

Freckleton Neighbourhood Watch PACT Update

Dear Coordinator

Below are the results from the September PACT (police and communities together) meeting.

Priorities for Freckleton area

- Youth nuisance and underage drinking around Freckleton Village - Memorial Park – Evenings
- Traffic speeding on Lytham Rd and other roads around village

Update on the previous months issues

Youth nuisance - Memorial Park and Bush Lane playing field - Evenings and weekends: The main bulk of the incidents were concerning youths drinking in the streets and memorial Park. As a result your policing team has poured away a large amount of differing types of alcohol including Lager, Cider and vodka, and a considerable amount confiscated. A number of youth referrals have been given for anti social behaviour and 2 fixed penalty notices have been given to youths who had damaged the flower beds. 1 ticket yet to be given for proxy buying alcohol and 2 section 59 warning orders given for riding motor scooters on public roads.

Traffic Issues - Various locations in Village: A number of speed enforcement operations have been conducted at different locations around the village. Warning letters have been sent to those found to be over the speed limit

Your next PACT meeting

- Wednesday 7th October 2009 at Memorial Hall at 5pm

Yours faithfully

L Milligan

Community Safety Officer

Once again, if anyone in your scheme requires further crime prevention advice please contact PC Andy Denton based at Blackpool Police Station on 01253 604134.

If you require further crime statistics or copies of this letter please contact me, L Milligan, on 01253 604076. Thank you for your time in passing on this information.

Telephone for non emergency 0845 1 25 35 45
Citizen Focus Bureau 01253 604151



Doorstep Alert

Residents are asked to be alert to a roofing company giving a Lytham address whose staff are cold calling and offering to carry out various jobs on roofs, including gutter cleaning, sealing and maintenance work, and signing customers up to five year maintenance contracts worth an average of £1500. There are concerns over the quality and value of the work, the legitimacy of some of this company's operations, their verbal claims to be linked to councils including Wyre bc, and the fact that older people are often targeted. Complainants come from all over West and Central Lancashire, with recent customers in Thornton-Cleveleys, Fleetwood and Chorley.

In addition, a company in a white van giving an 0800 number is currently offering to carry out work on tree cutting. This company is believed to be cold calling vulnerable consumers throughout the Leyland area. On one occasion a customer discussed work with them but said he did not wish to have the trees cut yet. On his return home he found that the work had already commenced, and asked them to stop. The company is now believed to be using heavy-handed tactics to claim money from this man.

Please also be aware of a computer company telephoning residents throughout the North West and claiming they are acting on behalf of "Windows".

The calls are in fact from an Indian based company. They caller asks the consumer to switch the computer on and to confirm their name and address then claims the resident's computer has been infected by a virus. The company is attempting to persuade people to sign up to their services to remove the probably non-existent virus.

Consumers agreeing to deal with traders where the contract is agreed at the consumer's home should be aware that they will have a cooling off period to cancel any work agreed to, or any purchases made over £35, although in certain circumstances the customer may have to pay for any goods installed or work carried out so far. Also be aware that the contract will not be enforceable against the customer unless information about your right to cancel is given in writing.

We advise residents never to deal with cold-callers, to ensure you obtain full name, address and landline details from all workmen, and to double-check identification and references from other customers- do not assume credentials are genuine. Also ensure any price you are quoted is fair and genuine by obtaining estimates from other traders, and by ensuring the work agreed and the price written down on a quotation before you agree to the work starting.

Please refer any complaints and further information to Lancashire Trading Standards Service, 56-58 Guildhall Street, Preston, Lancs via Consumer Direct tel 08454 040506. If there is any threat or fear of burglary contact the police at once on 999.