



OUR NEWS

> FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS ACROSS ENG & WALES



Dear supporters,

With the summer bringing spells of hot weather and the lifting of restrictions, we are in a new phase of living our daily lives alongside Covid-19, but risks and concerns remain for many. Supporting individual volunteers' decisions on keeping themselves and others safe is a key part of our work as more face-to-face contact in communities is possible.

The Croods 2 holiday prize draw has closed, and the lucky winner informed. The number of fantastic comments from people in response to our question "What makes a great community?" has been incredible. You can read more on this on page 7.

The vast amount of work that has been undertaken with volunteers and supporters to develop our new Knowledge Hub, funded by the National Lottery, has been brilliant, and we are currently trialling it in Hampshire. We will use the feedback to improve the Hub before we roll it out more widely. More on this on page 5.

Keep up the excellent Neighbourhood Watch work and keep safe.

Yours sincerely

John Hayward-Cripps,
CEO - Neighbourhood Watch Network

Named police officer for every neighbourhood

The newly announced 'Beating Crime Plan' includes ensuring that every neighbourhood in England and Wales has a named and contactable police officer dedicated to that neighbourhood.

The named police officer will know their area, the people and local communities who live there and are best placed to ensure that persistent crime and anti-social behaviour is tackled.

This looks like a definite step towards, and focus on, local neighbourhood policing which members have regularly stated that they feel has been lost and that they would like more focus on given the benefits to both local neighbourhoods and the police.

We will be working with the Police and Neighbourhood Watch Leads and Coordinators to ensure this promise becomes a reality and that the potential benefits of this are realised in all communities.

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Covid-19 and crime survey: overview and online security behaviour

This research, funded by UK Research and Innovation, was a collaboration between the Dawes Centre for Future Crime at UCL and Neighbourhood Watch.

COVID-19 AND CRIME SURVEY PART I: SURVEY OVERVIEW AND ONLINE SECURITY BEHAVIOUR



The aim was to understand how the Covid-19 pandemic affected crime in the UK, and the public's perception of it. The survey, which ran from 2nd - 23rd December 2020, received 20,784 responses from across the country, of which 14,741 (or 71%) provided answers to every question.

The pandemic has disrupted everyday life in many ways, some of which could increase the risk of crime, some of which could decrease it. The survey was thus designed to assess changes to people's activities, as well as their perceptions and experience of crime for the periods before and during the pandemic.

The survey questions were focused on:

- routine activities
- online habits and online safety
- victimisation and perceptions of crime
- handling of the pandemic and
- demographics and social media use.

[This PART 1 summary document](#) describes the overall characteristics of those who completed the survey and some of the findings. It focuses on respondent's awareness of two crime prevention campaigns and provides a little detail about them for those that are not aware of them.

Further upcoming papers will cover perceptions of crime, victimisation experience and the handling of the pandemic.

Summer events for our volunteers

Summer is an exciting time for our volunteers who are invited to attend our upcoming Summer Seminars and our Summer Workshops.

Our **Summer Seminars**, which will be held online on 17th, 18th and 19th August with the theme **ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS**, are an opportunity for our volunteers to find out how we are doing as an organisation, exciting development opportunities, and hear directly from other volunteers on how they are making a difference in their communities.

Our **Summer Workshops** are an opportunity for volunteers to meet with like-minded people, and develop their skills and knowledge to further support them in their roles as Coordinators and Association Leads. The online workshops will be held on 23rd, 25th, 27th and 31st August 2.00pm – 3.30pm, and 2nd, 6th, 8th and 10th September 5.30pm -7.00pm. We will be sending an invite out via email and hope to see many of you there.

If you are interested in volunteering for Neighbourhood Watch, [follow this link](#) to find out more about the variety of ways in which you can get involved, from becoming a Coordinator to supporting campaigns or engaging in one of our community projects. You can give as much or as little time as suits you.

Together we can call out crime.

Stop thieves from
stealing our summer.



Have information about thieves
operating in your community?
You can speak up and remain
100% anonymous. Always.
[crimestoppers-uk.org](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

CrimeStoppers.

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100% anonymous. Always.

Campaign partner:



Neighbourhood Watch and other expert organisations partner with Airbnb to launch UK's first Trust and Safety Alliance

Neighbourhood Watch is proud to partner with Airbnb in the UK and several other expert organisations as part of the newly launched UK Trust and Safety Alliance – a European first. The alliance will provide information and guidance to Hosts and the Airbnb community.

Other founding members of the Trust and Safety Alliance include the National Fire Chief's Council, Crimestoppers, Get Safe Online, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and Race on the Agenda.

The Alliance will engage with Airbnb Hosts quarterly through Airbnb's 'Meet the Experts' series and will produce safety, crime prevention and community wellbeing guides and information on an ongoing basis.



John Hayward-Cripps, CEO, Neighbourhood Watch, said, "We are delighted to be working with Airbnb as part of their new Trust and Safety Alliance. Through this new relationship with Airbnb and the Alliance, we can support Hosts to be increasingly connected and involved with the communities where they are. We look forward to building on our shared values of community, safety and connection."

This partnership not only brings Neighbourhood Watch in front of a new, captive audience in the form of Airbnb hosts, but also enables us to further demonstrate the ways we can be a proactive contributor to community wellbeing and safety by working with dynamic partners and having a key voice on this national Alliance.

Amanda Cupples, General Manager for Northern Europe at Airbnb, said, "We are always looking for ways to enhance the safety of hosted travel in the UK and now have the backing of some of the leading safety organisations in the UK to help us achieve that goal. We have a long history of working together with expert organisations to bolster safety for our community, and the Alliance will help us to achieve more moving forward."

The Alliance is part of Airbnb's ongoing effort to make hosted travel the safest form of travel in the UK. Airbnb's recent steps include launching the Neighbour Support Line, removing or suspending so-called "party listings", introducing pilot booking restrictions to address problematic guest activity and more.

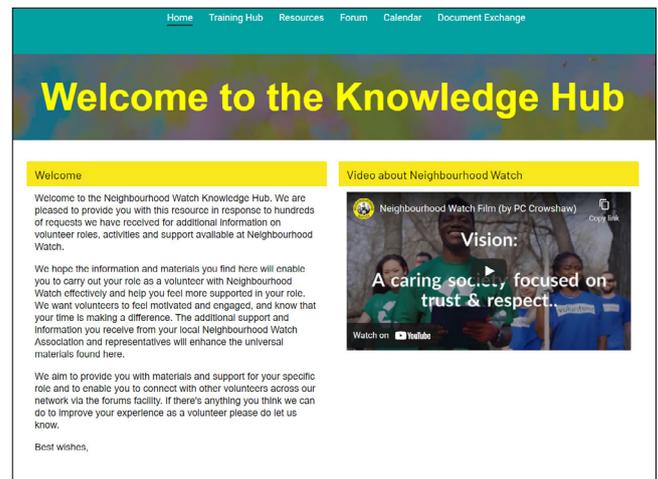
[Read the full story here.](#)

NEW!! Neighbourhood Watch Knowledge Hub

We're in the process of developing a Knowledge Hub – which will contain useful information to support local volunteers in their work. The Knowledge Hub will include sections on induction, training, a calendar of events, and also a forum where **volunteers can communicate directly with each other.**

As part of this project, we are developing various new materials, personal training resources and development opportunities, which will bring a universal approach to what we do, while still enabling the flexibility you need locally. This includes an up-to-date Coordinators' role description, a tailored volunteer induction, volunteer training, and exploring how we can provide reward and improving the ways we recognise and reward volunteers both locally and centrally.

“Many of our Coordinators have told us that they'd like to be able to communicate directly and easily with other Coordinators both locally and nationally, so we hope the new Hub will be a great way to do that.” Cheryl Spruce, Head of Membership and Engagement



Have you seen our crime prevention webinars?

Our recorded webinars are available to the general public free of charge from our website.

Why not have a look?
ourwatch.org.uk/webinars



Cyberhood Watch research addresses public wi-fi and fake hotspot risks this summer

Research from 16,000 households across the UK suggests Brits connect to unprotected public Wi-Fi networks for convenience - despite feeling insecure and exposed

A new survey with 16,000 households in the UK has found that six in ten Brits regularly use public Wi-Fi, with over a quarter (28%) connecting to these unprotected networks despite feeling insecure and exposed and a further 23% willingly ignoring the risks in favour of convenience. The research, carried out as part of Cyberhood Watch, an initiative created by Neighbourhood Watch in partnership with Avast, a global leader in digital security and privacy, aimed to assess the current level of apathy among consumers when using public Wi-Fi and the risk of data loss this summer as cybercriminals look to exploit the regained sense of freedom among the British public as Covid-19 restrictions end.

[Read the full story here.](#)



NEW: Co-op Insurance's Moving Home Hub

Introducing the Co-op Insurance Moving Home Hub!

The Hub incorporates the best content from around the Co-op to help you sell, buy and move house, including tips on how to move sustainably and help understanding whether you need a will.



[EXPLORE THE HUB NOW](#)

Margaret Filley retires after 30 years of volunteering

One of the most upbeat, positive, innovative, and inspirational volunteers for Neighbourhood Watch is retiring after more than 30 years of work.

Margaret Filley has been a powerful advocate and volunteer organising and running schemes, leading the Hampshire team to develop Associations and a county Association, which she chaired and then became the President of. Margaret worked nationally for Neighbourhood Watch and developed innovative collaborations with the University of Portsmouth and other organisations.

"Margaret is always very professional, but I remember most her dynamism, smile, and enthusiasm for developing Neighbourhood Watch. Many thanks from the whole organisation Margaret and the very best of luck in future." John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch Impact Report 2020/21

We are putting the final touches on the 2020/21 Impact Report, and we look forward to sharing it with you this month. It has been a real challenge to sift through all the great stories, case studies, and work achieved locally and nationally to produce one compact report!

As well as supporting communities through the Covid-19 crisis, there has been fantastic work reducing crime and the fear of crime. Our campaigns have raised awareness and enabled people to take simple actions to protect themselves from becoming victims of crimes, such as car crime, burglary and cybercrime. We have also seen exciting new projects with local and national partners.

The importance of evidencing our impact in all that we do could not be greater, with funders and supporting organisations under pressure to prove the value and worth and impact of their funding and projects. We will continue to develop data and stories that demonstrate the incredible value of Neighbourhood Watch.



Spectacular The Croods 2: A New Age inspired treehouse revealed

Schoolgirl's winning design is brought to life in Retford for generations to enjoy



Eight-year-old Lottie Brown designed her dream treehouse as part of a competition to celebrate the release of the new epic adventure film in association with Co-op Insurance and Neighbourhood Watch.

Young people in Retford, Nottinghamshire, now have a brand-new community treehouse, situated in Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's Idle Valley Nature Reserve – all thanks to a schoolgirl from York and new film *The Croods 2: A New Age*.

Judges crowned Lottie as the overall winner because of her imaginative and inclusive design, which features a hotel for bugs, 'kindness rocks,' and interactive games for children to enjoy. The treehouse has now been brought to life in Retford for youngsters all over the region to enjoy for many years to come.

[Click here to read the full story.](#)

What makes a good neighbourhood?

To encourage young families to engage with us online we ran a prize draw last month for a chance to win a Croods 2 inspired family adventure holiday in Devon. We are thrilled to announce that Jane from Coventry has been selected as the lucky winner.

"I'm absolutely delighted...what an amazing prize! This competition is such a great way to highlight how important good neighbourhoods are. I believe that being part of a thriving community is essential to help us all live happy, safe and meaningful lives." Jane

A requirement for entry was to answer 'What makes a good neighbourhood?'. With over 1,600 entries, we were overwhelmed by the quantity and quality of answers.

If nothing else, the prize draw inspired people to stop and think about what makes a good neighbourhood. We will be collating some of the responses but given the vast amount we

received we welcome a volunteer to support us with this rewarding task. Below is a small selection of quotes for you to reflect on:

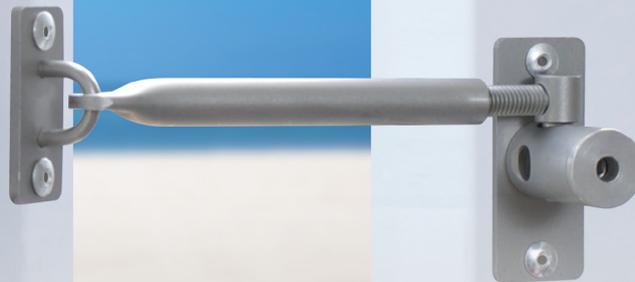
'A good neighbourhood is one where the residents have respect for each other and their community. They look out for the vulnerable and make others feel safe and secure.'

'A good neighbourhood is one where all people feel accepted for who they are. Where people look out for each other in any way they can and where each kindness is appreciated and connect with their neighbours for mutual support. Just like my little village.'

'A good neighbourhood is founded on kindness and care for others. You may not see each other every day, but good neighbours know they can count on one another when they need to.'

If you can offer your support to collate the comments in a way we can share it with our supporters email enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk.

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