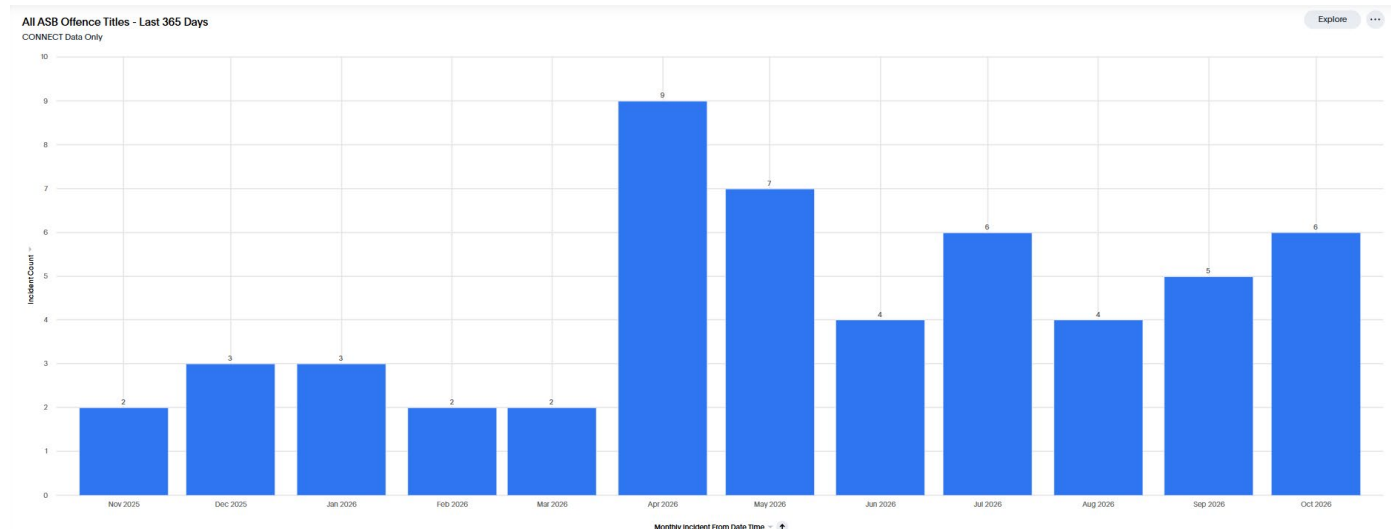


Figure 7 Connect Data Last 365 Days

According to the **Crime and Policing Act 2026: Anti-Social Behaviour Factsheet** and the **Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW)** data for the year ending **December 2025**, the most commonly reported forms of anti-social behaviour (ASB) relate to vehicle nuisance, groups congregating in public spaces, and drug-related activity. Rubbish and littering, together with people using or dealing drugs, remain among the most frequently reported ASB concerns.

Within **Crofton Park**, there have been ongoing reports of ASB linked to **Malham Road**, primarily involving vehicles causing excessive noise and disturbance. Drug-related offences, including the use of drugs late at night, have also been reported. In addition, the individual associated with the ongoing **Ring doorbell camera offences** continues to engage in criminal activity, with the most recent reported incident occurring in early October. These issues continue to impact residents' perceptions of safety and quality of life within the local community.

Additional ASB-related incidents include loud music and other inconsiderate behaviour impacting residents around Garthorne Road.

Hot spots for drug use and drug dealing are well known to officers in Crofton Park. Officers continue to conduct intelligence-gathering activities to identify offenders, disrupt criminal activity, and support enforcement action where appropriate.



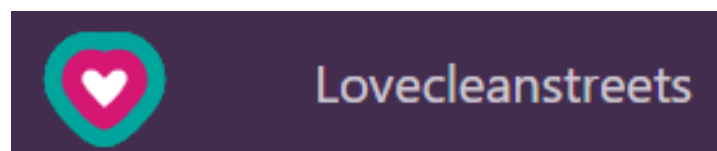
There are increasing safeguarding concerns regarding dangerous dogs and public safety. Recent incidents have resulted in tragic consequences, with small dogs being attacked and seriously injured by larger dogs that were not under adequate control. These incidents have had a significant impact on the wider community, raising concerns about responsible dog ownership and community safety.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)

The legislation around dogs can be found by accessing the link [Lewisham Council - Your dog and the law](#) and can be reported using [Home page - Lovecleanstreets](#)

A PSPO restricts what activities can happen in an area. It applies to everyone in that area and can last for a maximum of three years. We can impose a PSPO if we believe an area in the borough is being used for activity that is:

Dog fouling continues to be a concern for residents around Stillness Road and other parts of Crofton Park. Contacts have been made with the local council, which is working alongside officers to raise awareness of the issue and engage with residents to promote responsible dog ownership and help keep the area clean.



The Safer Neighbourhood Team has continued to work closely with partner agencies, including Lewisham Council, housing providers, and mental health services, to identify appropriate interventions and long-term solutions. Where individuals are vulnerable and experiencing mental health difficulties, officers seek to ensure that support and safeguarding measures are considered alongside any enforcement action.

Targeted patrols have been conducted in identified hotspot locations, with officers engaging directly with residents, gathering intelligence, and taking action where offences have been identified. The team will continue to monitor ASB trends across the ward and encourage residents to report incidents so that appropriate measures can be implemented.

Addressing anti-social behaviour remains a key priority, and the Safer Neighbourhood Team is committed to working with the community and partner organisations to improve the quality of life for all residents across Crofton Park.



Police are actively gathering information and reviewing any available evidence. Residents are encouraged to:

- Check CCTV, Ring doorbell, and other security footage for suspicious activity.
- Report all incidents to the police via **101** or online through the Metropolitan Police website.
- Call **999** if the offence is taking place or a suspect is currently on scene.
- Avoid cleaning or removing evidence until photographs have been taken where possible.
- Share relevant footage or information with investigating officers.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team is conducting reassurance patrols in the affected area and continues to work with local residents and partners to identify those responsible.

If you have any information relating to these incidents, please contact the police quoting the relevant crime reference number, or report anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Community Engagement

Coffee with a Copper continues its engagement with the residents by organizing regular **drop-in sessions** were held throughout this quarter, providing residents with opportunities to meet local officers, discuss community concerns, receive crime prevention advice, and help shape local policing priorities. To improve accessibility and engagement across the ward, sessions were delivered at several key community venues within Crofton Park, including:

- **Brockley Rise Adult Learning Centre**
- **Ewart Community Hall**
- **Crofton Park Library**

These sessions enabled officers to gather valuable community feedback, address local concerns relating to crime and anti-social behaviour, and strengthen partnerships with residents, businesses, and community groups.

Residents are encouraged to attend future drop-in sessions and speak directly with their local Safer Neighbourhood Team about any concerns affecting their area.

Find out when the next drop-in session takes place by singing up to Met Engage.



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MET ENGAGE

Community crime-fighting



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Postcode*

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In an emergency always call 999 or visit our website to report crime online - www.met.police.uk

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To reach out to your local team about policing issues email us at

croftonparkMPS@met.police.uk or pick your officer on [MetEngage](#)



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Your Crofton Park SNT Officers:

Charlene Pavitt Superintendent

Gavin Durnell
Inspector

Chris Lewis

Sergeant

Benjamin Angel
Police Constable

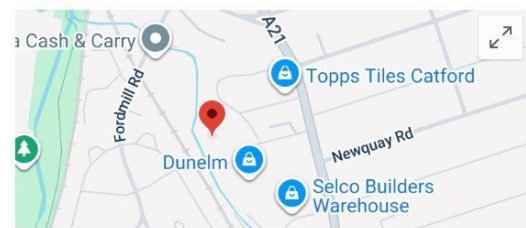
Harbinder Bahia
Police Constable

Paul Shaw
Police Constable

Stephanie Morris Police Constable

Iulia Merlusca
PCSO

Email: croftonparkMPS@met.police.uk



Catford Police Base (Tdp)

Police station in London, England



Ward Panel Meeting

31ST OCTOBER 2026 AT 10:30

Crofton Park Library, 375 Brockley Road London

JOIN THE NEXT WARD PANEL MEETING BY SENDING US AN EMAIL AT

croftonparkMPS@met.police.uk

Your voice matters! By attending, you'll help ensure local policing reflects our community's needs. No prior experience is needed—just a desire to make a difference.

Ward Panel Meeting is set to take place every three months and offers the opportunity to community members and partner agencies to meet and discuss local SNT ward priorities and check progress that was made on issues affecting the community.

It is an important mechanism that help us to understand the views of the community about crime and disorder in your neighbourhood.

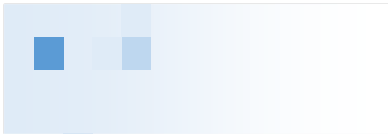
The Ward Panel is your chance to:

- Share your concerns and ideas to shape local policing priorities.
- Collaborate with the police to tackle community issues.
- Build trust and transparency through open dialogue.



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Coffee with a copper

CROFTON PARK SNT are holding several drop-in sessions as part of Met Engage initiative.

Crime prevention advice and leaflets will also be provided
www.met.police.uk

Find out details of the next
session on Met Engage

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Community crime-fighting

