



Community safety update November 2014



We won't let crime and anti-social behaviour blight the lives of local people and working with the police and the community, we'll take decisive action to make Islington safer for everyone.

Cllr Paul Convery
Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety

Islington becomes first borough to enforce 20mph limit

Last year Islington became the first London borough to introduce a 20mph limit on all roads, except for those managed by Transport for London. Since then, the Council and police service have held a series of "stop and advise" operations in which motorists driving above the 20mph limit have been pulled over and given a reminder to slow down. Now, after 24 such operations, further police enforcement has begun - making Islington the first borough in London where drivers flouting the 20mph limit can be prosecuted or issued with penalties.

Off licence training to help tackle alcohol issues

Off licensees in the north and east of the borough are to be offered training by the Council's trading standards team to help them to comply with alcohol licensing laws. This month, there will be four sessions aimed at businesses in Finsbury Park, Highbury West, Junction, Tollington and Hillrise wards. The sessions will help the traders prevent age-restricted sales and reduce sales of illicit alcohol, understand their responsibilities as licensees and promote the voluntary ban on cheap, high-strength beers and ciders. Additional sessions, to which businesses from the other North and East wards will be invited, will be held in January. Further details are available from Doug Love in Trading Standards on 020 7527 3874.

Tenant evicted for breach of tenancy

Islington Council has evicted a tenant causing anti-social behaviour on the Shearling Estate. The tenant came to attention after reports of anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance were received. As a consequence of not responding to warnings from the Council's ASB Team, legal action was taken. Despite the intervention and involvement of the noise team, the nuisance continued and the Council took the decision to pursue possession of the property using evidence provided from neighbours, the police, noise and ASB teams. The judge agreed that the tenant's behaviour was in breach of the tenancy agreement and awarded an Outright Possession Order, which resulted in the tenant being evicted on 10th October 2014.

Islington Stronger Families Programme helps tackle ASB and crime

The Stronger Families Programme has 'turned around' 431 families, 274 of which had been involved in ASB or crime. The aim of the programme is to work with families to reduce crime and ASB, support families to move off benefits and remain in work and improve attendance at school and reduce exclusions. The programme receives 'payment by results' funding based on the number of families 'turned around'. Because these families have been successfully helped, the Council has received £2 million extra income from the government to fund additional services to work with families.

Different services across the Council have been involved in supporting the programme, including the youth offending service and targeted youth support, children's social care, Islington families' intensive service (IFIT), "Families First" and our housing/ASB officers. To find out more about services that can help families reduce their involvement in ASB and crime, contact Angela Kidd on 0207 527 5967 (angela.kidd@islington.gov.uk)

New power to protect residents from anti-social behaviour is now in place

The “community trigger” power is now in place. This gives residents the option to request a review if they believe no action has been taken in response to ASB reports. Residents can activate the trigger if they have reported ASB to the Council, police, and/or a registered housing provider three times in the last six months, no action has been taken and the case has been closed. For more information on the trigger or to find out how to activate it, visit www.islington.gov.uk/communitytrigger

Archway gets spruced up

Local residents and businesses are enjoying cleaner, safer streets in Archway following a major clean-up operation that took place at the end of September. The Council's housing, parks, street environment services, ASB and community safety teams joined up with local police, businesses and residents in a week of activities to raise awareness and tackle problems on the street. There were community clean-ups, shop front spruce ups, streets were jet washed and cleaned of dog mess, chewing gum, dirt, litter, graffiti and illegal fly-tipping. The neighbourhood policing team gave out crime prevention advice and offered free bike marking and local residents were given advice on reporting litter, crime and ASB.

Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders

National Consumer Week (3-7 November) will focus this year on ‘Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders’. Despite vast under-reporting of doorstep crime, latest research shows there could be as many as 170,000 incidents of doorstep crime each year. Doorstep criminals exploit vulnerable citizens by convincing them to pay for shoddy or incomplete repair work, charging extortionate fees for their services, or threatening residents who do not comply.

The 'Good neighbours stop rogue traders' campaign focuses on preventing doorstep crime by encouraging neighbours, family, friends and carers to look out for those most at risk in their communities. For more information go to: <http://www.islington.gov.uk/advice/consumer-advice/trading-standards/Pages/Becoming-a-Nominated-Neighbour.aspx>

Safe sales of fireworks

In the run-up to November 5th, the Council's environmental health team has registered 12 businesses to stock fireworks. As in previous years, trading standards officers carried out undercover tests to see if shops are selling fireworks to under age customers. For more information on firework safety follow this link: www.islington.gov.uk/fireworksafety

Community safety contacts

Cllr. Paul Convery, Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety
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Reporting anti-social behaviour to the Islington ASB team:

Telephone: 020 7527 7272 Online: www.islington.gov.uk/reportasb

We will respond to your report as soon as possible, certainly within 24 hours. Our officers can make visits between 4pm and 2am Sunday to Thursday, and 5pm to 4am Friday and Saturday.

During office hours, Council tenants and leaseholders should report ASB to the ASB team at their Area Housing Office, on the phone or in person, and Housing Association tenants should report ASB to their landlord. Out of office hours, all residents should report ASB on 020 7527 7272.

Your local Safer Neighbourhoods Team (police): Contact details for your local team and dates of local meetings at http://content.met.police.uk/Page/TeamFinder?scope_id=1257246764070

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