Avon and Somerset Police
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Dear Resident,

Failand Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Did you know Failand has a new Neighbourhood Watch Scheme?

Did you also know you can get crime alerts for your area by signing up for 'Community Alerts' on the Avon and Somerset Website at: https://community-alerts.policedigital.services/SelfService/Login

What is Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch rests on the concept of good neighbourliness. The basic idea is simply: neighbours join together to keep watch on each other's homes and their immediate surroundings in the bid to make the neighbourhood a safe and better place to live, work and play.

Neighbourhood watch is not just about reducing crime – it is about building community spirit and good relations. It brings local people closer together with common goals: to deter those who are up to no good.

Working together we can make life very difficult for burglars, doorstep conmen and vandals. There are also other benefits of setting up a Neighbourhood Watch. For example, you can learn more about crime prevention and home security which will help keep your home and belongings safe. You might also get a discount on your home insurance.

Members of Watch schemes are not vigilantes. Watch schemes are not Police-run groups. You can be the eyes and ears of the Police, providing early warning on problems. Patrolling the streets is a job for the Police; we will act upon the information supplied by residents. By letting the Police know of anything suspicious that you see or hear, you are helping to reduce the opportunities for crime to occur. The more difficult it can be made for the criminal, the more likely it is that criminals can be deterred.

Objectives of Neighbourhood Watch

- To prevent crime by improving security, increasing vigilance, creating and maintaining a caring community and reducing opportunities for crime by increasing crime prevention awareness.
- To assist the police in detecting crime by promoting effective communication and the prompt reporting of suspicious and criminal activity.
- To reduce undue fear of crime by providing accurate information about risks and by promoting a sense of security and community spirit, particularly amongst the more vulnerable members of the community.
- To improve police/community liaison by providing effective communications through Neighbourhood Watch messaging systems which warn Co-coordinators of local crime trends which they can disseminate to their scheme members, and by members informing the police of incidents when they occur.

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What is a Scheme?

Neighbourhood Watch schemes are run by their members through a Co-ordinator and are supported by the Police and in many areas a local Neighbourhood Watch Association. Neighbourhood Watch Schemes vary in size ranging from a few houses to a number of streets, roads etc. Large Schemes (e.g. comprising more than 10 households) usually have more than one Co-ordinator with an elected lead co-ordinator.

Co-ordinators are responsible for administering schemes and for conveying information between scheme members and the Police.

It is important to note that a scheme is a community initiative, which is supported by the police, not run by them, so success depends on what the members put into it. The Police can't deal with the problems and issues arising from crime and anti-social behaviour alone; they need the help of the whole community. Neighbourhood Watch provides a way for local people to play an important part in addressing this balance and making their communities safer.

Why not join the scheme and help keep your community safe.

Just sign up for 'Community Alerts' to be kept informed of crimes in your area using this link:
https://community-alerts.policedigital.services/SelfService/Login

When you sign up just say 'yes' to being a coordinator and you are part of the 'Failand NhW'.