



Rochford & Castle Point District Neighbourhood

Watch_{NEWS}



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ESSEX POLICE

June 2018

Over one million are owed a refund on Power of Attorney registration fees

DID you know you can get part of your application fee back if you applied to register a power of attorney from 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2017?

This applies to lasting powers of attorney (LPA) and enduring powers of attorney (EPA).

To claim a refund go to:

www.gov.uk/power-of-attorney-refund or call **0300 456 0300** and select option six. You'll need details (including bank details of the person who it was set up for) and the name of one of the attorneys.

You must claim your refund by 31 January 2021.

A Date for Your Diary

YOU are invited to a Community Information Event

Saturday 23rd June 10am - 1pm (pop in and out at anytime)

Runnymede Hall, Kiln Road, Thundersley

- FREE bicycle tagging
- Tips on home and personal security from Essex Police
- Report any community concerns to the Local Policing Officers
- Pick up replacement NHW window stickers etc
- Information on services provided in our area
- Free food and drink
- Free welcome gift if you bring along this newsletter
- Blood pressure checks and much more..

Tel **01268 882461** for more information, or just come along on the day

Help stop home take-over gangs exploiting people in Essex

CRIMESTOPPERS in Essex has launched a campaign to stop criminal gangs taking over the homes of people in Castle Point who can't fend for themselves.

The practice called 'cuckooing' is where gangs target the homes of vulnerable people and use the property as a base for drugs dealing or other criminal activities.

Anyone who has information or - for whatever reason - prefers not to talk to the police, can contact Crimestoppers charity 100% anonymously.

Victims of 'cuckooing' are often drug users but can include those suffering from mental or physical health concerns, female sex workers, single mums or those living in poverty and older people. Victims may suffer from other forms of addiction, such as alcoholism.

Colin Dobinson of Crimestoppers in Essex said: "Gangs could have access to several addresses. They move quickly between vulnerable people's homes for just a few hours, a couple of days or sometimes longer. It helps them evade detection."

Some vulnerable adults may even be forced to leave their homes, making themselves homeless whilst leaving gangs free to sell drugs.

Signs of 'cuckooing' include:

- An increase in people entering and leaving
- An increase in cars or bikes outside
- Curtains may be closed most of the time
- Possible increase in anti-social behaviour
- A build-up of litter
- Signs of drugs use
- Lack of healthcare visitors

Crimestoppers charity can be contacted 100% anonymously on **0800 555 111** or at www.crimestoppers-uk.org 100% anonymously.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Rayleigh Police Station, High Street, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 7QB

NHW Email: castlepointnhw@yahoo.co.uk



Bank scam blocker

LLOYDS Banking group has introduced a new online scam-blocker to help customers fight fraudsters attempting to steal their cash.

Designed to prevent people being duped into transferring money to fraudulent accounts, Lloyds have rolled out this new interactive protection, which will see customers of Lloyds, Halifax and Bank of Scotland being prompted to answer additional security questions before setting up new online payments.

Lloyds Banking Group blocked 250,000 attempts to impersonate customers in the past two years, but now criminals are turning to Authorised Push Payment (APP) fraud - convincing victims that they are dealing with 'genuine' bodies such as the bank, police or service providers

Do you lock your motorcycle when unattended?

HAVE you invested in enough security to prevent opportunist thieves stealing your moped or motorcycle? Over a 7 day period in May, 5 motorcycles were stolen across Castle Point and Rochford. These were predominantly overnight, however mopeds/motorcycles are extremely vulnerable to the relative ease of lifting them up into a van or simply being pushed away if they are not properly secured.

Please consider:

- Always using the steering lock Front and back brake disk locks (use lock reminders on your grips!)
- Fitting an Alarm / immobiliser if not already fitted
- Heavy duty chain and padlock (Some insurance companies will only pay out if you can provide proof of purchase on an approved chain and padlock)
- Investing in a good quality ground anchor
- Keep the bike covered when parked outside your address (this prevents would be thieves from carrying out a quick visual assessment of your security).
- If possible, always store your moped / motorcycle in a locked shed or garage, out of sight from passers by.
- Never leave your helmet, bag or other kit on your moped/motorcycle unattended
- Consider investing in CCTV and good lighting to cover the area where your moped/motorcycle is stored overnight.



CASTLE Point Borough Council is working in partnership with Peabody South East to offer a Free confidential advice and support service around debt advice and budgeting, benefit entitlement and appeals, health and wellbeing, training and consumer rights.

Free drop in service every Monday Wednesday and Friday 9am - 4.30pm Main reception at Castle Point Borough Council offices, Kiln Road, Benfleet Tel **0800 288 8883** for further information.

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE



101

**IN AN EMERGENCY
ALWAYS CALL 999**

Reporting a crime

ANYONE of any age can report a crime or a suspicious incident or package at any time. You can do so by phoning **999** if it is an emergency and life threatening or **101** if it is a non-emergency.

There can be delays on the **101** number but you can also go to the Essex Police website and report **101** matters on-line.

Provide as much detail as possible, for example if there was a vehicle involved can you recall the make/model/ colour of the suspect vehicle, was it damaged, writing on the side? which direction was it heading? but most importantly however never put yourself at risk but do what you can to obtain any information for the police. Don't forget you can always call Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** if you wish to remain anonymous.

ECM (Essex Community Messaging)

IF you would like regular messages from Essex Police register with ECM: it is a system to communicate local crime and crime prevention advice. Go to the Essex Police web site and register.

Shed Alert

POLICE have received reports of garages/sheds being broken in to; the particular items that have been stolen are pedal cycles and lawnmowers. As the warmer weather is upon us, it's time to check your garage and shed security.

Please remember to lock your garage, other ways to help prevent your garage being broken in to could be by parking a vehicle in front of your garage door or purchasing a garage defender.



Sheds typically contain tools, bikes and gardening equipment which are not just valuable but which could prove useful to a burglar, so secure the door with padbolts and close-shackle padlocks or a padlock alarm.

Hinges should be fitted using coach bolts and large backing washers.

You could also think about installing a shed alarm and a lockable chest for chemicals and valuable equipment.

Get NHW advice and news direct to your inbox

WOULD you like to receive a fortnightly email with the latest crime figures and other community safety news and advice?

Just let us know by email castlepointnhw@yahoo.co.uk