

From: stuart.ratcliffe@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
Sent: 08 April 2020 12:09
Subject: Basingstoke and Deane Police Partnership Update



April 2020

Dear Partners,

As District Commander for Basingstoke and Deane it is my privilege to introduce this first district policing update. Our intention is to provide you with key monthly updates to ensure you are sighted on local policing developments. You can expect an honesty and openness that I know you, and our communities, value.

When we planned this newsletter we were in a 'pre Covid-19' world. In this first newsletter, I hoped to provide you with details around our crime commission rates, our successes and our challenges. For the time being, this can wait.

I will ensure we find a natural rhythm to provide this information but currently our focus is very much Covid-19. I want to reassure you that our current policing approach to Covid-19 is Engage, Explain and Encourage.

Our teams are out and about in our communities and whilst our planned physical engagements such as beat surgeries may have been cancelled, we continue to reach many in our community through our strong social media links. The feedback we have received, and the response from our communities, has been really positive.

This newsletter contains some important information and online links I hope you will find useful. I would encourage you to share these links through your own correspondence and community forums.

Thank you for your support,

Stuart

District Commander
Basingstoke and Deane
Hampshire Constabulary

COVID-19 update

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday 23 March that people must stay at home, we find ourselves in an unprecedented civil emergency and, while we have not experienced anything of this kind before, we have well prepared structures and plans to deal with the issues this pandemic creates for policing.

In line with government advice and the latest information from Public Health England about keeping our communities and our staff safe, we cancelled all upcoming plans for engagement opportunities. However we are out on patrol, ensuring those who do have to leave their home for work, essential food and medicine, or daily exercise, as well as businesses still operating, can see us and speak with us. Those who are self-isolating can see our patrolling activity on our social media channels. Digital engagement is vital in keeping in touch with our communities and providing the public with reassurance that we are still responding to crime and encouraging people to stay at home to save lives.

Coronavirus fraud

Coronavirus Doorstep Scams have become an emerging trend for criminals taking advantage of the present Coronavirus emergency. Suspects are reported to have been posing as police officers or other officials and visiting homes and using this as a tactic to gain entry, ultimately to commit burglaries. Also, Cyber criminals are exploiting people's interest in COVID-19 to steal login details and download malware. This has increased as more people have become reliant on internet based services because they are working from home or in isolation. The list of frauds police are seeing nationwide is not exhaustive; they can come in the form of emails and text messages too, with sophisticated software that allows fraudsters to disguise themselves as a reputable organisation and ask for money.

The best advise we can give people, that will ensure they don't fall victim to a range of fraud is:

Stop: Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

Challenge: Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse, or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

Protect: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

Detailed counter fraud advice is available online, including from [Scamsmart](#), [CIFAS](#), [TakeFive](#), [Citizens Advice](#), [Trading Standards](#) and the [National Cyber Security Centre](#). There is bespoke advice about COVID19 fraud on the [Action Fraud](#) website.

We would ask that you forward on these warnings to your staff, colleagues, service users and constituents so that we can reduce people falling foul to criminals at this time.

Hate crime

We would ask that you encourage anyone who has been a victim of hate crime during this national crisis to report what happened to them.

To report hate crime, we encourage people to call 101 or 999 in an emergency. Hate crime can also be reported through [Police online reporting](#), [True Vision](#) and [Third party reporting](#).

New powers

On March 26, The Government made new public health regulations strengthening police enforcement powers in England, to reduce the spread of coronavirus, protect the NHS and save lives. To ensure people stay at home and avoid non-essential travel we now have the power to fine or disperse those not complying with the stay at home message or social distancing guidelines. However, our strategy is to **engage, explain** and **encourage** people to follow the government guidelines before we consider enforcement. The majority of people are complying and those we have engaged with out and about have understood and returned home. We really are all in this together and therefore we are working very hard to keep people across the district safe, whilst keeping our officers and staff safe too.

A statement from Assistant Chief Constable Scott Chilton can be found [here](#).

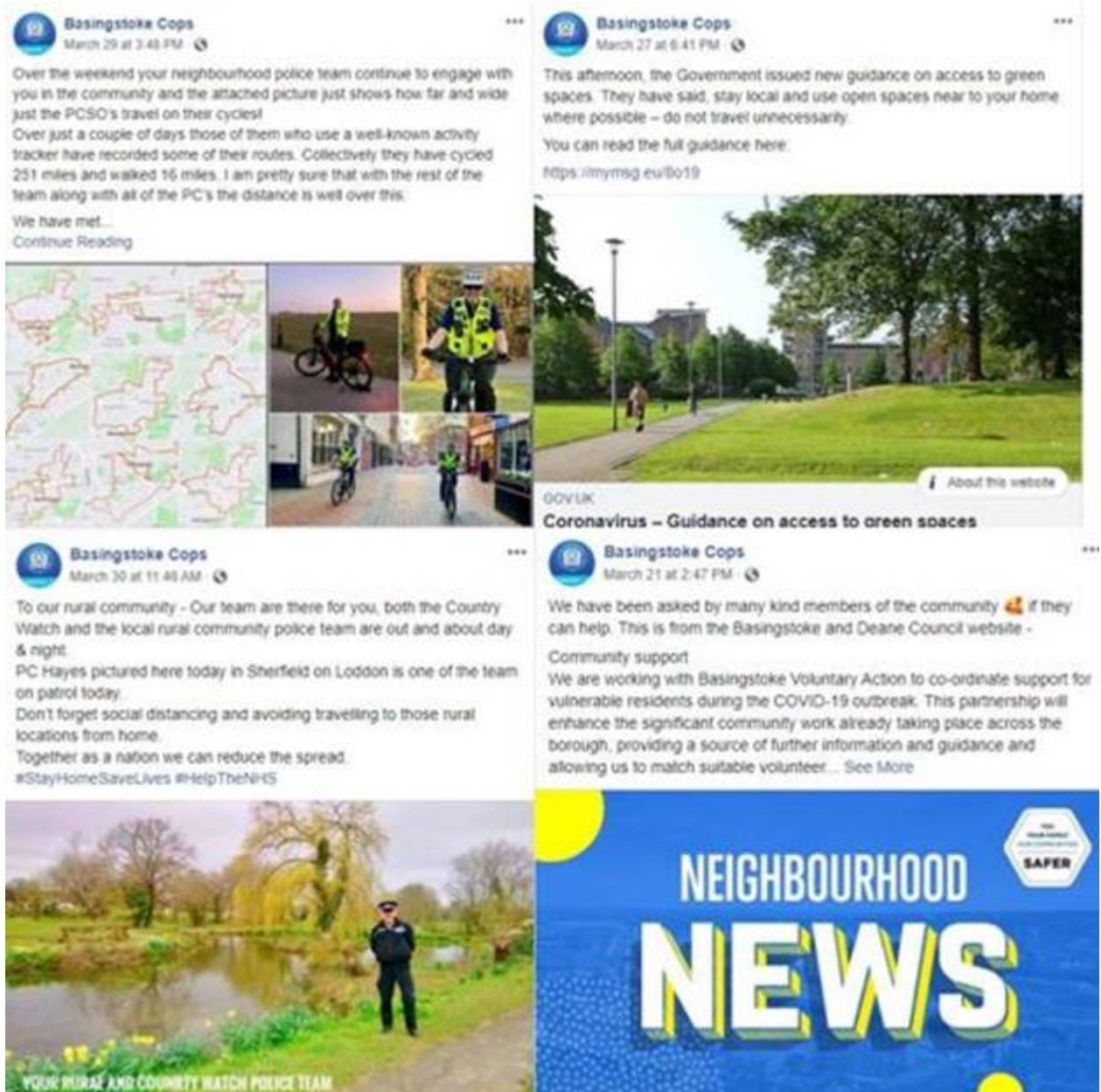
Courts and the Justice System

In these unprecedented times, it's really important that you and the public see that we are still progressing investigations. We continue to work tirelessly to tackle offenders, protect the vulnerable, and provide reassurance to our communities.

On 23 March 2020, Lord Chief Justice announced that in light of the updated coronavirus (COVID-19) advice, all new trials have been postponed to ensure the safety of all court. For up to date information and guidance for all court users, please go to the [HM Courts and Tribunal Service website](#).

Community Engagement

As usual, our officers and staff have been doing a great job keeping the public engaged online and have also shared your updates as partners to keep our community informed. Here's just a few examples:



Investigation Updates

Fatal stabbing of Taylor Williams

Olumide Soyege, Terrence Maccabee and Paige Taylor were on trial in connection with the fatal stabbing of 18 year old Taylor Williams in Shooters Way, Basingstoke, in August last year.

The trial began at Winchester Crown Court on March 5 but a decision was taken to halt the trial on March 23 in light of difficulties around COVID-19 restrictions and as the case still had another three weeks to go.

A tentative date for a provisional hearing has been suggested for May 4 but that date may be moved nearer the time.



Coronavirus (Covid-19): We're asking the public to only call 999 if it is an emergency and 101 if it is urgent.

If possible we are asking the public to use our online services. If people are looking for information about the government instruction to stay at home and how that may affect them, they can [find guidance on Gov.uk](#) External Link. We'll be updating information on our services over the coming days, please direct people to check online for those updates.



Hampshire Constabulary currently use the Microsoft Office 2013 suite of applications. Please be aware of this if you intend to include an attachment with your email. This communication contains information which is confidential and may also be privileged. Any views or opinions expressed are those of the originator and not necessarily those of Hampshire Constabulary. It is for the exclusive use of the addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient(s) please note that any form of distribution, copying or use of this communication or the information in it is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error please forward a copy to: informationsecurity@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk and to the sender. Please then delete the e-mail and destroy any copies of it. Thank you.
