

Community Safety Partner Updates



March 2025

Community Safety Update and Events

Artworks Launch

Tara Liam from Community Safety and Caley Walden from VRU (Violence Reduction Unit) worked with community projects and organisations to bring together some powerful messages through the power of art.

The grey interior of the Sandgate Road car park has been given a new splash of colour thanks to some extraordinary designs recognising many of our important local agencies.



A grand unveiling on 25 February was attended by representatives of the agencies which had submitted the including, Kent Police, Kent and Medway VRU, HomeStart Shepway, Folkestone Rainbow Centre, Change Grow Live, United Response's Cheriton Community Network, The Beacon Plus College, Kent County Council's Children's Social care and Folkestone & Hythe District Council.



Youth Forum

The first in a series of Youth Forum events was held in F&HDC's council chamber and was aimed at encouraging young people to get involved in shaping the future of the district.

On 26 February we welcomed 45 students from schools and groups across the district with topics for discussion during the session including supporting the local environment. Scott Butler from Community Safety also discussed safety concerns.

Students from Brockhill Park school, Folkestone Academy, The Folkestone School for Girls, The Harvey Grammar School, The Beacon Folkestone, EKC Folkestone College, Folkestone Family Hub and The Marsh Academy were represented.



This new initiative aims to help young people actively inform specific council services and discuss further issues important to them.

Careers Fair

On 28 February, Tara Liam together with Environmental Enforcement Officer, Haydee Blaskett listened to around 60 students from St Mary's Primary Academy in Folkestone sharing their future aspirations.

Representatives from Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Coty (Ashford), Medical Health and Street Lighting. The children had a fantastic and insightful morning, asking lots of questions about different careers and what each job involves.



Tara also attended the East Kent Careers event held at the Leas Cliff Hall on 7 March working alongside Change Grow Live.



Student Training – 6 March

On 6 March, Tara Liam along with Aimee Strudwick from Change Grow Live attended the Beacon School in Park Farm Road Folkestone and engaged with 20 students in role play teaching them customer service skills with Change Grow Live acting as if they were real life customers.



We will be working with Change Grow Live and holding a Wellbeing Wednesday on 9 April from 10:30am to 2.30pm at Shepherd House, 3 Victoria Grove in Folkestone.

This wellness event will be focused on supporting both physical and mental health. This is a great opportunity to engage with the clients who would appreciate the opportunity to engage in services and network with fellow professionals.

Partner Updates

Change Grow Live | **Kent Recovery Houses**
Folkestone and Canterbury

wellbeing wednesday

For your physical and mental health needs

Join Change Grow Live in attendance with the NHS for wellness check-ins as well as support from other agencies promoting all-round good health.

9 April, 10.30am - 2.30pm
Shepherd House, 3 Victoria Grove,
Folkestone, CT20 1BT
All are welcome

Free!

Folkestone & Hythe
District Council

Amber

transforming lives

About Us:

We support young people (aged 18-30) those who are homeless and unemployed, through complex problems such as family breakdown, abuse, leaving care, childhood trauma, mental ill-health, addiction, prison release or losing a job. Sometimes people simply make bad decisions, causing things to go drastically wrong in their lives.

We provide a temporary, safe place to live and a programme of support to transform and rebuild their lives by helping them move away from homelessness, out of unemployment and working positively towards a better, brighter and healthier future.



Our Aims:

In a calm and nurturing environment, with a mix of support, structure, new experiences and training, we aim to build motivation, self-discipline and skills for each young person that is supported across all four of our centres in Kent, Surrey, Wiltshire and Devon. Our aim at Amber, is that all of the young people in our care, leave having achieved stable accommodation, employment or have accessed further education or training.

Our Approach:

Our approach seeks to create positive behaviour change through a mix of active participation in our programme, wider community engagement and a focus on residents taking active responsibility for their own decisions.

Each individual is given a full needs assessment and risk management plan on admission, along with a personalised support plan and full-time structured daily programme, offering a variety of activities including sports, music, drama, art, cooking and gardening, to develop the skills and confidence they need to live independently.

Team leaders provide a mix of one-to-one sessions, workshops and teaching that covers areas from literacy, numeracy, personal care, counselling, recovery, employment skills, tenancy and housing related issues, IT skills, dealing with anxiety/stress, qualifications, diet, fitness and volunteering. The aim is to provide the knowledge, skills and experience for young people to successfully move into employment, education or training.



Contact us:
Downsview, Willesborough Road,
Kennington, Ashford, Kent, TN24 9QP

Fundraising Enquiries:
Serita Boxall – Fundraising Manager
serita.boxall@amberweb.org
07719 047065



♥ Donate

www.amberweb.org

Registered Charity Number: 1051388

Folkestone Rainbow Centre

Folkestone Rainbow Centre are currently looking for items to add to its donation stock:

- Tinned food
- White cooking sauce
- Instant mashed potato
- Toilet rolls
- Washing capsules
- Gluten free items.



If you're able to lend a hand, please keep in mind that all food must be in date and unopened.

Get in contact and find you nearest donation point by visiting [Rainbow Centre Folkestone | Charity | Contact, Foodbank, Homeless](#)

Rainbow Centre

Rainbow Donation Points

FOLKESTONE Sainsburys West Park Farm Halifax Nationwide Asda Tesco Express Foord Road Tesco Express Dover Road Tesco Express Bouverie Rd East Kent College	CHERITON Tesco Rainbow Shop One Stop Eurotunnel	HYTHE Waitrose Nationwide Post Office
LYDD All Saints Church	HAWKINGE Tesco Express Hawkinge Pharmacy Community Centre The Village Shop Densole	 Download 'Bankthefood' app & follow Shepway Foodbank and get regular updates of any items we need
ROMNEY MARSH Romney Marsh Community Church	DYMCHURCH Tesco Express	 @ShepwayFoodbank  rainbow-centre.org shepway.foodbank.org.uk

Charity No: 1096570 Food Services No: 07913 573403 Updated Aug 24

Look Good Feel better



[A leading cancer support charity - Look Good Feel Better : Look Good Feel Better](#) are launching the new Romney Marsh skincare and make up workshop on 2nd May located at the Hub on the Beach, 103 Coast Drive, Greatstone.

The charity are also looking for skincare and make-up volunteers in the local area and if anyone is interested, details can be found on the link <https://lookgoodfeelbetter.co.uk/volunteer/>

look good feel better
FACING CANCER WITH CONFIDENCE



Romney Marsh

Skincare and Makeup workshop

Join us for step by step advice on skincare and makeup application to complete a natural, radiant look. Learn practical tips and techniques, including how to enhance sparse eyebrows or loss of eyelashes, to help you look and feel like you again.

 Friday's and Tuesday's
(check website for dates)

10:30am to 12:30pm

 Hub on the Beach
103 Coast Drive
Greatstone
New Romney
TN28 8NR



Booking necessary via QR code or phone
01372 747 500

 Find out more lgfb.co.uk  Call us on 01372 747 500

look good feel better
FACING CANCER WITH CONFIDENCE



Book a workshop

We help with the physical effects of cancer treatment.

Look Good Feel Better run free workshops in the UK, led by expert volunteers from the beauty and wellbeing industry, which give practical advice and support to people living with cancer.

Every workshop offers an invaluable opportunity to talk to others in a similar situation, whilst helping support people with their changing appearance.

People leave our workshops feeling empowered, motivated and less isolated – allowing them to look good, but feel even better.

Upcoming Workshop Dates:

Monthly on Friday's and Tuesday's at
10:30am-12:30pm

Hub on the Beach
103 Coast Drive
Greatstone
New Romney
TN28 8NR

Booking necessary via QR code or phone
01372 747 500



 Find out more lgfb.co.uk  Call us on 01372 747 500

Information Awareness

Protect your Pa\$\$w0rd...



Home security doesn't just mean locking your doors and windows - protecting your digital devices with strong passwords is also important to keeping yourself and your personal data safe.

Perhaps you received a new phone or laptop at Christmas, or you want to help keep your family members digitally safe.

Creating a strong password doesn't need to be complicated. Using three simple steps, you can protect your devices and digital data...

1

Create a separate, strong password for your email. Your personal email account contains lots of important information about you and is the gateway to all your other online accounts, including banking, social media and online shopping. If your email account is hacked, all your other passwords can be reset, so it's important to use a strong password for your email, that is different to all your others.

2

Use 3 random words to build your password. Using three random words is the recommended way of generating passwords, as it's easier to remember and takes trillions of years for a computer algorithm to crack. Remember to not use obvious words like your surname or the names of your pets!

3

Use 2 factor or multi-factor authentication on your devices. Two-factor authentication is a free security feature that gives you an extra layer of protection online and stops cyber criminals getting into your accounts - even if they have your password. Two-factor authentication reduces the risk of being hacked by asking you to provide a second factor of information, such as getting a text or code when you log in, to check you are who you say you are.

[Visit our website for more advice on building strong passwords to protect your digital devices!](#)

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, charity no: 1173349

Fraud / Scams

Kent Fraud Alert System

Bank Branch Closure Scam

Kent Police have been made aware of a possible new scam.

With Bank branches currently closing around the county, a victim was recently contacted by criminals impersonating their Bank. They informed them that they needed to withdraw all their money from their account and transfer it to a new account that been opened for them, as their old local branch was closing in the next couple of months. Fortunately, the intended victim was prevented from losing their money by branch staff in the Bank.

Your bank will never request that you transfer your money to a new account that they have set for you.

If you get an expected call from someone claiming to be from your Bank, then take their details and end the call. Then call back using a different phone if available. If another phone is not available, then wait 5 minutes and ring a family member or friend to ensure the line has been disconnected and then ring 159.

Additionally, if you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at [Action Fraud](#) or call 0300 123 2040.

For further information about Fraud, visit our website at [Advice about fraud | Kent Police](#) You will also find valuable information from the Home Office at [Stop! Think Fraud - How to stay safe from scams](#)



National Campaigns

National Stalking Awareness week – 22 April to 25 April 2025

National Stalking Awareness Week is an annual event dedicated raising awareness of stalking.

[Upcoming Campaigns | Suzy Lamplugh Trust](#)

New Published Reports

Online safety

Source: Ofcom

Date published: 17 March 2025

Ofcom has published a news story about the latest measures to address online harms and how it is enforcing the Online Safety Act. Providers of services in scope of the Act had until 16 March to carry out an illegal harms risk assessment. From 17 March, the next set of illegal harms duties has come into force; platforms must now start implementing appropriate measures to remove illegal material quickly when they become aware of it, and to reduce the risk of 'priority' criminal content from appearing in the first place. Ofcom will be assessing platforms' compliance with the new illegal harms obligations under the Act and launching targeted enforcement action where there are concerns. The news story also provides details of Ofcom's enforcement programme to tackle child sexual abuse imagery on file sharing services.

Read the news story: [Enforcing the Online Safety Act: platforms must start tackling illegal material from today](#)

Harmful and problematic sexual behaviour

Source: NSPCC Learning

Date published: 14 March 2025

NSPCC Learning has published a Helplines insight briefing on young people engaging in harmful and problematic sexual behaviour (HSB/PSB). Drawing from contacts to Childline and the NSPCC Helpline in 2023/24, the briefing shares young people's perspectives across the various stages of engaging in HSB/PSB, including: asking sex and relationship questions around age-appropriate behaviours, consent, and legality; seeking advice on how to stop fantasies, thoughts and urges; narrating experiences of seeking help, including barriers to getting appropriate support; feeling guilt, regret and shame about past behaviours; and worries about legal repercussions and consequences.

Read the briefing: [Insights on young people engaging in harmful and problematic sexual behaviour](#)

Domestic abuse

Source: Women's Aid

Date published: 07 March 2025

Women's Aid has created an animated film. 'The monster who came to tea', raising awareness around the impact of domestic abuse on women and children. Alongside the film, Women's Aid has written an open letter calling on the Government to improve funding for specialist domestic abuse services.

Read the news story: [Women's Aid launched sobering children's book 'Monster who came to tea' and calls on the Government to improve funding for women and children survivors of domestic abuse this International Women's Day](#)

Watch the film: [The monster who came to tea](#)

See also on NSPCC Learning

> [Protecting children from domestic abuse](#)

If you have any information that you would like us to include within any future updates, please email the details to community.safety@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk