

# ALERT

Northamptonshire Police has a free message alert system, to help people living and working in Northamptonshire be much better informed about crime and police activity in their local area and help us to keep their communities safe.

The messaging service, called Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Alert (formerly known as Community Connect), now has greater functionality than previously, enabling our frontline police officers to send alert messages direct from their mobile devices to thousands of local people. They can do this in real-time while they are out and about policing the county.

The alert service is free and simple to activate by registering at [www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodalert.co.uk](http://www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodalert.co.uk) and is available to anyone living or working in Northamptonshire.

After signing up to the messaging system, people will receive regular alerts from Northamptonshire Police, Neighbourhood Watch and other partner organisations, keeping them up to date and informed about crime and issues relevant to them and the area where they live or work. Alerts are received either by email, text message or voice message - whichever suits. People will also be given the option of what they want to receive alerts about, and how often - they will only receive messages about topics that they have selected.

Our communities play a crucial part in helping us prevent and detect crime and anti-social behaviour. Police officers and PCSO's will be regularly sending out message alerts via Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Alert, appealing for help, highlighting suspicious activity, offering crime prevention advice, and keeping people up to date about general police work and safety events.

This community messaging system allows information to be shared really quickly and much more directly with the public about crime and activity in their specific locality, helping us to involve and protect the community much more.

If for example, there has been a spate of distraction burglaries in a particular district or an increase in vehicle crime, we can tell people immediately via the alert system so they can better protect themselves and be more aware of any potential threats and risks. We can also very quickly share descriptions of suspects or appeal for witnesses - giving us a greater chance of arrest.

We want to encourage you to promote the alert system to friends, family and the public to get more people registered. The more people we have registered the wider and more effective our alerts will be.

Signing up to the messaging service is really simple and quick. The alert system is completely secure and registration is free. To register with Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Alert visit [www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodalert.co.uk](http://www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodalert.co.uk).