

Subject: East Herts Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team Update and Parish Council Engagement

From [DE BRUYN, Leon 6389](#) on 2026-08-28 16:12

Dear Parish Clerk / Parish Council Representative,

I hope you are well.

I wanted to provide an update regarding engagement between the East Herts Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) and our Parish Councils.

The East Herts Rural NPT currently consists of **nine officers** responsible for policing a predominantly rural area covering more than **180 square miles** and over **40 parishes**. In addition to responding to emergency and non-emergency incidents, the team is responsible for addressing local priorities, community concerns, crime prevention initiatives and problem-solving activity across the district.

We recognise the value of attending Parish Council meetings and the important opportunity they provide for engagement with local communities. We continue to make every effort to attend as many meetings as possible; however, this has become increasingly challenging due to operational demands, abstractions, training commitments, annual leave and current resource levels.

To ensure Parish Councils remain informed, we will continue to provide our **monthly Crime Report**, highlighting current crime trends, incidents and policing activity across the rural area. We also encourage Parish Councils and residents to register with **Herts Connected**, our free interactive messaging service, which provides local policing updates, crime prevention advice and opportunities to engage directly with the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Through Herts Connected, residents are also invited to participate in our **four-monthly Local Priority Setting Survey**, enabling communities to tell us about the issues that matter most to them and helping shape local policing priorities.

From **September 2026**, the monthly crime report will be produced as a single report covering the entire East Herts Rural area. Please note that where a village is not referenced within the report, this will indicate that no crimes were reported within that parish during the relevant calendar month.

As we look ahead to **2027**, I would encourage Parish Councils to provide me with the dates of their scheduled meetings for the year as soon as possible. This will assist us with forward planning and help maximise opportunities for police attendance. Wherever possible, we will endeavour to attend; however, attendance will always remain subject to officer availability, shift patterns and operational commitments at the time.

Where attendance is not possible, we remain keen to support Parish Councils in other ways. If there is a specific issue, concern or question that you would like to raise with the police, please contact me or a member of the team directly and we will ensure the matter is passed to the appropriate officer for consideration and response.

Of course, if the matter relates to criminal activity or requires a police response, it should be reported through the usual channels by contacting the Force Communications Room on **999 in an emergency** or **101 for non-emergency matters**.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement with the East Herts Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team. We greatly value the strong relationships we have built with our Parish Councils and look forward to continuing to work together to help keep our communities safe.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

PCSO Supervisor Leon DE BRUYN

Neighbourhood Team PCSO

NPT East Herts Rural & Buntingford