



**Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council**

Easy read guide

to

Neighbourhood Watch



**Policing & Community
Safety Partnership**

making Causeway Coast & Glens safer

What is this guide and who is it for?



This is an Easy Read guide to Neighbourhood Watch. It is for people who live in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area.

This summary can help you understand:



- what a Neighbourhood Watch scheme does
- how to start a Neighbourhood Watch scheme
- how to stay safe in your home and community.

If you want to find out more about Neighbourhood Watch in your community, you can contact:

Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)

www.psnipolice.uk

policingwiththecommunity@psni.pnn.police.uk



Telephone: 101

<https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/live/policing-and-community-safety-partnership/neighbourhood-watch>

If you are worried about something

Most people do not want to do anything to harm you, damage your property or steal things that belong to you.



If you feel worried or upset about something or someone, there are organisations that can help you.

You can find a list of organisations at the end of this guide.

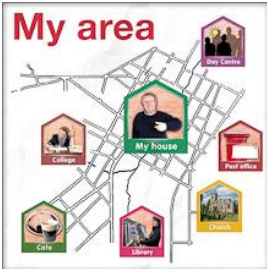
What words mean

Crime

When someone does something wrong and breaks the law.



If someone makes you feel unsafe in your home or when you are in public, this could also be a **Crime**.



Neighbourhood or Community

The place where you live, go to school or work.



Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)

A special group that works in local communities to help make them safer.



Volunteer

A person who gives their time to help someone or to do something

What is a Neighbourhood Watch scheme?



A Neighbourhood Watch scheme is a group of people in a neighbourhood or community who work together to reduce crime.

There are a lot of Neighbourhood Watch schemes in different areas across Northern Ireland.



Neighbourhood Watch schemes can

- Help people protect themselves and their homes
- Help people to feel safe in their community
- Reduce the fear of crime
- Reduce crime in the community
- Make a community friendlier.

How does it work?



People in a community work together with the police and the Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) to start a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

Everyone in the scheme works together to make their community feel safe.



People in the scheme get information about how to look out for crime and how to report it.



The Neighbourhood Watch scheme has a **Co-ordinator** who helps run the scheme.



The people in the community who run the scheme are **volunteers**.

Starting a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme



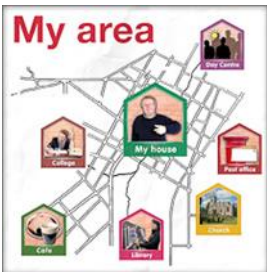
People can start a Neighbourhood Watch scheme to look after safety in one street, or a bigger community.

These are the things they should do to start a scheme:



- Talk to other people in the community to see if they think a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is a good idea

- Ask if people have time to help with the scheme



- Decide what area the scheme will cover



- Contact the police or the Policing and Community Safety Partnership for support to start the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme



- Choose someone to be the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. There can be more than one co-ordinator.

Who does what

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator



The **Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator** is the person from your community who helps run the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

They are the main contact with the police and the Policing and Community Safety Partnership.

These are some of the things they do:



- talk to people in the community about Neighbourhood Watch
- organise Neighbourhood Watch meetings



- give out leaflets, newsletters and other information about safety in the community



- help find the best places for safety signs



- tell the police about crime and things people in the community are worried about
- attend regular meetings with the police about keeping your community safe.

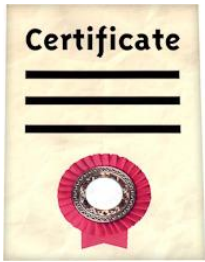
Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)



Your local PCSP helps people in your community to start a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.



These are some of the things they do:



- make sure schemes are run properly
- give Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators certificates to show schemes are run properly



- work with the local council to put signs up in Neighbourhood Watch areas
- support Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators.

Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)



The local police support people in the community with the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.



These are some of the things they do:

- meet Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators regularly to talk about crime and safety
- give the local council Neighbourhood Watch signs to put up in each area





- respond to reports from the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator about crime or things people are worried about



- check how Neighbourhood Watch schemes are doing.

Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group



The Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group decides how Neighbourhood Watch schemes across Northern Ireland should be run.



It gives funding to help run local Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

The Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group includes people from:



Department of Justice

The Department of Justice decides how criminals should be punished and how the courts should work



Northern Ireland Policing Board

The Policing Board decides how the police should work



Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)

The PSNI catches people who commit crimes and tries to stop crime happening.

Organisations who can help

If you feel worried or upset about something, these organisations can help you.

Childline

0800 1111

www.childline.org.uk

Lifeline

0808 808 8000

text phone 18001 0808 808

The Samaritans

116 123

jo@samaritans.org

Northern Health and Social Care Trust

028 9441 3659

adultsafeguarding@northerntrust.hscni.net

Western Health and Social Care Trust

028 7161 1366

Emergency Social Work Service 028 9504 9999



