

Sutton Youth Newsletter

In partnership with Sutton Police, Sutton Local Authority - Cognus and Sutton Young Commissioners

2024 Easter Edition



Introduction to PC Chris Hamilton



Hi, my name is PC Chris Hamilton and I work in the Youth Engagement & Diversion Team for Sutton. I support all Primary & Secondary Schools in the Borough through Early Intervention working with young people to change negative behaviour to achieve a positive outcome to hopefully improve school and/or home life. I believe with positive role models all young people can achieve anything they want to. My role includes talks/workshops on various subjects such as social media, safety, knife crime to name a few, finding local activities through sport for young people and working in partnership with Sutton Council, local services, and local partners such as McDonalds, Vodafone, Sutton United FC. There are many events and projects coming soon that will be advertised on social media (Facebook @SuttonPolice), so I hope to see you all at a local event soon.





News Flash



Crime Busters Update!

Great news!

- The police have been working super hard to keep our neighborhoods safe after a spike in robberies before Christmas.
- They used different tricks that really worked, bringing the number of reports back down. But uh-oh, Wallington is still a bit of a hotspot! Be on the lookout for mixed groups causing trouble. With warmer weather coming, crimes might increase, but don't worry – the police are keeping a close eye. If you see anything fishy, tell your school officer or call the local station or Crimestoppers!
- Let's keep our community safe together!



Operation Vigilant: Protecting Our Streets!

Did you know the police have a special project called Operation Vigilant to tackle street-level offences?



- It's been going on for a while, but we still need to be vigilant. A recent acid attack in Clapham reminded us why it's so important to address Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). Money is going into Operation Vigilant for more patrols, and they're working on high-risk domestic issues too. There's even a VAWG 100 list that helps catch the bad guys!
- They're also talking about ways to do even more, especially focusing on protecting kids and stopping child exploitation. Let's stand up against violence!
- Let's stand up against violence!



Vape Alert!

Guess what?



- Disposable vapes are getting the boot in England, Scotland, and Wales!
- Why? Because they're bad for the environment and young folks are using them too much. The government is planning to limit vape flavors, change how they look, and hide them more. Also, no more tobacco sales for kids born after January 1, 2009 – the goal is to have a "smoke-free generation"!
- While the police stay out of politics, it's good to know about these changes since they might involve the police. Stay informed!





VAPE ARTICLE



With a wide range of flavours such pink lemonade, strawberry burst and blueberry Ice we can see why young people might be attracted to using vapes. While vapes can be an aid to help smokers quit there are not harmless and do carry their own risks.

Many people believe that vapes produce a water vapor however, Vapes actually create aerosols with very fine particles that when inhaled send harmful chemicals to the lungs. These particles then leave a residue on the lining of your lungs.

Some of the common effects of vaping can be:

- Coughing
- Dizziness
- Eye, ear and throat infections
- Chest infection
- Nicotine addiction
- Cardiovascular diseases

We are also seeing a number of places selling counterfeit or fake versions of popular vape brands. This is concerning as we don't know what is in them or what harm they may be doing to our health.

Vapes and e-cigarettes are still relatively new and so we don't what the long term consequences on our health might be however, recent research and evidence is showing that they are not harmless of risk free.



Have you ever felt unsafe in Sutton but you weren't sure what to do?

The MET Police have introduced the StreetSafe tool, an easy to use app that means you can be directed quickly to report concerns or flag areas of the borough that make you feel unsafe anonymously.

By doing this, the police can look at tackling these issues to help you feel a lot safer when you are out and about in Sutton. Some examples that you could report are:

- Absence of CCTV
- Blind spots, hidden areas and poor street lighting which may cause people to feel unsafe
- Feelings that you are being followed
- Unwanted attention
- Loitering and/or intimidation by a group

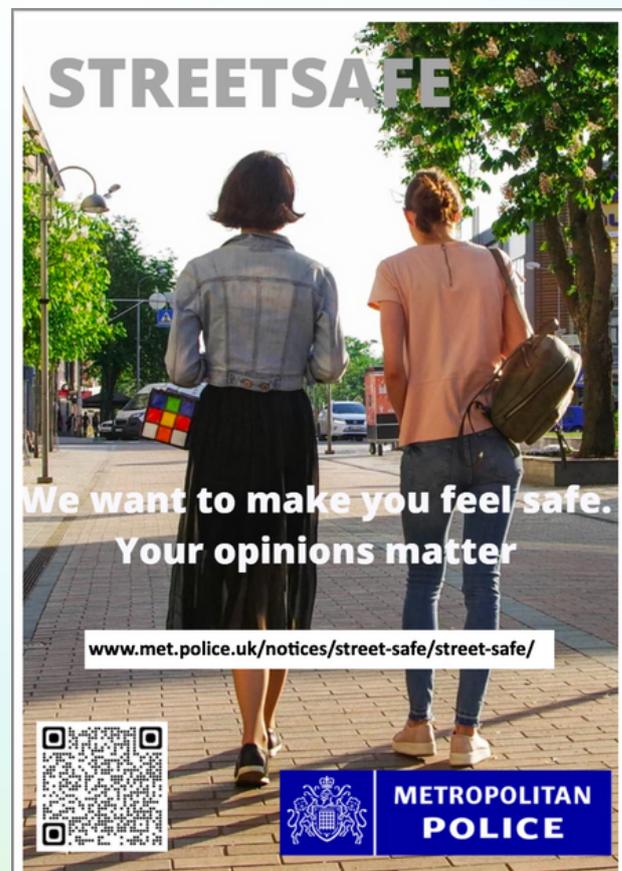
Remember, if you feel that you are in danger or you feel that it is an emergency, always call 999. StreetSafe will also tell you how to report a crime officially if you feel that this is the best thing for you to do.

You can download the StreetSafe app on the Apple Store for Iphone, Play Store for Android or via the QR code link on the poster.

Want to find out more?

Check out the short StreetSafe video for more details. The police are here to help and want to hear your views.

Let's work together to make Sutton a safer place for all.



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