

# Newsletter

March/April 2017



## Welcome

Welcome to this edition of the Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership (CSP) newsletter. The aim of the newsletter is to provide regular updates on some of the work of the Community Safety Partnership.

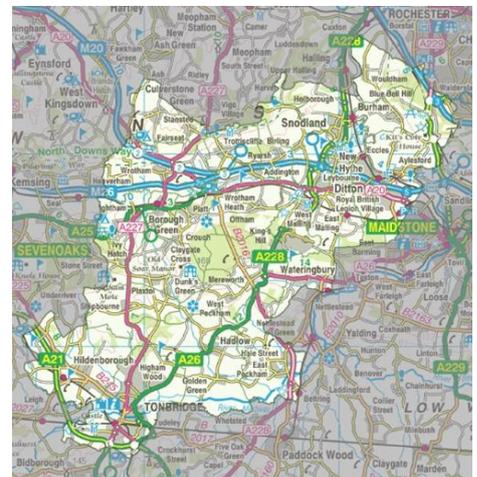
For further details about any of these items please contact Alison Finch, Safer and Stronger Communities Manager on [Alison.finch@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.finch@tmbc.gov.uk) or Anthony Garnett, Licensing and Community Safety Manager ([Anthony.garnett@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:Anthony.garnett@tmbc.gov.uk)).

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## Public Space Protection Order

The Borough Council and Kent Police have been working together to develop Public Spaces Protection Orders for the borough. The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is one of the new powers available through the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and is designed to stop individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour in a public space. Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council is responsible for making the new PSPOs in liaison with Kent Police and they are applicable to any public space within the Borough.

A draft PSPO has now been completed and is now available for consultation (until 15 March). The PSPO proposes Borough wide Orders to deter dog fouling, exclude dogs from children's play areas owned and maintained by the Council, ensure dogs are on a lead when directed, ensure the total number of dogs a person can take onto a public place is six, introduce an alcohol control zone and deter public urination/defecation. There are also proposals for Orders covering specific issues within Leybourne Lakes Country Park, Tonbridge Memorial Gardens, Tonbridge Moorings, Tonbridge Racecourse Sports Ground and Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge Farm Sports Ground, Tonbridge Cemetery and Haysden Country Park.



Breaches of any of the Orders may lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) if the behaviour does not cease when asked to do so. The cost of the FPN will be £80 (or £50 if paid within 10 days) and these will be issued by authorised Borough Council staff. The PSPO will be in place for a three year period and will be reviewed at the end of this time.

The PSPO and consultation questionnaire are available on the Borough Council's website ([www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk)) or you can request a copy of the document (and questionnaire) by emailing [csp@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:csp@tmbc.gov.uk)

## New priorities for 2017/18

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) recently held a workshop for partners to assess and agree our priorities for 2017/18. This year we have agreed the following priorities:

- Anti-social behaviour – including environmental crime
- Counter Terrorism
- Domestic Abuse
- Gangs/Organised Crime Groups
- Mental Health
- Substance Misuse



The CSP will now be developing action plans to address the key issues within each theme and these will then be undertaken and monitored throughout the year.

If you have any comments on the new priorities for the Community Safety Partnership then please contact Alison Finch, Safer & Stronger Communities manager on the email above.

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## Spring Crime Prevention Advice

As spring approaches the number of shed break-ins can increase. Items such as lawnmowers, bicycles, golf clubs, fishing tackle and power tools can all be kept insecurely in sheds and these can all be easy pickings for thieves to target. The tips below can help to prevent you from becoming a victim of this crime.

- Install a shed alarm, with a notice displayed to warn thieves that it is not worth the effort of breaking in. The alarms are easy to install and can be purchased at most DIY stores.
- Make sure the door is securely locked at all times.
- Ensure all valuable property is marked with your postcode. Post coding property makes your belongings very unattractive to a thief by making items easily identifiable and difficult to sell.
- Lock up pedal cycles. Use bike locks and chain them inside to other large items or to the shed.
- Keep a record of the make, model and ID numbers of bicycles and all other equipment and take photographs of unusual items. You can use [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) to record your items. This is free to use and helps the Police to identify owners of recovered property.
- Check your household insurance policy to ensure that the value of things stored inside is covered by your contents' policy
- Watch out for scams relating to people asking for money for gardening work. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is! You shouldn't feel pressured into accepting any work you don't think you need.



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## Helping to make sure people are safe

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has recently launched a meeting focusing on people who are at risk of self-neglect. Self-neglect can be defined as someone who for whatever reason is unable, or unwilling, to provide adequate care for themselves. This could be through behaviour such as hoarding but can also include living in very unclean circumstances or neglecting household maintenance which then leads to hazards within and surrounding the house.

As part of this meeting the CSP will share information (through the Kent & Medway Information Sharing Framework) about individuals of concern and then actions will be put into place to ensure that these individuals have got the support that they need. It is hoped that by all working together to identify these vulnerable individuals that we can help to prevent any tragic incidents and help that person, and the wider community.

Of course, it's not just us who can help to support people – perhaps you live next door to someone you are concerned about? If you are concerned about them you can report this to Kent County Council on 03000 41 61 61 or if you are concerned they are a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour because they are vulnerable you can call '101'.

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## Support for Domestic Abuse victims



A 'One Stop Shop' for victims of Domestic Abuse is now running in Tonbridge. This is held every Wednesday from 9.30am until 11.30am at 4 New Wharf Road, Tonbridge and will allow anyone affected by domestic abuse to 'drop in' and get support and advice from a number of agencies. Agencies involved include DAVSS (Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Services), Choices, Circle Russet and TMBC Housing. A firm of solicitors will be available over the telephone. The One Stop Shop has been funded through the Community Safety Partnership.

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## Multi-agency work in Snodland

Following a spate of criminal damage offences occurring in Snodland, the Police and other partners have been working to identify those causing this issue and provide reassurance to residents. House to house enquiries were carried out and an individual was identified as potentially causing the damage. The Police are now investigating this individual and the criminal damage has ceased.



If you have any problems with criminal damage or other anti-social behaviour in Snodland (or any other area within the Borough) then please do report this via '101'. Unless we know about an issue we can't do anything to resolve it.

# Independent Police Advisory Group (IPAG)

The Independent Police Advisory Group (IPAG) is a group of people who meet to act as a 'critical friend' to the Police. Members usually represent communities within Kent and give feedback to the Police about their policies and practices so that the Police can improve what they do.



An IPAG for Tonbridge & Malling has recently been set up and they are looking for new members to attend – people who can represent different sections of the community. Meetings are held at 6pm at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council offices, Kings Hill and meetings in 2017 will be held on:

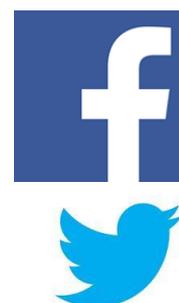
Wednesday 12 April, Wednesday 5 July, Thursday 5 October

If you would be interested in attending or would like more information please contact [ipag.sevenoaksdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:ipag.sevenoaksdistrict@gmail.com)

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## Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

The Community Safety Partnership now has a Twitter feed and Facebook site to enable us to send out messages about events, crime prevention and support available. You'll also be able to find out about events we're attending or running and useful information about where to get advice and support.



Find us on Twitter at TM\_CSP and search for us on Facebook (Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership).

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## Useful contact details

Community Safety Unit	<a href="mailto:csp@tmbc.gov.uk">csp@tmbc.gov.uk</a>	01732 844522
TMBC ASB Officer	Contact Karen Stewart for help with ASB issues	01732 876149
Kent Police	To report a non 999 call	101
KCC Community Wardens	Contact Janet Greenroyd, Warden Supervisor	07773 397131
DAVSS	Offer support for victims of Domestic Abuse	01892 570538
Maidstone Mediation	Support to help resolve conflicts or disputes	01622 692843

### Newsletter produced by Tonbridge and Malling CSP

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