

Tonbridge and Malling CSU Police Update

Thursday 2nd September 2021

Acting Chief Inspector Lizzie Jones

I apologise for my absence from this meeting, but as ever, I continue to appreciate your on-going support and welcome any news, views, or questions which you think the CSU can assist your communities with.

1. Anti-Social Behaviour

The CSU took part in the national ASB week of action. This included Operation Bee, which successfully tackled the nuisance and dangerous riding at the former Oakdene Café site, which has continued to note a significant decrease in activity at the location. We continue to work with the Parish Council and KCC Highways to tackle this in the long-term.



Operation Recess has been an operation to positively engage with young people across Tonbridge and Malling at key times and locations, such as exam results day. We have been working with our partners at Ember Trust and St Giles to ensure that young people are safe and don't engage in harmful ASB or drinking alcohol in public spaces.



Operation Pool has sought to end the ASB at waterside locations such as Tonbridge Lock and Leybourne and Holborough Lakes. Officers are investigating crimes reported at these locations. CSU officers have attended community meetings in order to advise on prevention and dispersal orders have been utilised when needed.



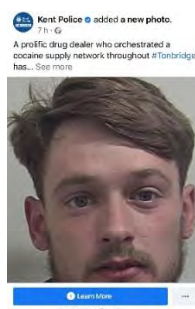
2. Burglaries of out-buildings

This has, understandably, been a concern for residents over the last few months. The CSU and investigators have been working hard to prevent these crimes and bring offenders to justice. Several people have been arrested and these cases are being progressed. The CSU continue to monitor the situation closely and have seen a significant reduction in reported crimes.



3. Drug crime

The Community Policing Team are a proactive unit and have been working tirelessly in the area with some very positive results. Whilst I can't discuss many cases at a pre-conviction stage, I can highlight the imprisonment of one offender, which is a small sample of the on-going work we do to halt the supply of drugs in our area.



Tommy O'Toole was sentenced to 3 years for dealing Class A drugs in Tonbridge and Malling. I hope to report more good news in the coming months.

4. Road Traffic Offences

Many in the community highlight areas of concern. I pass them on to the Road Safety Unit for their professional opinion and do hold regular discussions with KCC about how road layouts could be changed to make roads safer. The CSU now have more PCSOs trained in the use of speed guns, so that areas highlighted by anecdotal evidence (rather than statistical data,) can have some enforcement, evidence gather and then feed-back to community representatives. Our PCSOs also support speed watch schemes.



5. Domestic Abuse and vulnerability

The main function of the CSU is to protect and support vulnerable people. Whilst of course we can't report back on individual cases, we do support our policing colleagues to ensure that victims are protected and community members can access support, such as DAVSS and the One Stop Shop.