

Bracebridge Heath Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)

Your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team



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Quarterly NPT Priorities

Every three months your local NPT listens to your concerns and looks at recent crime statistics to shape the things we will concentrate on for the next three months. Our priority for the forthcoming quarter will be;

1. Misuse of Drugs & Drug Dealing

Illegal drug use is unfortunately an undesirable element of criminality woven into society with varying driving factors behind its use. Cannabis remains a gateway drug of which the long term use is well documented as leading to anxiety and psychological problems, particularly when used from a young age. Cocaine is the current drug of choice, often associated with recreational use, but very often a dependency forms along side alcohol and other drugs both prescription and other illegal substances.

Illegal drugs are the driving factor behind most acquisitive crime, shop theft, burglary and robberies. It is one of the most destructive things to our society and young people with involvement are often set back, and their future opportunities limited. For this reason we will be focusing upon targeting drug dealers and drug supply for the next 3 months in order to disrupt the supply of drugs.

If you witness drugs being abused in public spaces, smell cannabis coming from an address or a vehicle being driven or have knowledge or suspicion of drug dealing please call the information line on 101 or report it online. If you wish to remain anonymous you can report it via Crimestoppers which is a charity independent of the Police on 0800 555 111 – you may attract a reward for the information.

2. Dwelling Burglaries

During September we experienced a small spike in both commercial & domestic burglaries. Crime usually accompanies difficult economic times. To this end and with Christmas quickly appearing on the horizon, a time dwelling burglaries traditionally spike, we will intensify our efforts to combat break-ins. This will mean targeting offenders, target hardening and issuing crime prevention advice in relation to burglaries. This forms our second priority this quarter.

Reduce your chances of Burglary & Theft

Don't make your home attractive to burglars by leaving it in darkness. Use a timer switch, leave a lamp on or invest in a cost effective crime reduction product. If your car is iced over, do not leave it running whilst you are inside. It takes seconds to steal and will invalidate your car insurance leaving you with no claim to uphold. Do not keep large sums of money in your house. If it is unavoidable ensure it is locked in a safe. Mark your property. Register it on a property register such as the Immobilise UK National Property Register or for cycles try www.bikeregister.com

Keep your receipts, often insurance companies won't pay out without proof of purchase and proof of ownership.

Away from home.....

If you are out for the night plan your return journey. Do not use unlicensed taxis (these unregulated drivers will be aware you are out and may target your property), drink responsibly and be aware of your surroundings.

Keep valuables out of view, car keys hidden, and doors and windows locked with approved BS locks. Many burglaries are sneak in opportunist thefts that occur whilst you are in. Consider a house alarm and be mindful about what you post on social media in relation to your movements. Doorbell cameras are an excellent deterrent and facilitate police to reviewing movement around properties that have been targeted by burglars. Do not leave your car keys visible in your house – most vehicles are now stolen with keys, often the sole target of a burglary. Keep car keys away from the letter box where they can be "fished" for with an implement similar to a fishing rod. This is what car thieves often do.

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www.lincs.police.uk
(and enter your postcode)

CALL YOUR
LOCAL
POLICE



101

IN AN
EMERGENCY
ALWAYS
CALL 999


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3. Online Scams & Text Scams

There is a scam for everyone. Please be cautious of random emails and texts. Also contact from any unknown persons on Facebook and other online forums. Be careful of what you are giving and to whom you give information to. Never assume that someone is who they say they are. This is relevant to all types of fraud. Check out the company or bank websites. Are you being asked for something such as PIN and card details or other information? Banks and service providers will never cold call and ask for such information. Research any sellers when buying a pet. Make sure you research who you are buying from and make sure they are a legitimate seller. Keep track of receipts and confirmation emails for online purchases.

There are many scam text messages – they will all want you to click on a link and they maybe voice message based – they will talk you through the scam of their choice which will involve you going to a website or downloading an App (Anydesk is one example) which will see the offender take control and access your computer and then all of your accounts in turn. Others will claim you are in debt or about to be cut off from services and may involve asking you to purchase gift cards or even involve people attending your address wanting to take you to the bank to withdraw cash – we have seen this approach when targeting elderly people who we have seen scammed out of thousands of pounds. Many scams are email or text message based which revolve around clicking on the scammer link – parcels, prizes, debt are all ruses, we expect to see offers of cheap energy bills as an emerging threat.

More information about fraud & scams can be found at www.lincs.police.uk
For reporting fraud or attempts at fraud and cyber crime call 0300 123 2040 which is the Action Fraud Line. Always be aware that incoming phone numbers and emails/websites can be cloned by the fraudster, a technique known as "Spoofing". Connect with Lincolnshire Police on "Nextdoor"

Join Nextdoor for Lincs Police Updates

Nextdoor is a free, social networking platform where residents can get in touch with their neighbours and local police officers to help keep their neighbourhood safe. Communities across the country have been using nextdoor for several years and over 80,000 people in Lincolnshire are already registered. You can receive safety advice, urgent alerts, appeals and messages from Lincolnshire Police.

Special Constables in Lincolnshire Police

Have you considered joining Lincolnshire Police as a Special Constable? You would be trained and operate with full time Police Officers in serving and protecting your community. It is both challenging and rewarding and a good route into a career as a full time Police Officer. Search our website for information about joining as a Special Constable at www.lincs.police.uk

Want to know more?

If you think there is an issue we should be focusing on, please get in touch at one of our public engagement Events contact us by email, or social media.

Crime statistics

Crime Statistics for your neighbourhood are available at: <https://www.police.uk/>
Nextdoor is a great way of getting the latest relevant information for your area. Join at: <https://nextdoor.co.uk/find-neighborhood/>

Twitter - @BBHPolice
Facebook - Bracebridge Heath NPT

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