

REPORT TO GREAT CHART with SINGLETON PARISH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2026

I will update the council by this report of on my work since we last met and naturally that focuses on many routine crimes however there is a constant need to look at wider issues that may affect the district and ensure they do not come in your area.

Catapults and off-road type bikes remain a risk in your area.

There has been a serious incident in Great Chart/Singleton area and I will verbally update you.

We must ensure residents **continue to report all incidents** but especially the latter as it is the only chance officers have to plot and plan interventions.

Other matters I will report on.

1. The proposed closures of fire stations and removal of fire engines from other stations proposed by senior fire management was resounding defeated by the Fire Authority after considerable work and I thank council and individual councillors for their support on this matter.
2. I have given considerable advice to the communities of fire safety in these hot dry conditions and although we have experienced several episodes of rain a sudden period of dry warm weather will see risks return.
3. I gave advice on water safety and the dangers of swimming in lakes and ponds, which highlighted the folly of criminal damage to water safety equipment which I also had to deal with.
4. I continue to urge residents to register for emergency water bottled water deliveries if they are in anyway disabled, vulnerable, elderly or recently given birth.
5. I have met Ashford's Chief Inspector Jennifer Bassan. It was a presentation of NHW and how I work in the district. At the time of writing this report I am optimistic we may be able to enjoy a far better relationship than with the last Chief Inspector, however only time and our meeting will tell. The office of the Crime Commissioner has been in touch to set up a meeting also. I enjoy a very good and frank working relationship with Matthew Scott.
6. NHW Membership continues to steadily grow, and I look forward to community days that enhance that work further.
7. It is with regret that the Police Schools Team (part of the Neighbourhood Community Policing model for Kent launched in June 2023) is to be disbanded. I am very disappointed there has been no formal announcement and I will raise this locally with the Ch Insp and in my next meeting with the Crime Commissioner.

The only way to address many crimes is prevention at the earliest possible time.

8. I attended the restart of the Eat Well Spend less roadshows run by A.B.C.
9. I continue to drive the campaign of Violence Against Women & Girls which is still a national disgrace in our Country. I am looking to link in with as

many other agencies as is possible. Domestic Abuse is a special area of concern. Confidence and support when reporting is critical!

10. I have recently set up an alerting group following a series of incidents in churches in the district. Any incident in a church and I will send an alert to as many churches as I can get contact details for.
11. I have had several meetings with your Beat officer Matt Potticary to ensure I support him with my NHW set up.
12. The Police CSU units has been renamed NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM. I have read lots of words and I look forward to Quality Assuring outcomes.

In conclusion I feel that the remainder of 2026 will be a very busy time leading into 2027 and the pause of LGR just allows more time to focus on real issues and outcomes. The strength and clarity of Parish, Community and Town Councils will be essential during this period and will require us all to be at the very top of our game.

I inform council I am against the reorganisations of 53 police forces down to 12.

I do not remain convinced it will deliver the “Peelian Principles” of policing

I would wish to see far more detail and working proposals before this takes place and hope to see what type of policing is required to deliver the service towards 2030.

May I remind council there are also thoughts on the removal of the Police Crime Commissioners on the horizon too. I will be clearer on this matter after my meeting with the PCC in early October.

My hope is our joint working stays tight and focused, and we ensure our communications are top drawer and I look forward to assisting you to deliver the best service we can to the residents we have the honour to serve.

As always thank you for your support.

Peter New (Community Neighbourhood Watch)



ROADSHOW PRESENTATION at EAT WELL SPEND LESS AUGUST 2026.