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Hertsmere's Quarterly Community Safety Update



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Quarter 1 (April 2019 - June 2019)

It has been a busy time for the CSP as we say good-bye to spring and hello to summer. Partners of the CSP have been running various initiatives and events throughout the quarter as we welcomed the longer days and warmer weather.

Borehamwood Fire White Watch organised 'Exercise Crash Bang', a four-pump road traffic collision (RTC) exercise that targets young people involved in or at risk of motor vehicle related crime. Crash Bang is a partnership project with Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Youth Support Team that addresses behaviours and attitudes to dangerous driving. It involved two sessions where young people are cut of a crashed car during a simulated real-time RTC exercise. The young people then heard hard-hitting presentations from the Youth Justice team, Police, Fire, a hospital consultant, amputees and the mother of a young male who lost his life in a car crash.



Borehamwood Safer Neighbourhood Team held a crime prevention event in Meadow Park at the start of May. Police officers and PCSOs were sharing advice on how to keep yourself and your property safe. Residents had the opportunity to have their valuables marked, test out the speed board and take a look around the police support unit van.

Three Safer Streets visits were held in Maydwell Lodge, Parkfield and Furze field during this quarter. Residents received advice on home and fire safety, as well as crime prevention, as part of the initiative. Enhanced Safer Streets events took place on Stratfield Road in Borehamwood and in Potters Bar, Oakroyd Avenue, Oakroyd Close, Elmroyd Avenue, Elmroyd Close and Kingsland.



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Looking for a way to give back and improve your own health and well-being. Why not volunteer for @parkkidsuk1 a new free community running event which we're hoping to launch in #Borehamwood and #PottersBar with @InspireAllUK and @kidsrunfree ow.ly/vYxYF30qiZBL





The Safer Streets+ visits take place over a longer period on a weekend. Over 220 properties were visited at each event. Latest visit was a success and well-received by residents in the streets, who were able to find out more about the good work carried out by the different agencies represented during the visit, as well as having the chance to report any issues they were having



Almost a hundred people attended training to spot the signs of someone being drawn into terrorism. The training sessions form part of 'PREVENT', which is the UK's counter terrorism strategy. The sessions, which are delivered nationwide, focus on safeguarding and highlight vulnerabilities that could render someone susceptible to radicalisation.



The Older Persons' Activity, Learning and Safety (OPALS) event, organised by Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service, gave information and advice to residents aged 60 or over on how to stay safe inside and outside the home and how to keep healthy and well. Representatives from a range of organisations attended the event including Hertsmere Borough Council, Hertfordshire Police, Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue, Herts Independent Living Service and Trading Standards. OPAL events aim to reduce the vulnerability of residents to scams, burglaries, fires and more by showcasing the support, advice and help available in the local community.

More schools have joined the Mini Police programme during this quarter. Pupils from Saffron Green Primary School in Borehamwood and Cranbourne Primary School in Potters Bar embarked on the eight-week course, which is designed to help young people establish an interest and understanding in policing and community safety. As part of the programme, students from Saffron Green Primary assisted Police Officers in using a speed laser to detect speeding motorists on Furzehill Road and spoke to drivers about the dangers of speeding.

In June Borehamwood Fire Station hosted the annual 'Emergency Services Open Day'. Hertfordshire Constabulary joined the Fire and Rescue Service along with Hertsmere Volunteer Police Cadets and agencies from across the borough. Over 500 attendees enjoyed a day of fun events and stalls including the police speed board and a chance to sit inside a fire engine.

The CSP's work to raise awareness on drugs, knife crime and gangs continued in this quarter. A Community Awareness event was hosted at Cowley Hill School for parents and teachers in June. Attendees heard presentations from Gavin, a former gang member and founder of the organisation Reach Every Generation. He gave a first-hand account of how young people get caught up in gang culture and shared with parents the difficulties in talking to young people about these issues. Tracy Hanson, mother of Josh Hanson who was stabbed to death and founder of the Josh Hanson Charitable Trust, spoke to parents about the devastating consequences knife crime has and why it is never ok to carry a knife.

Private landlords from across the borough who attended the Landlords' Forum in June received informative presentations on emerging issues including county lines, gangs, cuckooing and modern slavery. Landlords were provided with an opportunity to meet, network and promote good practice.

As the weather has become warmer, the Safer Neighbourhood teams have been out and about answering residents' questions and sharing crime prevention advice at local fetes, festivals and carnivals. If you see them over the summer, be sure to say hello.

As well as the above initiatives and events, there have also been regular beat surgeries held in local areas by PCSOs, drug talks in schools, neighbourhood watch sign ups, first aid sessions and community engagement events.

If you would like more information on any of the initiatives or events discussed above, or would like to talk to someone from Hertsmer CSP, please contact partnership.support@hertsmere.gov.uk or call 020 8207 7801.

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