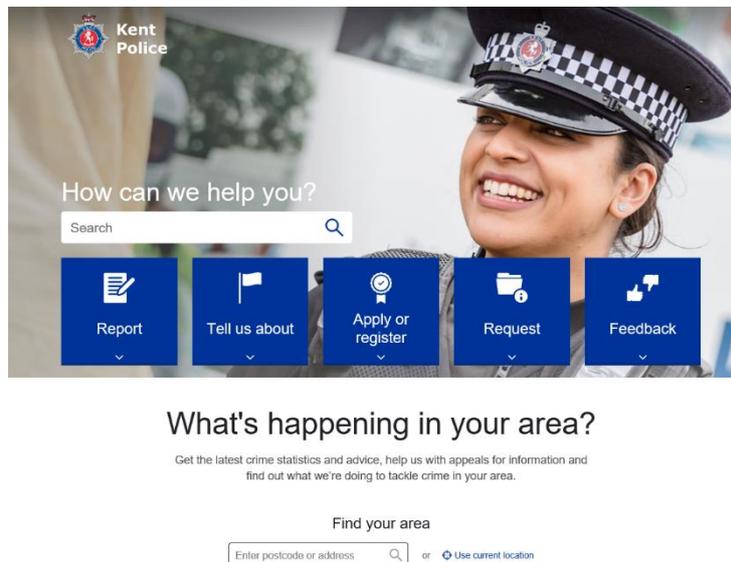


## GREAT CHART WITH SINGLETON NORTH - SEPTEMBER 2019

September saw the launch of Kent Police's new website. This will bring new and improved online services to Kent residents. The site is easier to navigate around and has advice, news and information on what is happening in your area. You will now also be able to tell us what you are most concerned about in your neighbourhood. This information will be looked at when it comes to the local teams establishing their policing priorities. I encourage you to take a look as this is a useful resource - <https://www.kent.police.uk/>



Locally, I have been continuing to show a presence in all areas, both on foot and in a police vehicle, engaging with members of the community.

### **LOCAL INCIDENTS**

**Nuisance vehicles** – There have been a number of reports of nuisance motor bike / mini motos in the Great Chart area. Several bike owners have been spoken to with regards to these incidents so it is hoped that this will stop. However, as always, please report any nuisance bikes / vehicles to us.



**Attempted Burglary** – We have had two attempted burglaries reported to us, one in rural Great Chart and one in Singleton. Taking just a few steps can make a big difference in keeping your home safe from burglary. Here are a few tips just to help remind you (I realise I mention this nearly every month but if these help someone then it is worth it):

- Lock your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even when you're just out in the garden.
- Hide all keys, including car keys, out of sight and away from the letterbox (remember a device could be used to hook keys through the letterbox.)
- Install a visual burglar alarm.
- Install good outside lighting.
- Get a trusted neighbour to keep an eye on your property.
- Leave radios or lights in your house on a timer to make the property appear occupied.

- Make sure the fences around your garden are in good condition.
- Secure bikes at home by locking them to an immovable object inside a locked shed or garage.
- Keep ladders and tools stored away; don't leave them outside where they could be used to break into your home.
- Ensure side gates are locked to prevent access to the rear of the property.
- Improve natural surveillance at the front of your property i.e. trim high hedges.
- Consider joining or forming a Neighbourhood Watch scheme [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)
- Remove valuables from view of ground floor windows.
- Store any high value items (i.e. jewellery, passports) in a properly secured safe or bank vault.

Please remember, homes with no security measures in place are five times more likely to be burgled than those with simple security measures. Good window locks and strong deadlocks can make a big difference.



**Motor Vehicle Crime** – Unfortunately this month a vehicle has been stolen from a driveway in rural Great Chart. We have also had reports of suspect vehicles in the area. Should you see any vehicles that you believe could be acting suspiciously then please try and get the number plate and report it to us. There has also been an incident where a male was seen getting into a vehicle in Singleton. When asked, he said he was looking for somewhere to sleep. Please make sure that your vehicles are locked when not in use especially at night time.

**Vehicle crime and catching persons responsible is a high priority for Kent Police.**

**Catapulting Incident** – There has been a report of a conservatory pane of glass being smashed in the Singleton area. It appears this was caused by a catapult. As always, please report any incidents like this to us.

#### **OTHER NEWS**

**Pop-Up Café** – On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October, between 11am and 1pm, I will be attending the Pop-Up Café at Great Chart Village Hall with one of my colleagues, Steve Kelly. Steve is a Fraud Prevention Officer and he will be there to give a talk and share his wealth of knowledge with regards to fraud and scams. If you are able to make this, or think this may be beneficial to someone



you know, then please join us. There will also be cake and a cup of tea on offer so it's definitely worth a visit.

Then, in November on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> between 11am and 1pm, I have arranged for Neighbourhood Watch to attend the Pop-Up Café. More information to come nearer the time but please put this date in your diary. Thank you.

### **CONTACT US**

**Call 999 if a crime is in progress or life is in danger.**

**Call 101 to report a non-urgent crime or if you wish to speak to me – my force number is 59869.**

**If you're deaf or hard of hearing you can text 'Police' followed by your message to 60066.**

**Please also visit the Kent Police website which provides other details of other ways of contacting us.**

Kind regards,



**Catherine Stevens PCSO 46059869**

**Community Safety Unit | Ashford Police Station | East Division**