

Hello,

DECEMBER REPORT for Washford Farm, Park Farm North, Park Farm South, Kingsnorth, Roman Ward Bridgefield, Mersham, Sevenington South and Finberry.

In my role as a PCSO I am either on foot or in a Police vehicle, engaging with the community and visiting those who need my help, assistance and reassurance.



Well I cannot believe how quickly this year has gone, especially as it has been such a difficult year for us all. Let's hope 2021 will be much brighter, the news that we now have a COVID vaccination is wonderful news. I just want to remind you of some security measures over the Christmas period. If you're out and about doing Christmas shopping or browsing the January sales please keep your shopping out of sight when placing items in your car, the boot is the best place.

Ladies make sure you keep your handbags closed and don't walk around with them open, it's the perfect time for pick pocketers. Finally, when your putting the rubbish out to be collected, remember boxes from large electrical buys are advertising what you may have in your property.



NHW Advent Crime Prevention Advice



1. Never leave your bag unattended on your trolley whilst shopping and don't leave it in your vehicle when returning your trolley.
2. Don't get loaded down with too many bags. Try to keep one hand free.
3. Keep car doors locked whilst driving in built-up areas, especially if you've got bags or presents in the car.

Vaccine scam alert

The start of the roll out of vaccines for Covid-19 will present opportunities for fraudsters to commit fraud by contacting people by telephone, text, email and cold calling at their homes to offer the vaccine in return for a fee.

Any such contact will be a scam – people who receive the vaccine will not be required to:

- pay for it
- supply personal data/banking details
- provide PIN numbers.

School Parking

As we are all aware school dropping off and collecting times causes many issues. Please can you take a moment to look at the below picture please.

How would you feel if your vehicle had caused an obstruction, and a Fire Engine couldn't get through and putting lives at risk and possibly your loved ones? This is happening across the whole of the Ashford District daily.

**A fire engine needs a gap of
at least 3.1m (10ft) to get through**



**Next time you park please think about
whether a fire engine can get through.**

Catapults

Catapults are becoming an issue again across the South Ashford district, there has been some criminal damage to a vehicle in Augustus Walk and a sighting of some youths in Merino Drive carrying a catapult and firing at some trees. Colleagues and I have done lots of house to house enquires and asking if any thing has been captured on CCTV or Ring doorbells. We have identified one group of youths, but we believe there could be more then one group. If anybody sees anyone walking around with a catapult or firing them, please call the Police immediately. Police patrol have stopped and searched a male, a catapult was found on this person, this was seized in Pound lane Kingsnorth.

Theft from motor vehicles

There had been a couple of thefts from motor vehicle in Waterbrook Avenue Sevenington, Ashford, this happened at the beginning of December. Items stolen included a wallet left in the vehicle, such items should be with you, not left in the vehicle.

Dog Fouling

Dog owners are expected to carry a sufficient number of plastic bags to pick up dog waste. Failure to pick up your dog waste can result in a fine or even prosecution. Please be aware that you can dispose of dog waste in any street litter bin where there is no dog fouling bin available. Alternativity you can take the waste home with you and dispose of it in your refuse bin.

Please go online on the Ashford Borough Council website to:

Report an overflowing dog/litter bin.

Report a dog any dog fouling issues.

GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES TIER 4

If you live in a Tier 4 area, you must follow the rules below. This means that you cannot leave or be outside of the place you are living unless you have a reasonable excuse. You cannot meet other people indoors, including over the Christmas and New Year period, unless you live with them, or they are part of your support bubble. Outdoors, you can only meet one person from another household. These rules will not be relaxed for Christmas for Tier 4 – you cannot form a Christmas bubble in Tier 4.

Kent Police supports national drink and drug driving campaign

Motorists are reminded of their responsibility to ensure they don't drive under the influence of drink or drugs this Christmas period.

In support of a national policing campaign, Kent Police's Roads Policing Unit will be carrying out patrols across the county to target motorists who they suspect are driving while impaired.

Each officer is equipped with roadside tests that can check for alcohol intoxication, or the consumption of drugs, and immediate enforcement action will be taken should any offences be identified.

Officers take a proactive approach to identifying such offending and prevent collisions taking place. This has helped lead to 1,172 charges being authorised against a motorist suspected to have driven under the influence of drink or drugs in 2020, up to 30 November 2020.

1,512 charges were also issued across all of 2019, including 143 in December.

Although the latest government guidance on Coronavirus limits the amount of social interactions that can be made, the festive period is known to be a time when people consume more alcohol.

Drivers are encouraged to remember that, even if they not attending a pub, drinking at home can still leave you over the limit the next day.

Anyone who attends a celebration outside of their home is also encouraged to ensure they follow the Government's guidance and plan ahead.

Never drive once you have consumed alcohol and do not get in the car if you believe the driver is under the influence of a substance. Pre-book a licenced taxi instead.

Superintendent Mick Gardner, from Kent Police's Tactical Operations Department, said: 'We know 2020 has been a year of unprecedented challenges and we want everyone to enjoy the Christmas period. We will be doing our bit by ensuring the roads are kept safe by targeting dangerous drivers and seeking to prevent incidents.

'Driving under the influence of drink or drugs is a completely avoidable offence that places innocent members of the public in unnecessary danger.

'It is known to be one of the four most common causes of a serious collision, alongside not wearing a seatbelt, using a mobile phone at the wheel and speeding. While only a very small minority of motorists commit offences of this nature, the consequences can be life changing for all involved.'

Drivers risk up to six months' imprisonment, an unlimited fine and a substantial driving ban if they are caught driving while above the legal limit.

Anyone who causes a death while drink or drug driving faces up to 14 years' imprisonment

E-scooters – know the law

We stopped you today because although e-scooters can be great fun, it's against the law to ride one on a public road, cycle lane or pavement.

What you need to know

e-scooters are classed as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), which means they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as driving licence, insurance, number plates, lighting, road tax, crash helmets etc.

Without these, e-scooters cannot be used legally on the road.

The Government is currently trialling the use of approved rental e-scooters as environmentally friendly modes of transport in some specific locations in the UK. For the rest of the country, under current law, e-scooters can only be used on private land.

What should I do now?

It's our priority to keep you and other road users safe. We are obliged to act against anyone who is caught repeatedly using an e-scooter illegally or in a way that causes a nuisance to others. In these circumstances we have the power to seize the e-scooter under Section 59 of the Police Reform Act/165 of the Road Traffic Act – and we'd really prefer not to.

Thank you for cooperating with us today and agreeing not to use your e-scooter on a road, cycle lane or pavement.

From now on, please make sure you **only use your e-scooter on private land**. For more information about powered transporters and the law, visit **www.gov.uk**





If you have coronavirus symptoms:

- High temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste.

Get a test now

Do not leave home for a least 10 days after the test

Wash Hands

Keep washing your hands regularly

Cover Face

Wear a face covering in enclosed spaces

Make Space

Stay at least 2 metres apart – or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions.



COVID – 19 Information and Guidelines!

CORONAVIRUS – Due to new guidelines being announced by the government regularly with regards to COVID-19, please refer to their website for the most update to date information

at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

Further information Regarding COVID 19 guidelines can be found at:

<http://gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

REPORTING CRIMES

Please can I remind the community to report crimes or information by the correct channels i.e. via 101, www.kent.police.uk - report a crime or tap the live chat button on this website. Or 999 if an emergency is happening here and now. Crimes are not to be reported to me via e-mail please as not always on duty.

Police do not monitor community Facebook, Twitter, neighbour next door apps etc...and these are not the correct way to report things going on, otherwise we are unaware and unable to help you in your community.

One stop

The OneStop Shop service has been set up again at Repton Community Hall with effect from 24th November operating from 9.30 to 11.30. Further information is that social distancing and PPE will be in place and all candidates will have to wear a face mask.

- 1) Rising Sun Domestic Violence and Abuse Service – Confidential Helpline – 01227 452852. This line is available 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday.

- 2) Freephone 24-hour National Domestic Violence Helpline run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge - 0808 2000 247 or the Men's' Advice Line on 0808 801 0327.

- 3) Domestic Abuse Support Services in Kent and Medway - www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk
If you are in danger, please call 999 immediately

Public Meetings

All public meetings are now cancelled due to Covid-19.



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Community Safety Unit | Ashford Police Station | East Division