

Newsletter

Winter 2022



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.

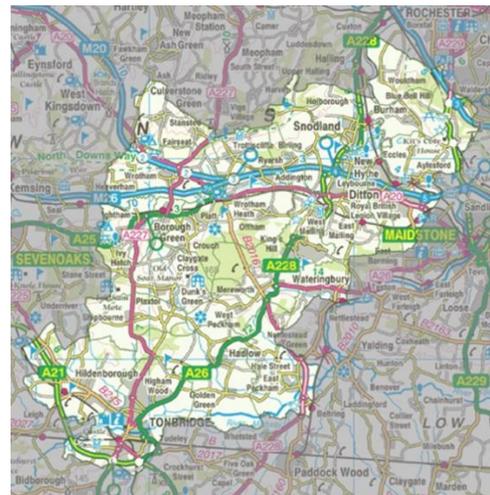
In this edition you'll find details about the Public Space Protection Order consultation, how to keep you and your belongings safe over the Christmas holiday period, details of our next Neighbourhood Engagement meeting and how to stop loan sharks.

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

Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation

The Borough Council is now consulting on its proposals for Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) which prohibit certain activities either across the borough or at specific locations. The orders give council officers powers to issue fixed penalty notices of £100 to anyone found breaching the rules.

The proposed additions to existing orders, which were first introduced in 2017, would see new borough-wide restrictions on nuisance parking and car or motorcycle meets. They will also see a ban on fishing at Tonbridge Town Lock and on swimming, boating and bathing at Holborough Lakes, near Snodland, following complaints from residents.



Existing restrictions include a ban on barbeques, camping and swimming in country parks, a requirement to cease drinking alcohol in public when asked by an authorised officer to do so and rules about keeping dogs on leads in certain areas.

The consultation runs from 5 December to 15 January 2023 with all the proposals set out in a report on the council's consultation web pages - [Public Space Protection Orders \(PSPO\) consultation – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council \(tmbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/public-space-protection-orders-pspo-consultation). The response from the public and final proposals will be presented to cabinet members in March 2023.

We want to hear from as many people as possible, so do add your views to the consultation and let others know about it as well!

Neighbourhood Engagement meetings



Tonbridge & Malling Community Safety Partnership

Neighbourhood Engagement Meeting

Wednesday 26 April 2023
7pm until 8pm

Via MS Teams (a link will be sent to you).

If you live in Tonbridge & Malling this is your opportunity to talk to the Police and other agencies about community safety issues in your area. This might include issues around anti-social behaviour or community tensions.

To register your interest in attending this online meeting contact csp@tmbc.gov.uk

For further information contact:

Tonbridge & Malling
Borough Council
csp@tmbc.gov.uk

KCC Community
Wardens
Sandra.Edmonds@kent.gov.uk

Kent Police on
csu_tonbridge.and_malling@kent.police.uk



www.tmccommunitysafety.org.uk 01732 844522 @TM_CSP

The Community Safety Partnership will be continuing to hold Neighbourhood Engagement meetings throughout 2023.

The aim of the meetings are to allow residents the chance to talk to Kent Police, Kent County Council and Borough Council representatives about community safety issues of concern (i.e. anti-social behaviour, criminal activities etc.) and then the representatives can look at any appropriate actions that can be taken to address these issues.

Meetings for 2023 will be held on Wednesday 26 April and Wednesday 27 September. They will start at 7pm and will be held via Microsoft Teams. If you would like to attend the meeting, please email csp@tmbc.gov.uk to register your interest.

We'll also be running community drop in events during 2023 – keep an eye out in future newsletters or on our social media for more information about these.

'Positive Masculinity' – West Kent Domestic Abuse Conference

The West Kent Domestic Abuse Forum recently held a conference focusing on 'Positive Masculinity'. This was held at the Salmons Estate in Tunbridge Wells with over 90 professionals attending. Delegates heard from number of speakers including Kent Police, West Kent Housing, Lookahead, DAVSS and Dad's Unlimited around the work they are doing to support victims of domestic abuse and ensure that men are aware of what they can do to support women and set a good example to other men. The conference also heard from a reformed perpetrator of domestic abuse who bravely shared his story and how he was able to change his behaviour. He had received support from the Community Domestic Abuse Perpetrators programme.



Support for victims of domestic abuse is available. Details of local support services can be found at [**Domestic Abuse \(domesticabuseservices.org.uk\)**](http://DomesticAbuse(domesticabuseservices.org.uk))

Male perpetrators of domestic abuse can also get support to help change their behaviour – for further details contact [**Kent CDAP - Kent CDAP**](#)

Campaign to stop loan sharks

A new national social media campaign, #SleighNoToLoanSharks, has been launched to alert people about the dangers of using loan sharks and help prevent them from falling into their traps in the run up to Christmas.

Loan sharks can target vulnerable people seeking credit and trap them into a cycle of debt with exorbitant interest rates and threats of violence.



Below are some safety tips to protect yourself and loved ones from loan sharks:

1. If you're struggling to make ends meet and need cash fast, the thought of a loan shark might seem tempting, but remember these lenders are not your friends. Debt can quickly spiral out of control – it's important to think carefully before taking out a loan and consider other options.
2. Never send money or give credit card, online account details or copies of personal documents to anyone you don't know or trust. This information is valuable so make sure you protect it from criminals who can use it to find and stalk you, harass you or threaten those you love.
3. If you're thinking about borrowing money, it's important to check that your lender is genuine. Loan sharks operate illegally without the correct permission from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Do your research first and check the firm or person you're dealing with is listed on the Financial Services Register.

If you're worried about a friend or family member who is being taken advantage of by a loan shark you can contact the Stop Loan Sharks 24/7 Helpline on 0300 555 2222 for support or visit www.stoploansharks.co.uk. Live Chat is available on the website between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Launch of the Snodland Pump Track



A Pump Track (for use by BMX bikes and skateboards etc) has now been opened in Snodland and the launch event took place on Sunday 23 October with over 120 riders on the track, plus 60-70 adults spectating and 30 VIPS, including Tracy Crouch, MP.

The Community Safety Partnership were able to support the launch event using funding we received through the Violence Reduction Unit to support diversionary activities in Snodland.

Community Cycle Works will be undertaking weekly sessions with young people around cycling and also helping them to maintain their bikes.

Tackling anti-social behaviour in Borough Green

The Community Safety Partnership recently received reports of anti-social behaviour taking place in the recreation ground in Borough Green. Reports suggested that groups of people were causing noise, damage and that there were concerns over drug misuse. The CSP is working together to address these issues with the Police carrying out patrols in the park, the Community Wardens and Kenward Trust speaking to young people in the area and a resident's survey carried out to see what problems residents are having. These actions will continue but we would also encourage residents to report any issues to the police via 101 or the online reporting form on the police website.

Christmas Safety tips

To stay safe over the Christmas festive period following these tips:

When out shopping:

- When shopping for Christmas presents remember to keep them locked away in the boot of your car - if they can be seen, they could be stolen.
- Always close car windows, engage steering locks and close all doors.
- Park in a well-lit area or in an attended car park.
- Make sure your purse is secure. Never keep your chequebook and card together and keep your pin number confidential.



At home:

- Don't leave presents under the Christmas tree in view of the window. Hide them somewhere safe until you need them (which makes it more of a surprise too!)
- Mark expensive presents, such as electronic equipment with your postcode by engraving or using a UV pen.
- Dispose of packing carefully as empty boxes left outside can advertise that you have new goods inside.

Useful contact details

Community Safety Unit	csp@tmbc.gov.uk	01732 844522
TMBC ASB Officer	Contact the Borough Council for help with ASB issues	01732 876149
Kent Police	To report a non 999 call	101
KCC Community Wardens	Contact Sandra Edmonds, Warden Supervisor	07969 584183
DAVSS	Offer support for victims of Domestic Abuse	01892 570538
Lookahead IDVA service	Support for victims of Domestic Abuse	03330 104660
Victim Support	Support for victims of crime and anyone experiencing domestic abuse	0808 1689 111
Maidstone Mediation	Support to help resolve conflicts or disputes	01622 692843
West Kent Mediation	Support to help resolve conflicts or disputes	01732 469696

Newsletter produced by Tonbridge and Malling CSP

Enquires to Alison Finch, Safer and Stronger Communities Manager, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4LZ, Tel: 01732 844522

Email: csp@tmbc.gov.uk

Twitter: TM_CSP

Facebook: Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership