

Fenland Community Safety Partnership Newsletter

**Welcome to the 13th Edition of the Fenland
Community Safety Partnership (FCSP) Newsletter**

Follow us on Twitter @FenlandCSP

<https://www.fenland.gov.uk/csp>

This newsletter provides an update on the partnership activity of the Fenland CSP.

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are made up of representatives from the police, local authorities, fire and rescue services, health, and probation services. They are known as 'responsible authorities'. Other non-statutory bodies are also invited to be members e.g., residential social landlords.

CSP members work in partnership to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and to reduce the communities fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

The CSP page has resources to provide help and support on a wide range of topics, such as Scams, County Lines (drugs) and Hate Crime. Visit our CSP page by following this link:

[FCSP - Fenland District Council](#)



Edition 13
March 2023

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FENLAND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (CSP) ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Community Safety Engagement events are held across Fenland each quarter to raise awareness of key safety messages.

Community engagement events are supported by a range of partners including: Police, Neighbourhood Watch, Bobby Scheme, Cambs Fire and Rescue, Speed Watch, Illegal Money Lending team.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough against Scams Partnership, Cybercrime and Online Fraud Officers.

Cambs & Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership, Refuge and the Cambs & Peterborough Road Safety Partnership.

At these events residents can also speak to a Fenland Community Safety officer to discuss concerns about crime or anti-social behaviour that affect their community.

FENLAND RURAL COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENTS



Throughout 2023/24, the Fenland Community Safety Team are looking to visit rural parishes to hold community safety drop-in sessions along with the local police where possible. The aim of these sessions is to offer advice and support on a range of community issues.

A community safety drop-in session would be best held around an existing daytime event that is running: such as post office sessions in community halls, coffee mornings, friendship groups, mobile libraires, book groups etc as this offers better engagement.

If there is a community event being held Monday—Friday during the daytime and you would like to consider Community Safety attending, then please in contact us via email at: antisocialbehaviour@fenland.gov.uk

WALSOKEN



In November 2022, the CSP held a community safety event at Walsoken coffee morning. The concerns discussed included roadside memorials, parking, drug activity, electric scooters, scams & cyber crime and rough sleepers.

Advice is available on scams and cyber crime, via these links

[The Little Book of Big Scams – 5th Edition \(met.police.uk\)](https://www.met.police.uk)

[Against Scams Partnership - Cambridgeshire County Council](https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

CHRISTCHURCH



In January this year we, visited the Christchurch Lunch Club to deliver an engagement session. We spoke to local residents who had concerns about accumulated rubbish and unkept properties, noise disturbances, planning regulations, speeding and hare coursing. Information about rural crime is available via this link:

[Rural crime | Crimestoppers \(crimestoppers-uk.org\)](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)



2023/2024
COMMUNITY SAFETY
ENGAGEMENT EVENTS
IN FENLAND

Fenland community safety partnership will be delivering further community engagement events throughout 2023 and 2024.

These will be advertised on *the* FDC website, partnership pages and in your local area.

Come along and meet the community safety team and their partners for Information and advice on a wide range of community safety matters.

NEW DROVE - SAFER COMMUNITIES FUND APPLICATION (PCC)

New Drove in Wisbech has experienced an issue with fly tipping for approximately the last two years.



Fenland District Council's Streetscene team, who are responsible for investigating fly tipping, became involved and noticed the problem was increasing.

They recorded 30 instances of tipping over a 6 month period of 2022.

Items such as fridges, building waste, carpet and general domestic rubbish were being discarded at the location.



The location although very close to town, is rural in nature and isolated with no nearby properties overlooking.

The discarded rubbish in addition to being an eyesore was also blocking access to a privately owned paddock and blocking drainage ditches

A successful funding bid was made to the Police & Crime Commissioner and funding was provided from the Communities Fund to improve the situation.



The location was cleared of all the tipped rubbish and soil bunds were installed to narrow the vehicle access and remove the ability to tip directly into the drainage ditch.

Following this work the location has continued to be subject of frequent checks by Streetscene staff and to date the location remains free of fly tipped debris.

What is very pleasing is the work had been recognised by local residents who were pleased with the outcome and difference the work had made.

Anyone who witnesses fly tipping or finds a location where items have been tipped, can report this via the link below.

[Fly-tipping - Fenland District Council](#)



Report Fly Tipping to Fenland District Council via the website:

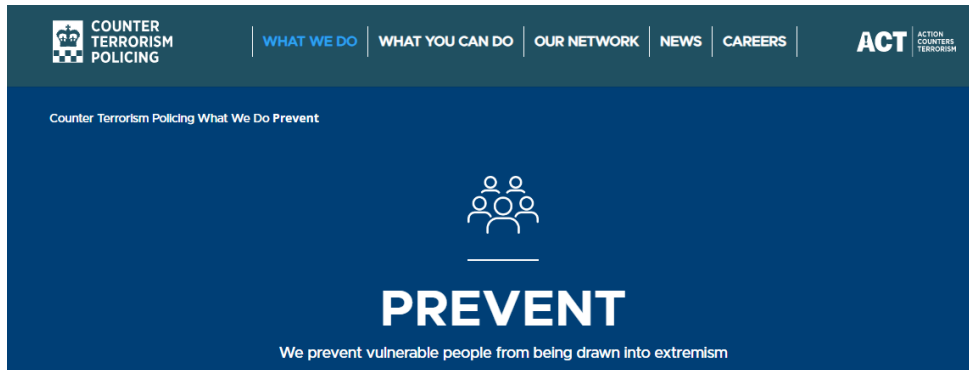
[Fly-tipping - Fenland District Council](#)

Or by calling

01345-654321

AN INTRODUCTION TO “PREVENT

BY GARRY BANKS



I am Garry Banks, a member of the Cambridgeshire Prevent team, having first joined Cambridgeshire Police in 2010 and spent my first ten years in the area of Fenland. I thoroughly enjoy my current role and think it is an important role and a vital part of the UK's Counter Terrorism strategy.

A big part of the role is safeguarding an individual to support them, but what do we mean by safeguarding?

PREVENT & SAFEGUARDING

Prevent is about safeguarding our communities from the threat of terrorism by stopping people from supporting it or becoming terrorists themselves. Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies. This can take various forms be that in an online/offline space, sometimes a person can be a very vulnerable and is targeted by organisations/ individuals who seek to exploit these vulnerabilities. My role, as a Prevent officer, is a vital part of keeping our communities safe.

Prevent is a voluntary scheme and individuals who consent to extra support are nurtured by several agencies in an attempt to support and divert them away from potential radicalisation. These agencies meet regularly and are known as the Channel Panel. Each case is dynamic and support is tailored to diverse needs of the individual.

A recent example of this and how this would work is:



Case Study Mr X

- Mr X was referred to prevent following social media posts over identifying with groups linked with right wing views and acts of violence, he was also publishing content indicating a right wing nature and undertone. Mr X was showing grievances towards narratives he believed to be LW and also showed a particular grievance towards the BBC and the Police.
- Mr X has high functioning autism and lives with his elderly parents. He is very easily impressionable and vulnerable.
- His case was adopted at Channel, him and his family agreed and asked for support.
- Mr X received support with his MH including medication reviews. He received personal 'one to one' support with a mentor called an IP (who specialised in supporting those with Autism).
- Mr X also received support around finding employment, accommodation and . Mr X was described to frequently have 'outbursts' of anger at home. It was noted through the support of Prevent he started to have less of these and was more understanding of other people's views.
- Mr X saw an article on Prevent on television, he wrote to the programme to praise how much working with Prevent had helped him and made him feel happier. Mr Xi s currently doing very well

So what should you do if you notice someone who you think might be vulnerable to radicalisation?

You can contact your local police Phone the police on **101** for non-urgent crime or **999** for an emergency. either in person, online or on the phone who can progress a prevent referral.

[Home | Cambridgeshire Constabulary \(cambs.police.uk\)](https://www.cambs.police.uk)

You can also go to - [https://actearly.uk/](https://actearly.uk) which is a very helpful website where you can look at resources and advice for what to do next.



WISBECH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Wisbech Police Cadets volunteered their time to deliver neighbourhood watch leaflets, in the Medworth area of Wisbech. .

They gave local residents information about how to join an existing scheme or start one of their own and signposted to further information on the Ourwatch website.

[Home](#) | [Neighbourhood Watch](#) | [National network](#) | [Local Watch areas](#) | [Community crime prevention groups](#) (ourwatch.org.uk)

Cadet leader Billy Cunningham said "This is a fantastic opportunity to rebuild the neighbourhood watch scheme in the Medworth area and it gives the cadets a great experience "

Eight Police Cadets supported by their leaders, worked hard to ensure that Medworth area was leafleted to encourage the growth of new neighbour watch schemes in the area.



This work has been possible following the partnership's successful bid, with the support of Police and Crime Commissioner, for Safer Streets government funding



Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP)

[Against Scams Partnership - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Scam in Focus - Energy Bills Support Scheme (EBSS) Scams and Finding Genuine Financial Support

You will no doubt be aware that energy prices rose on 1st October last year and that the government launched the Energy Bills Support Scheme to mitigate the effects of this. The Energy Bills Support Scheme (EBSS) is a government discount of £400 that households received off their energy bills. **You didn't need to apply for the discount, and you don't need to pay it back!** Scammers, however, are trying to prey on people's unfamiliarity with the scheme to trick them out of their money, sending texts requesting the recipient's bank details to make the alleged grant payment. See example below and read more [here](#).

"Fraudsters are also exploiting people's worries about keeping warm this winter, to target them with scam phone calls offering grants for solar panels, loft insulation, spray foam, double or triple glazing and boiler replacement.

Remember: do not click on any links contained in texts or e-mails about the Energy Bills Support Scheme - they're phishing! You do not need to apply for the grant, your energy bills will be automatically discounted.

As well as EBSS there are a number of other support schemes available to help people feeling the impact of inflation and increasing fuel bills so it can sometimes be difficult to tell the genuine support from a scam. You can avoid problems using by a trusted source of information such as your district council or the County Council's webpages on support with the cost of living. [Cost of living support in Fenland - Fenland District Council](#)

[County Council's webpages on support with the cost of living](#)

These pages provide information on accessing grants and debt advice, support getting all the money you're entitled to and more information about the government's recent support measures. The page also contains a link for the Council's Household Support Fund. This fund, which has wide eligibility criteria, provides direct financial support and a gateway to more personalised offers which are intended to provide longer-term help. It is easy to apply to the fund, details and a link to the application form are on the webpage.

There is also a telephone application route for older people through our partners Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on 01223 221929. Report EBSS scams to Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040** or [online](#).



Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership
(CAPASP)

[Against Scams Partnership - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

Scam in Focus - Romance Scams.

What is a romance scam? It is when someone uses an online dating site to develop a relationship with someone for the express purpose of extracting money from them. How does someone become a victim? The scam is run over a long period of time, forging a relationship, gaining trust, until they feel the victim is sufficiently enamoured with the scammer to send money when it is asked for.

Signs: - A friend or family member may be involved are they exhibiting secretive behaviour, making excuses why they haven't met in person, Sudden and strong attachment to someone they haven't met, and have only just started talking to. These are some of the things to look out for.

Remember, these people are professional relationship builders. They will make you feel special and say all the right things because that is how they gain your trust and build the relationship with you.

How to protect yourself: - Alarm bells should ring If -

You like the person and they ask you to chat off the site.

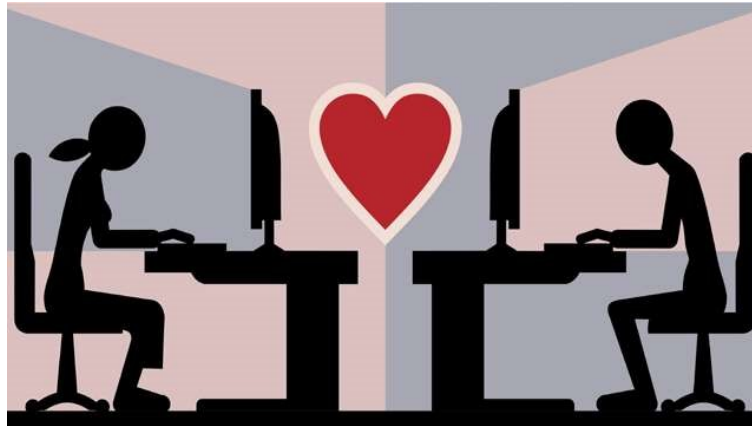
You attempt to arrange to meet, but they keep making excuses why they can't. They will usually be out of the country for some reason, and it will all sound very plausible.

If they ask for money or any personal documentation, then that is a sure sign the person is not on the dating site genuinely.

If you find yourself getting really defensive about questions from loved ones and friends. If they are concerned there is probably a legitimate reason, especially. Conduct a reverse image search on one of the search engines. If the search engine returns an image like the one seen on the dating profile, do a bit more research around the picture. It could be a photograph from a company website.

"Why would someone wait this long to scam me". The longer the scam goes on the more you will get attached to the person, the more money you are likely to spend. Remember that the sums sent from a single person have been £30,000. This is a good yearly wage, and this is multiplied by the number of people they are scamming, they can scam several people at the same time.

Scam in Focus - Romance Scams.



Examples of the type of job they will have: - Remember, they will be working out of the country so they may be on an oil rig, be a doctor working abroad, or they could be in the military. They need to be out of the country as a reason why they can't meet you, and then when they ask for money, for example, they need money for a flight home, or to pay medical fees, or they have lost their credit cards, it will all sound plausible.

Payments: - Credit cards, banks and PayPal all have ways of protecting their customers, and transactions can be reversed. So, you will be asked to send money via ways where the receiver can remain anonymous and the transfer is not reversible. If you haven't heard of their way they are asking you to send money, or it isn't something you have done before, then it is another red flag.

At the end of the day this is a job to these people. So another tell tale sign is they only chat with you their equivalent of 9-5, don't forget they live all over the world in different time zones, so it may look like they are chatting when they get home from work, but in reality they are in a different time zone. English may not be their first language so if they are saying they are from Wales, and their English isn't good, then that is another flag that something may be wrong.

ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
0300 123 2040

If you or any of your friends or family have been a victim of a scam the please report it to Action Fraud 0300 123 2040

USEFUL INFORMATION



Phone the police on **101** for non-urgent crime or **999** for an emergency. Or use the quick online reporting tools to report a wide range of crime, anti-social behaviour, and vehicle offences. [Start A Live Chat](#) or [Report](#)

[Home | Cambridgeshire Constabulary \(camb.s.police.uk\)](#)



<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>



[Report - Fenland District Council](#)



<https://www.cambsvictimservices.co.uk/>



Report Hate Crime

<https://www.met.police.uk/true-vision-report-hate-crime/>



<https://twitter.com/actionfrauduk>



<https://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website>