



Leicestershire
Police

Protecting our communities

Melton Mowbray Newsletter

July 2021

Welcome to your Melton Mowbray police e-newsletter. Here you will find all of the latest news from a Melton Mowbray policing perspective and crime prevention advice to help keep yourself safe.

Say hello to our new Melton rural North neighbourhood officer

We welcome PC Adam Atkinson

He tells us “I joined Leicestershire Police back in March 2017 as a PCSO and I was based in Loughborough and covered a variety of beats during my time there – I was also heavily involved with community engagement events .

In February 2020, having been successful in applying to become a PC, I started my training in this new role with a view to being based in Melton Mowbray. So I had a fresh start in somewhere completely new but working with a great team here at Melton made this transition a lot easier.

Last month the opportunity arose to move back into Neighbourhood based Policing and I managed to secure a Designated Neighbourhood Officer role working alongside PC 4252 Dan Daley – who I joined with back in 2017 as a PCSO. Dan and I both share a passion for Neighbourhood Policing and we are both keen to get involved however we can.

I am looking forward to working as a part of the Melton Rural North Beat team and coming up with new and exciting ways to deal with the issues on the beat and engaging with the local community and partner agencies.”



Visit from the Chief

Early in July, Chief Constable, Simon Cole came over to Melton and went out on patrol with PC Davey Rawlings. Mr Cole spoke with residents, business owners and people from the rural part of the borough. All in all a good day.





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Child Criminal Exploitation: Know the Signs

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) is a term used to describe when children and young people are manipulated or coerced into committing crimes. Criminals groom boys and girls to carry out illegal activity on their behalf – such as selling and storing drugs, carrying weapons and committing burglary, robbery or theft.

Currently across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) we are seeing children and young people between the ages of nine and 17 being used by criminals. The most common type of crimes they are becoming involved in is activity known as 'County Lines'. Children and young people caught up in CCE won't always act like victims because they don't often see themselves as victims.

This is because individuals or gangs who target children will often make them feel respected, important and protected. Some children are also made to feel like they have no choice and will be scared to speak out about what is happening. It is important we all remember children are often preyed on because they are vulnerable. **We must all work together to help put an end to this abuse.**

The police, education, local councils and health organisations across LLR all have an important part to play in preventing children being exploited and deal with those responsible.

We also need your help to look after the children in your life; to know the signs and to act if you suspect a child is in danger. Children won't often just tell you if they are in trouble, but there are often some obvious signs that could indicate they might need help.





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Child Criminal Exploitation: Know the Signs

Other signs include:

- Withdrawal from usual group of friends and a mention of older or new friends
- Having gifts, a new phone or money that can't be accounted for
- Becoming withdrawn or secretive
- Receiving a large number of calls or messages to their phone or being worried about being away from their phone
- A drop in grades or performance, as well as suspension or exclusion from school
- Going missing from home or not showing up to school or regular afterschool groups or clubs
- Become involved in low level criminality such as antisocial behaviour

If you suspect a child is being exploited try to talk to them. Children are more likely to open up to an adult they have an existing and trusting relationship with.

Next steps:

If you think a child could be involved in this type of activity, you can contact Leicestershire Police on **101** or online. If you suspect a child is in immediate danger always call **999**. You can also call your local council children's team for advice. Telephone Leicestershire County Council 0116 3059521



**It's up to
everyone
to know
the signs**

#AreYouListening