



## December 2020

### Foreword from District Commander Chief Inspector Marcus Cator



Welcome to the December edition of the Policing Eastleigh partnership newsletter – it comes with a round-up of our work over the past few months and some of the plans for the future.

This year has been extremely challenging for all, and policing has had its equal challenges. The impact of Covid-19 on us all has been significant across our communities and also impacted upon the types of incident and crimes we have been managing.

Trying to get the balance right, to keep on top of those who insist on committing offences, whilst trying to support the public health focus of trying to manage the impact of a pandemic has been extraordinary.

I can only applaud all keyworkers and all of those hard working members of society, who have had to try and keep pace on these challenging times. From schooling at home (I have a refreshed respect for those in education!), working from home and trying to keep our families safe, the challenges have had a significant impact on everyone's welfare and mental health.

Despite this, some good news in relation to new faces joining the team! Inspector Louise Hubble has recently joined the district, who comes with a wealth of knowledge and understanding of rural crime and 21 years' experience of policing. Louise will be joining Hedge End Sector and supporting Sgt Stu Jackson and T/Sgt Ian Simpson's teams.

Alongside this, we have six new officers joining us under the latest recruitment campaigns from Hampshire Constabulary; two have started in November, two more join us in December and then two more in January. We have also recruited two new PCSOs who will be joining us in January.

While PC Nikki Buckland and PC Scott Graham have joined the Eastleigh teams and PC Mark Barber has joined the Hedge End teams to complete our latest recruitment drive.

Over the past few months, the teams have introduced themselves to you through this newsletter. I hope this has been useful and informative. Next month will introduce Louise in more detail and we are also seeking an introduction from our Response and Patrol teams at Hedge End, to bring you details of their role and work to support the communities of both Eastleigh and Hedge End.

As we approach the festive season – a very welcome time for us all this year – the work of our teams continues to focus on those intent on causing our communities the most harm. From our news feeds and social media footprint, you will have been aware of incidents upon which the teams have been focussing and some of these are highlighted below.

With the changes to Covid rules and the tier system of government expectations on tackling the pandemic, we must remember to have a jolly festive period with our families, we need to remain “jolly safe”. Do please ensure vigilance and safety with you and yours, at this time of festivity.

Season greetings and may the New Year bring each and all, a chance for a fresh start for 2021 - with hopes and aspirations of health and wellbeing for all.



**Chief Inspector Marcus Cator**

## Investigation update



### **Police charge woman after distraction burglary in Chandler's Ford**

Detectives investigating a robbery in Chandlers Ford on Saturday 28 November charged a woman in connection with the incident.

It comes after a distraction burglary, which took place on Saturday 28 November around 9.50am at a property in Belmond Road, Chandler's Ford.

Ruby Venham, 27, of Cox Row, Chandlers Ford, has been charged with robbery – and appeared at Southampton Magistrates Court on Monday 30 November.

She was remanded in custody and will now next appear at Southampton Magistrates Court on Friday 8 January 2021.

*We're thankful to Detective Constable Alison Humby as the Officer in Case in securing these charges with the support of colleagues from across our Response and Patrol units, Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Criminal Investigation Department.*



### **Man arrested on suspicion of drug cultivation in Eastleigh**

Officers have arrested a man following reports of drug cultivation in an privately rented outbuilding in Eastleigh.

Upon arriving at an address on Twyford Road, officers located approximately 50 cannabis plants. These were subsequently seized and the occupant of the outbuilding arrested.

A 56-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in production of a Class B drug.

He was released under investigation, pending further police enquiries.

We know that a lot of people will think, it's just a bit of cannabis, but we want to stress that any production of drugs is linked to hidden harm. Large scale operations like this are often run by organised crime gangs. Those gangs are likely to engage in very serious violence involving weapons, such as firearms. They may also take advantage of vulnerable people, exploiting them or making them work in servitude.

The electrical requirement to grow this many plants is also really dangerous and can be a huge fire risk, putting neighbouring properties, and lives in danger.

It is not just a bit of cannabis, it's linked to serious criminality. That's why we are really keen to hear from people who suspect there is cannabis cultivation or drug related activity going on in their neighbourhood.

Every call you make to us is logged and helps us build up an intelligence picture about what might be happening in your community. This allows us to take action and prevent your neighbourhoods from harm.



## **Man arrested following cash-safe burglary at local supermarket in Hedge End**

Officers responding to reports of a burglary in progress at a supermarket in Hedge End have arrested a man.

The incident occurred at between 11.45pm on Sunday 15 November and 12.15am on Monday 16 November at Tesco Express on St. Luke's Close, Hedge End.

Three men entered the premises and stole three till safes containing a quantity of cash.

A 31-year-old man from Southampton has been arrested on suspicion of burglary in connection with this incident. He has also been arrested on suspicion of burglary for three other burglary incidents in the area – including a further incident at St. Luke's Close, and incidents in Whitchurch and Spring Road.

He was later released under investigation for all four offences - pending further police enquiries.



## **Class B drugs seized, and local man arrested, during warrant in Hamble-le-Rice**

Officers, who were executing a warrant at a property in Hamble-le-Rice, have seized a quantity of drugs.

They attended a property on Astral Gardens, in a pre-planned warrant, just after 10.30am on Friday 4 December. A large quantity of Class B drugs were located at the property and subsequently seized, alongside a number of other items associated with drug-related activity including a quantity of cash and mobile devices.

A 24-year-old man from Hamble-le-Rice was arrested on suspicion of possession of a Class B drug with intent to supply and one count of being concerned in the production of a Class B drug. He was later released under investigation pending further enquiries.



## London man given suspended sentence following theft of motor vehicle in Eastleigh

A 31-year-old man from London has been handed a suspended sentence following the theft of a motor vehicle in Eastleigh in October 2020.

Benjamin Pratt, 31, of Faversham Road, Beckenham in Greater London pleaded guilty to stealing a motor vehicle at court on 12 November.

Southampton Magistrates Court heard how Pratt stole a hire van from a car part on Sopwith Road in the early hours of Friday 2 October.

He was given a 9 month imprisonment suspended for 12 months, ordered to carry out 120 hours unpaid work, and pay a victim surcharge of £156.

## Community cohesion

### Service levels by Hampshire Constabulary continue to improve

Hampshire Constabulary has significantly improved service levels from members of the public calling 999 and 101 in recent months. The average time taken to respond to a 999 telephone call is now five seconds, while the average time to respond to a 101 telephone call has fallen on average from 1min 42secs to 52secs.

We have also seen a decrease (-10%) in the amount of 101 calls abandoned, with the rate of abandoning a call within one minute also dropping significantly (-6%).

At the same time we are seeing a growth of the public reporting crime and suspicious incidents to us via our online reporting portal.

We would implore partners and our local residents to continue to report any suspicious activity or crimes directly to the police in the first instance via our online reporting portal or by calling 101. As ever, if a crime is in progress or where there is a threat to life, please dial 999 immediately.

### Action Counter Terrorism toolkit

Counter Terrorism Policing has recently launched a new safeguarding website [www.actearly.uk](http://www.actearly.uk) aimed at family and friends to encourage them to share concerns that a friend or loved one might be vulnerable to radicalisation.

During the current pandemic climate, there has been a decline in referrals during lockdown. Recent studies have found that the public are unsure of signs to look out for and who to turn to when they have concerns.

We want to ensure that the public understand the Prevent policing role and how we work with you, our partners, to support and help vulnerable people. This will likely result in more people sharing their concerns with police. We want to help before it becomes too late.

For more information on how you can help, please visit [www.counterterrorism.police.uk/actearlypartners/](http://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/actearlypartners/)

## Cyber-crime scheme launched to support local residents

Our partners **Hampshire Cyber Watch (HCW)** now provide a free service across Hampshire to give local residents support and guidance around cyber-crime; which is often exacerbated in the lead up to the festive season.

There is now a trained team of **Cyber Champions** across Hampshire who can help you, for example by:

- providing 'one to one' (online or phone) support to anyone who is concerned about communications they have received, or anyone who believes they may be a victim of cyber-crime
- giving advice on possible scams and how to report scams you've spotted
- giving advice on improving the security of your devices, applications or software
- giving talks to groups to increase awareness of cyber scams and ways to help keep safe online (virtual talks are taking place owing to the Coronavirus pandemic)

For more information or to **contact a Cyber Champion** please visit the HCW website at

[www.hampshirecyberwatch.org](http://www.hampshirecyberwatch.org).



## Our priorities

- Ensuring community safety and compliance with Government guidance in relation to COVID-19
- Support Eastleigh district, as a whole, due to increased reports of drug-related harm, serious violence and some levels of disorder
- Target areas in Netley, including Ingleside, Queen's View and Netley train station, following increased reports of anti-social behaviour, general crime and public disorder.

Please feel free to contact your local inspector with any query you may have, or go direct to Chief Inspector Marcus Cator via [marcus.cator@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:marcus.cator@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

[Inspector Philp Raymond](#)

Sector Inspector for Eastleigh

[Inspector Louise Hubble](#)

Sector Inspector for Hedge End

[Police Sergeant Richard Knight](#)

Eastleigh Central

[Police Sergeant Kev Hercock](#)

Eastleigh East and West

[Police Sergeant Ian Simpson](#)

Hedge End South

[Police Sergeant Stuart Jackson](#)

Hedge End North

# Reported crime statistics

Current 90 Days	EASTLEIGH		HEDGE END		Sum:	
	Rolling 90 Day	Diff to Previous 90 Day	Rolling 90 Day	Diff to Previous 90 Day		
<b>Key</b> Red = Increase on previous 90 days Negative numbers = a decrease						
1a Homicide	1	1			1	1
1b Violence with Injury	136	-11	95	-22	231	-33
1c Violence without Injury	267	-54	190	-6	457	-60
2a Rape	14	-5	8	-4	22	-9
2b Other Sexual Offences	22	-15	27	10	49	-5
3a Robbery of Business Property	-	-1	-	-	-	-1
3b Robbery of Personal Property	10	7	3	0	13	7
4a1 Burglary Residential	53	13	21	-28	74	-15
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	13	3	17	-1	30	2
4b Vehicle Offences	50	5	50	-7	100	-2
4c Theft from the Person	9	3	2	1	11	4
4d Bicycle Theft	15	-8	3	-10	18	-18
4e Shoplifting	71	-4	38	-5	109	-9
4f All Other Theft Offences	65	10	40	-10	105	-
5a Criminal Damage	77	-24	75	-27	152	-51
5b Arson	1	-	9	1	10	1
6a Trafficking of Drugs	5	-7	8	4	13	-3
6b Possession of Drugs	28	-12	23	13	51	1
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	16	5	11	-1	27	4
8 Public Order Offences	97	-44	85	-31	182	-75
9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	32	10	20	8	52	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>-128</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>-115</b>	<b>1,707</b>	<b>-243</b>

## Want to stay informed? Register for Hampshire Alerts

As a local resident, you can play a key role in helping us to prevent and detect crime and anti-social behaviour.

Improving the flow of information between the local community and the police is vital to achieving our aim to work together to deter criminals.

By signing up to Hampshire Alerts, you will receive timely updates covering crime prevention advice, crime alerts and witness appeals for incidents in the local community. It is your way of being kept informed of what we're doing in the community, allowing us to keep the communities of Eastleigh and Hedge End safe.

[Click here to sign-up to receive regular Hampshire Alerts](#)

# Keep in touch with us on social media

If you want to know what our officers are doing in the district to reduce criminal activity in our local community, why not follow us on social media?

Join us on Facebook [@EastleighPolice](#) / [@HedgeEndPolice](#)

Or follow us on Twitter [@EastleighPolice](#) / [@HedgeEndPolice](#) / [@HCResponseCops](#)



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