



PLR March Update



Key Information

Neighbourhood Beat Bus and Community Surgeries

Up-to-date information about our beat buses and events can be found on: [Your area](#) | [Northamptonshire Police](#) (northants.police.uk) under 'Meetings & Events' tab

Latest News

Up-to-date information about general force news, witness appeals, campaigns, court cases and appeals for wanted people, can be found on: [Latest news](#) | [Northamptonshire Police](#)

Report a crime

Information about the different ways you can contact the police or report a crime, can be found on: [Contact us](#) | [Northamptonshire Police](#)

PLR Changes

- If there has been a change of PLR, you need to notify NCALC and complete the form [here](#)
- Please note that there is only **one** PLR contact for each council or meeting, regardless of size. If you would like to add additional people to the mailing list to receive the monthly update and other communications, you can contact NCALC.
- You should also notify your PCSO if there has been a change of PLR and provide the contact details of the new PLR or an interim contact detail (eg the Clerk or a Councillor)
- If you have a change of email address, you need to inform NCALC and your PCSO, so we can ensure we can still reach you. You can find contact details at the end of this update.

Northamptonshire Talking

We aim to send all PLR digital communications through our [Northamptonshire Talking](#) platform. It is essential all PLRs register on the platform using their council email address so that you can be added to the PLR group. The system uses location based messaging, therefore all communications you receive will be relevant to your area and your council.

Group Join QR Code



Policing and partnership work on the Highfield Estate



Policing Your Neighbourhood

Over the past year, police in Kettering have been working closely with North Northamptonshire Council and other partners to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour on the Highfield estate. The project has followed the Home Office's Clear Hold Build approach, which focuses on reducing crime, improving public spaces and working alongside the community to create long-term change. A dedicated Clear Hold Build team has worked alongside the local neighbourhood team and colleagues from partner agencies to focus on this work.

Early conversations and engagement with residents made it clear that drug dealing, serious violence and anti-social behaviour were the biggest concerns. This feedback helped shape the team's priorities and guided the activity that followed.

What's been achieved so far:

Clear phase – making the area safer

The first stage focused on disrupting criminal activity. In the past 11 months:

- Officers carried out several warrants, seizing weapons and Class A and B drugs.
- 36 people were arrested, with 34 charged or dealt with through out-of-court resolutions.
- The policing team spent around 1,600 hours patrolling the estate.
- Police, the council and housing providers worked together to deal with anti-social behaviour, issuing warnings and notices, and in some cases, seeking eviction for persistent offenders.
- Residents played a key part by sharing information about where crime was happening.

This work led to a noticeable reduction in serious offending.

Hold phase – keeping crime down and improving the environment

After six months of enforcement activity, the focus moved to maintaining stability and improving the estate.

Actions included:

- Two new CCTV cameras installed in Spring Rise Park, funded by Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Danielle Stone
- Improved street lighting put in by North Northamptonshire Council.
- Crimestoppers supporting a campaign to encourage people to report crime.
- Officers visiting schools to talk to young people about knife crime and anti-social behaviour.
- New Street Watch and Neighbourhood Watch groups set up.

Policing and partnership work on the Highfield Estate

- The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Immediate Justice team organising a litter-pick to clean up the estate.

These changes have contributed to further reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour.

Build phase – working together for the future

The project is now moving into the build phase. This means the council and partner organisations will continue to work with residents to make lasting improvements to the estate, supported by the local neighbourhood policing team. Anyone with concerns about crime or anti-social behaviour is encouraged to contact their local officers.

Next steps

As the Highfield project moves into its long-term stage, the Clear Hold Build team is preparing to focus next on the Croyland area of Wellingborough. However, Highfield will continue to receive regular policing support.

Find out more information about the Clear Hold Build Strategy [here](#)

Online public meeting March 2026

Residents across Northamptonshire are again being given the opportunity to put their questions on crime and policing to Chief Constable Ivan Balhatchet and Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Danielle Stone at an online public meeting later this month.

Ivan and Danielle will be live on Facebook and YouTube between **6:30pm and 8pm on Tuesday, March 31**, answering questions from members of the public about topics that matter most to them.

This second meeting will give Ivan and Danielle the opportunity to update viewers on the actions that were taken from the earlier livestream, as well as answering new questions from the public.

Questions about any policing or community safety issue are welcomed – potentially covering subjects such as neighbourhood policing, violence against women and girls, retail crime and town centre safety, road safety or funding. Questions can be sent now via email to: chiefschat@northants.police.uk or can be asked live during the broadcast on Facebook or YouTube.



Join us live

to put your question to Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Danielle Stone and Chief Constable Ivan Balhatchet in a **chat with the chiefs**

March 31st 6:30-8pm Streaming on Facebook and YouTube

 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE, FIRE & CRIME COMMISSIONER  NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE

Court success- Aspers Casino operation



A 36-year-old man was sentenced at Northampton Crown Court on February 13, after he pleaded guilty to one count of producing a controlled drug of Class B (cannabis).

Mantas Piparas, of no fixed address, was sentenced to three years and nine months in prison for his part in the cannabis factory that was successfully uncovered by the Neighbourhood Policing Team, at the old Aspers casino in Commercial Street, on October 30, 2025.

Officers used chainsaws to gain entry to the building, where they discovered a highly organised criminal operation containing more than 7,971 cannabis plants over three floors. They were later valued to be worth between £2.4 and £3.2 million.

Those responsible had gone to extreme lengths to keep law enforcement out, bricking over access points and reinforcing rooms with steel. The scale and sophistication of the operation highlight the wider harms linked to organised crime, including exploitation, violence and significant risks to the community.

If you suspect someone is dealing drugs or involved in drug crime, you can call us on 101 or report online [here](#). Always dial 999 if you or your property is at risk or a crime is in progress. You can also pass on information anonymously to the independent charity [Crimestoppers](#) on 0800 555 111.

If you would like to contact your local policing team, search in the [Your Area](#) section of our website.

Concerned about fraud and scams in your area?

Are you concerned about fraud and scams affecting residents in your area? Our local PCSOs are available to deliver personal safety and crime prevention talks focused on fraud and scam awareness for community groups, faith organisations, neighbourhood associations, and other local forums.

On 8 February, PC Janjua and PCSO Sangster visited Daventry Mosque to deliver an important session on personal safety and fraud/scam awareness.

The visit aimed to support and empower community members by providing practical advice on:

- Staying personally safe
- Recognising suspicious behaviour
- Identifying common types of frauds and scams impacting residents locally

If you would like to arrange a similar session for a group in your area, please get in touch with our team at any time through Northamptonshire Talking.

Further resources on fraud prevention are also available [here](#)



Man, 45, pleads guilty to killing hare with hounds

A 45-year-old huntsman has pleaded guilty to killing a hare with hounds in the Warkton area of Kettering.

On January 25, 2025, Philip Saunders was the huntsman of the Pipewell Beagles Ltd, when a member of the public captured a video of their pack of beagles killing a hare on the Boughton Estate in the Warkton area of Kettering.

An investigation into the incident was launched by Northamptonshire Police's Rural Crime Team which saw the hare sent for a post-mortem. This confirmed it had been killed by dogs. This resulted in Saunders being charged with hunting a wild mammal with dogs under Section 1 of the Hunting Act 2004.

The trial at Northampton Magistrates' Court started on Monday, February 16, with evidence given by the witness who filmed the incident - a wildlife photographer – on day one.

The court also heard from an expert witness who explained that the sounds made by Saunders through his voice and his horn were that of encouragement for the hounds to hunt.

Although Saunders, of Vicarage Lane, Podington, Wellingborough, initially denied that the group were illegally hunting, he changed his plea on day two of the trial to guilty.

At sentencing, which was held at the same court last week (February 17), Saunders was ordered to pay fines and costs totalling £5000 which he is required to settle within 28 days. His hunting horn was also ordered to be destroyed and this was forfeited to police the following morning (February 18).



Contact details

The next monthly PLR Update will be sent out at the beginning of April, 2026

For further information, to provide feedback or suggest articles for this update, please contact:

- Northants CALC, Sophie Harding - E: sharding@northantscalc.com
- Northamptonshire Police, Abi Butler- E: abi.butler@northants.police.uk