

Sutton Youth Newsletter

Sutton Edition
October 2023

**YOUNG
COMMISSIONERS**
The local youth voice in action

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

SEASONAL EDITION



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Get out the hot chocolate and fluffy coats because jumper season is here! Whilst some of us may be happily embracing those cool evenings and long nights, others may be curled up in bed, hibernating in bed until the spring... Whichever camp you fall into, we want to give you some tips to help keep you safe over the next few months, as well as providing some vital information about recent issues.



Introduction to Steve Welding - E-safety advisor



Hello all. I have been asked to introduce myself to you and explain my involvement with the children and young people who attend our Sutton Schools.

My name is Steve Welding, and I work for a company called Cognus as the E-Safety Advisor in Sutton. I go into both Primary and Secondary School and speak to children about online safety. I also carry out parent and staff online safety workshops which helps to build their knowledge on how to keep children safe online. I aim to keep children and young people safe when they are online and maybe I will meet some of you when I visit your school.

Global and National

Gaza/Israel Conflict

- Thousands of officers are undertaking **extra patrols across London** following the Hamas - Israel conflict.
- In addition to the reassurance and security patrols, officers have **visited more than 200 schools as well as more than 300 synagogues, mosques and other places of worship.**
- Officers will continue to have **a presence at public demonstrations where required**, to ensure the safety of participants, but the organisation remains apolitical on the matter.



Violence against women and girls (VAWG) Action Plan

- The horrific murder of Eianne Andam sent shockwaves across the country, and unfortunately it is yet another **devastating reminder as to why work on VAWG issues, is so important.**
- The MET continues to supply additional resources for VAWG work, and are **using an evidenced based approach with leading academics to try and identify the highest harm offenders in London**, (VAWG 100).
- Outreach work is also occurring, with the **next VAWG Action Plan Meeting in Sutton being on 31st October at Hill House Community Centre, SM4**. Attendance must be registered on Eventbrite due to capacity issues. Link is below, and we hope to see you there! <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/vawg-action-plan-meeting-sutton-tickets-732792019657?aff=oddtdtcreator>

Crime In Sutton

Robbery

1. High Street Wallington and Sutton

- Unfortunately robberies have increased again on Sutton High Street and Wallington.
- Whilst this is in line with expected seasonal trends, our local and specialist teams are working tirelessly to identify and arrest those responsible

2. *NEW* Rosehill, Purley (SM3, SM5)

- X3 robberies have occurred on 25/09, 29/09 and 04/10** between 17:00 – 19:00 which may be linked.
- Teenagers have been approached by **a lone male suspect**. He initiates conversation by talking about his cousin's phone being stolen, or asking them whether they've seen males on foot or in a vehicle.
- He then **asks to look at the IMEI number on their phone**, (a unique identity number for a device which can be seen by typing *#06# into the keypad), before stealing it.



Crime In Sutton

- The suspect keeps **putting his hands down his joggers** so some victims believe he may have a weapon, but this is unconfirmed.
- He is believed to be wearing black/grey joggers and hoodie with a black balaclava/black North Face beanie, Black Nike coat, Black air force max and South London accent.
- He is **likely between the age of 14-15** and stated he went to a Sutton school

Violence

- There has also been a murder on the Roundshaw Estate at the beginning of October
- Currently there is no information suggesting this will lead to more violence in the area, but this is being monitored daily

What are we doing to stop this?

- **Specialist crime analysts** are looking at robbery and theft reports regularly to provide in-depth analysis to officers to help them be in the right places at the right times
- This includes using lots of **different policing and analytical techniques** to try and impede offenders
- A **dedicated officer** has been assigned to the potential linked offences in Rosehill described above to try and identify a suspect to arrest
- We are also trying to **increase our police presence in key areas**, (including the Roundshaw Estate), but this may be difficult due to officers being required to help with the Israel - Gaza protests

What can we expect in the next few months?

Halloween & Bonfire Night

- **Everyone deserves to have fun during the holiday season**, and if you're willing to brave the cold, Halloween and bonfire night can be a great time to spend with family and friends.
- To ensure everyone's safety, **bespoke policing plans have been created to prevent people taking advantage of these holidays to terrorise the public**. This includes having bespoke patrols in key areas to deal with any issue.
- Please note, **large groups of people engaging in anti-social behaviour will likely be separated/moved on if they are causing issues, and we will take a zero tolerance approach to intimidation, threats or violence**, so please enjoy these holidays responsibly.

What can we expect in the next few months?

- If enjoying any private firework displays, please also **note the legal restrictions on times the can be used, and the different age restrictions**
- For more safety advice visit the Met's Website:
- <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/fireworks/>

Christmas

- Each year there are **small seasonal trends in crimes**, which means at certain points of the year people are more at risk of becoming victims of certain crimes than others
- During the run up to Christmas, **theft and burglary becomes more common**, likely due to the fact this is a very expensive time of year for many
- **Additional resources are being put into these areas to prevent crime**, but please visit the METs website to find a full list of crime prevention tips and tricks for this festive season



What can I do to keep Safe?

- **Be aware of your surroundings when out in public**, and ensure valuables are kept out of sight where possible
- Drug dealings can be linked to burglary, so please report any areas where you see drug users gathering
- **Ensure doors and windows are locked**, even when you're in the house
- Do not keep keys near the door to stop people taking them through the letter box
- If you have an intercom system, **do not open the door to people you do not know**, even if you're in a communal building
- **Consider using parcel drop off points for Christmas presents** to reduce the chance of them being taken

What is fearless?

- Fearless enables young people to **pass on information about crime 100% anonymously**.
- Visit their website: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless>
- Or call them on **0800 555 111**