



Hello and welcome to my monthly Partnership Funded PCSO report for March 2018.

As we approach the new financial year I have taken quite a lot of leave this month as we can only carry over four days leave into April – more or less a case of use it or lose it. Combined with bank holidays and some urgent leave I had to take, this means my activities this month have been considerably reduced, hence this month's shorter report. I did manage to get to work though despite the heavy snow and living in a very rural area.

ACTIVITIES

- Following on from February's report, I am pleased to confirm that we have now taken delivery of the new DFS600 SID (Speed Indicator Device). Having set it up and tested it, the SID is now being deployed across those parishes which were part of the 12PT.

I had intended the first deployment to be at the layby in Fentons Way near to Jewell View but it transpired that the sign post I have used previously with a different SID has been removed. I will of course find an alternative post to use in Fentons Way, but in the meantime I deployed it to the post outside the Kesgrave Town Council Office. Once in position, I remained in my car to monitor it and ensure it was operating correctly. The first vehicle to approach it from the Tesco store direction activated it with a flashing red speed of 41 mph in what is of course a 30 mph limit. The brake lights rapidly lit up as the car slowed down showing that the SID is working perfectly. Having watched it for some time, I saw cars slowing down several hundred feet before they got to the sign, and one even drove by at 15 mph!

The Woodbridge SNT operates their own SID which is also deployed in many of the other parishes that were members of the 12PT, so there is now good overall coverage with these devices which are proving their worth.

- There was considerable damage caused this month to the grass verge on the southern edge of Fentons Way. A member of the public reported this to Kesgrave Town Council and I followed this up by speaking to some contractors who were installing cables along the road. One was standing at the Tesco end of Fentons Way and he denied all knowledge of it – even though he'd just had some cables delivered to where the damage was. I told him I was going to speak to the driver of the van (his workmate) who was parked at the other end of Fentons Way at the junction with Ropes Drive.

As soon as I said that, he was on the phone to warn him I was coming. On speaking to the van driver he repeatedly denied it – but he was very keen to know what would happen to the driver of the van if identified! Having subsequently spoken to the member of the public who initially reported it, he has said that he did not actually see the damage being done, so the 'culprit' could not be identified officially.



- Some youths with cars are continuing to park in the entrance to the disused bus lane at St. Andrews Walk in Rushmere St. Andrew. The newly installed ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) camera is preventing them from using the One Stop Shop car park. I am liaising with site management company Mark Liell to have more bollards installed to prevent access to this point. Effectively, cars parking there may well be committing offences of Unnecessary Obstruction due to there being dropped kerbs on the cycle patch and footpaths, so these can potentially be dealt with via Fixed Penalty Notices.
- I have been submitting intelligence around Cannabis use and possible dealing in both Kesgrave and Rushmere St. Andrew. As a result, my Neighbourhood Response Team colleagues have stopped a number of people and vehicles during which searches have uncovered drugs. A number of people have been arrested and detained as a result and a number of locations are being regularly checked.
- Over the years there have been complaints of parked vehicles causing a danger on Hartree Way Kesgrave, at the junction with Newman Drive. With vehicles regularly parked on the left side of Hartree Way (when coming off the roundabout) drivers are forced onto the other side of the road. With vehicles entering Hartree Way from Newman Drive at the same time, they are coming head to head when negotiating any vehicles parked directly opposite Newman Drive. A large Ford Transit commercial vehicle is regularly parking in this spot and causing this issue.

I have identified the owners, but commercial vehicles generally do not have a specific named driver so it can be difficult to identify the driver parking it there. In addition, where the driver is from out of the area and renting a property whilst working in this area, our database of addresses and residents will not show them. Having initially warned the company to advise the driver not to park there, the driver has continued to do so, so it is likely that a fixed penalty notice will be issued.

- A Renault Clio has been parked in Century Drive for some time and has not been moved. Having checked the vehicle on the Police National Computer, the vehicle has no insurance, no tax and the MOT has just expired. I have been to the registered keepers address in Ipswich but there is no reply. They have not responded to a note that I put through the letterbox asking them to contact me either, so I will report this to Suffolk Coastal District Council as an abandoned vehicle.
- Suffolk Constabulary is joining forces with a home security company to help make properties in the county more secure. Burglary is an extremely distressing crime for those who fall victim to it, as well as being an invasion of someone's home and their personal space. With this in mind, home security company Ring has provided 50 doorbell cameras to Suffolk police for installation in properties in areas of Ipswich which have previously been targeted by burglars.

The constabulary recognises the huge potential for technology such as doorbell and other remotely monitored security cameras to help catch criminals and prevent crime. A doorbell camera was used to help secure the conviction of a 43-year-old man jailed for four years last September after admitting three counts of attempted burglary in Bury St Edmunds in March 2017. The suspect was arrested after he unwittingly triggered the doorbell camera as he attempted to break into a home. Although there was no trace of the offender on the arrival of the police, he was identified from the footage and subsequently arrested. A second offender was recently convicted and received a 12 month sentence for an attempted burglary in Ipswich after being caught on a doorbell camera.

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