



## Castle Point Neighbourhood

# WatchNEWS



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ESSEX POLICE

Winter 2016

## Tips for a crime free Christmas shop.

The tips for a crime free Christmas shop start before you leave your house, after all you don't want come home to find the house broken into.

1. Garden tools securely locked away in the shed - Burglars will be happy to use your tools to break into your house.
2. Create the illusion your home is occupied - Radio and lights on a timer in rooms you would normally occupy, there is even a device called "Fake TV" that flashes a series of lights when it gets dark that looks like the TV is on.
3. Lock up properly not just your windows and doors in the house, but also any gates and outbuildings.
4. Choose a "Park Mark" car park where you can [www.parkmark.co.uk](http://www.parkmark.co.uk). By choosing a Park Mark® Safer Parking facility you are visiting a car park that has been vetted by the Police and has measures in place in order to create a safer environment for both you and your vehicle.
5. Leave nothing in sight within your car, remove the "Sat Nav" cradle and clean the mark on the windscreen.
6. When you lock your car with the remote look for the light flash confirmation or better still try the door handle before leaving the car.
7. Now you're starting your shop watch your purse, wallet, mobile phone and handbag especially in busy places, don't leave them on display in bags or on counters while you pay, and while you're paying watch that no one is watching you entering your PIN when making purchases or withdrawing cash.
8. Time to stop for lunch or a cuppa, don't drop your guard. Mobile phone on the table, shopping by the chair, wallet or purse visible coat, jacket or handbag over the chair, if a thief sees it a thief will steal it.
9. Need to offload some of those purchases in the car, look around are you being watched? Back to (5 & 6) above again.
10. Time to go home, don't fall for any distractions while you load the car i.e. "you dropped some money" pointing to cash on the ground, holding a map "can you tell me the way to...". While you are engaged the second person steals from your car on the other side. Close and lock your car before speaking to anyone.



If you would like further crime prevention advice "Do it Online": [www.essex.police.uk/advice](http://www.essex.police.uk/advice) or contact your local Crime Prevention Advisor by using the Police Non-Emergency Telephone Number of 101. If you know who is committing crime or handling stolen property call Essex Police on 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

## Man with a van culture hits residents in the pocket

**WASTE from Essex businesses, which has been illegally left at recycling centres, has left taxpayers with a disposal bill running to hundreds of thousands of pounds.**

The council blames 'Man with a van' operators offering cut-price rubbish clearance, property developers and independent building and home improvement trades who have swamped many sites.

To tackle the problem, Essex County Council is planning changes to the way sites will operate in the future, to prevent

taxpayers footing the bill for business waste, reduce queues for genuine customers and reduce daytime closures.

By law, Council run recycling centres are only for use by residents bringing in household waste from their own property. Business waste of any kind is strictly prohibited from all Essex recycling centres. Legislation does not count DIY and construction waste as household waste.

The legal rule of thumb is that household waste covers things which a householder would normally take with them when they

move house. If the waste is something you would leave behind, like doors, a fitted kitchen or bathroom, or soil and hardcore, it is construction waste.

Residents who are unsure about whether to take waste to a recycling centre, or whether they will need to rent a skip for larger home improvement projects should check the Recycle for Essex website before heading to one of their local sites.

If you do pay for someone to take your 'Trade waste' away make sure it will not be fly tipped, if it is it may be traced back to you.



**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**  
Rayleigh Police Station, High Street, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 7QB  
NHW Direct Dial: 01268 770519 Email: [castlepointnhw@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:castlepointnhw@yahoo.co.uk)



## Would you or someone you know benefit from the Keep Safe Scheme?

### What is Keep Safe?

Keep Safe is a free scheme to help people feel safer when they are out in Castle Point. Keep Safe places such as shops, libraries and businesses in the town centres will let you use a telephone or will make a call on your behalf if you get into distress.

This might be if:

- You lose your phone
- You lose your wallet
- You feel ill or unsafe

### How does it work?

When you join the scheme you will be given your own key fob to put the name and number of someone who can be contacted should you need them.

### Remember to carry it with you at all times

Keep Safe key fobs can be used in Canvey, Benfleet, Hadleigh and lots of other Essex towns. The Keep Safe places have stickers in their windows to help identify that they are part of the scheme. Visit [www.keepsafeessex.org.uk](http://www.keepsafeessex.org.uk) for a map of Keep Safe venues in Essex, to help you plan a safer journey.

### Who can join?

- Anyone aged 18 or above with a learning disability / disability
- Anyone aged 18 or above with mental ill health
- Anyone aged 60 or above



### Who do I contact to join?

If you would like to join the scheme for a key fob please contact: Helen Collins on

**01268 882461**

or [csp@castlepoint.gov.uk](mailto:csp@castlepoint.gov.uk)

Could your business / organisation be a Keep Safe Venue?

**Please do get in touch as above.**

## Active Citizens needed

VOLUNTEERS can be described in many ways. The Home Office definition states that a volunteer is someone "who commits time and energy for the benefit of society, the community, environment and/ or individuals, undertaking this by choice, without concern for financial gain".

Across the UK members of the public are volunteering to become 'Active Citizens' to support their local policing activity.

The type of work you might be involved in is varied and might include setting up crime prevention stands in town centres possibly alongside or in conjunction with Essex Watch, Neighbourhood Watch, and a police officer or Police Community Support Officer giving crime prevention advice where there may have been recent incidents of say burglary or car theft.

There could also be opportunities for assisting with some back room functions. If you are interested in becoming an 'Active Citizen' volunteer with Essex Police and are 18 years old or older please email: [active.citizen@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:active.citizen@essex.pnn.police.uk).

This is a great opportunity for those looking for work experience, or for adding to your CV, and to gain invaluable

experience in customer service and problem solving, setting you apart from other candidates when applying for work.



## Christmas Anti-Drink and Drug Driving Campaign

Essex Police has launched their Christmas Anti-Drink and Drug Driving Campaign in partnership with the Safer Essex Roads Partnership

Essex Police takes a zero tolerance approach to drink and drug driving 365 days a year and will be supporting the National Police Chief Council's campaign between December 1, 2016 and January 1, 2017.

This year's campaign targets perpetrators and the family and friends who know about their offending by highlighting 'How it Feels' to deal with the consequences of drink and drug driving. It aims to push home messages about the far-reaching consequences through the eyes of road policing officers who witness them first-hand.

During the campaign road policing officers will be patrolling towns with busy night time economies as well as rural areas where some drivers believe they have less chance of getting caught. As well as breath tests they will be using drug testing kits to detect drivers under the influence of illegal drugs including cannabis and cocaine.

Throughout, they'll be keeping residents up to date on social media channels with how many drivers breathalysed and drug tested and how many of those have been arrested. You can view the full campaign at [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

## Don't forget

To get the latest information on scams etc, let us have your email address, it makes it so much easier for us to contact you.

## Get the message

Sign up to receive information, crime prevention advice and notifications from Essex Police and other key partners. GO TO: [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) and select the Essex Community Messaging button.

**Your Co-ordinator is...**

Name.....

Address.....

Tel .....

Mobile.....