

New Forest District Council Safer New Forest Survey 2019

The New Forest is one of the safest places in the United Kingdom to live, work and visit. However some of us do suffer from crime and anti-social behaviour and the Safer New Forest partnership works hard to prevent and reduce any reported incidents. This survey is being undertaken to check that we are working on the issues that are important to you. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential and will only be used to compile an overall report.

Town / Parish Council: Hyde Parish Council

<p>1. What is going well in your Town / Parish? (i.e. partnership working, community engagement, voluntary services)</p>
<p>Police/Community Engagement - We welcome the monthly visit to a local Farm Shop by a PCSO who is available to residents for advice or a chat which we feel is a help to the local area. We are pleased that there is usually police representation at our public Annual Parish Meeting, this year it was a Rural Policing Inspector, Hampshire & IOW.</p> <p>It is encouraging to see a Rural Team for Hampshire & IOW. When we do see the Police at events they are helpful.</p>
<p>2. What (if any) are your concerns for your Town/Parish regarding crime and anti-social behaviour?</p>
<p>Break-ins and theft, daytime and at night, from sheds and outbuildings are becoming common, also theft of larger garden and field equipment, residents feel we are being targeted. Residents report suspect vehicles to Neighbourhood Watch but there are complaints that reporting these and actual thefts to police via 101 is slow and frustrating, they consider the system to be totally inadequate</p> <p>Crime has definitely increased in our area, residents feel we are being targeted as we are easy pickings, no visible police anywhere in our parish as a deterrent. There seems to be a lack of response when residents have been burgled with Police often not even coming out to investigate. Residents feel vulnerable and on their own, the 101 system is totally inadequate.</p> <p>There is a Dark Skies policy within the NFNPA, this discourages the installation of fixed external lighting – particularly on outbuildings. This does not help to deter theft and residents may install additional lighting to protect their property, in breach of planning guidelines. A solution is needed for rural parishes within the National Park.</p>
<p>3. If you have outlined concerns within question 2, what could improve your area? (i.e. Town & Parish, partnership working, other services)</p>
<p>A police presence, even occasionally, could deter thieves from cruising the area, and would be reassuring to residents, especially to our many elderly folk. A quicker, more efficient response and some follow-up, other than a crime number, when reporting crime would also give residents more confidence in the police system as there is very little at present.</p>