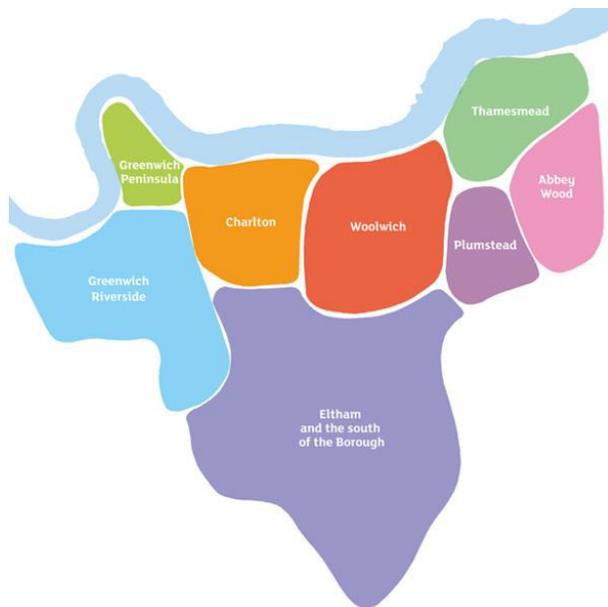


# HOW TO START A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME



February 2019

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Written By  
GREENWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH  
NETWORK



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# Welcome To The Greenwich Neighbourhood Watch Network

We are here to support you...

So, you have made the decision to become part of a nationwide network of over 2.6 million members. These members have all taken the decision to make a difference in their community and make their area a safer and stronger place to live, by working together to look out for their neighbour's and their property.

Part of joining our network of coordinators across the Royal Borough of Greenwich, is that you are fully supported with resources, signage and crime prevention information. We like to share our experiences and information with each other and, in doing so, allows us to share best practice and learn from each other.

***“Become part of the solution and make a real  
difference, one small step at a time”***

Across this guide, we will direct you through how to set up a scheme in your area. We know that this can be daunting and sometimes overwhelming, but we are here to support you. We will explain everything.

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# Understanding the Terms Used

## **A SCHEME:**

A scheme is what a watch is called. A scheme can be set up in a road, a building (block of flats) or an area (several roads joining together).

## **A COORDINATOR:**

Each scheme has a coordinator who acts as the key contact point for the scheme. They liaise with the police, scheme members and the general public – for instance, people who are interested in joining the scheme – as well as non-member residents when necessary. A scheme may have more than one coordinator as long as members and police know who the key contacts are. The coordinator ensures a smooth flow of information and communication between the police and scheme members

## **A MEMBER:**

A member is self-explanatory really, it's a member of the scheme.

## **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM (SNT):**

Greenwich's Safer Neighbourhoods Teams (SNTs) are dedicated ward-based police teams. There is one SNT for each of the 17 wards in the borough. Each team consists of police officers and police community support officers (PCSOs) and are dedicated to making your neighbourhood a safer place to live in, work in and visit. They listen and talk to you, and find out what affects your daily life and feelings of security. Their priorities are then set by the local community (Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels) and they work with you and other agencies to find a lasting solution.

The SNTs work with communities to tackle issues of concern identified by local people, residents and businesses. They work closely with Greenwich Council, other statutory partners and local voluntary groups to provide sustainable long-term solutions through effective problem solving. The officers on your SNT spend most of their time out on patrol in your neighbourhood, meeting the community and identifying and dealing those crimes and issues you have told them cause you most concern.

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Your SNT wants to hear from you. If your call is not answered, please leave a message on the answerphone or send them an email. A member of the team will get back to you. SNTs are not there to provide a 24-hour response, this is the role of response team officers. Response team officers do pass on information to SNTs as appropriate.

### **NATIONAL HOME WATCH NETWORK (NHWN):**

This is the National body of Neighbourhood Watch in the UK. They provide support and guidance to registered members. Part of the advantages of membership are:

- Permission to use the nationally recognised NHW logo
- Access to training
- Access to resources
- If you are holding an event, you are covered by Public Liability Insurance
- Reduced home insurance premiums, as a result of being a member of a registered scheme.
- Support

### **GREENWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK**

This is the Association for Greenwich Borough and it is run by volunteers, who are also their own scheme coordinators. There is a small committee and they meet regularly to provide support and guidance to existing scheme and help set up new schemes. Part of the committee's work is to work closely with partner agencies and maintain and develop Neighbourhood Watch in the borough. We maintain our website and various other social media accounts, Twitter and Facebook, as well as provide talks to resident groups and attend ward panel meetings across the borough.

### **SAFER GREENWICH**

This is the charity which runs our Safer Neighbourhood Board in the borough. Part of Safer Greenwich's role is to hold the police to account and help set priorities on a boroughwide level, to support Neighbourhood Watch and to promote and support schemes that their main role is reducing crime across the borough.

### **SAFER COMMUNITIES AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR TEAMS**

These are dedicated teams at the council that deal with the safety of the residents of the borough and work with the police and community to provide a safer place to live.

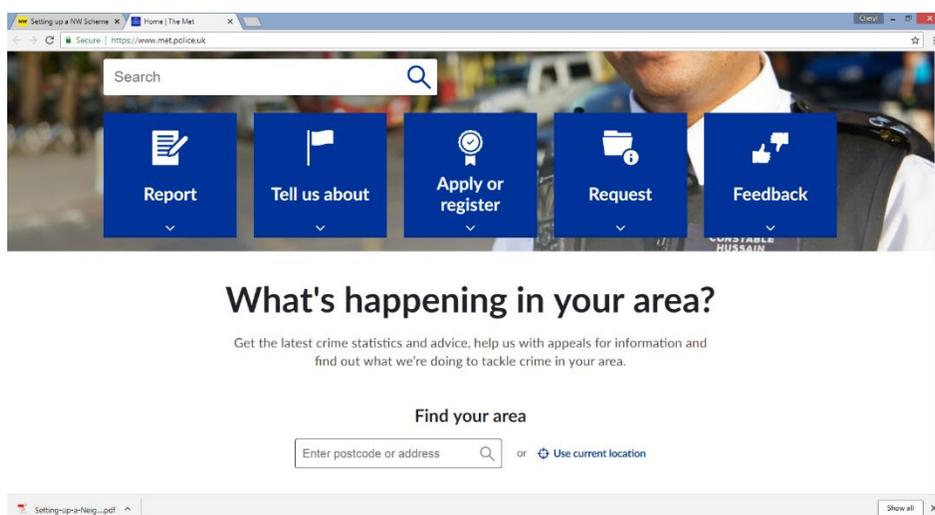
# Starting a scheme

Firstly you need to know if there already is a current scheme in your area, you can do this by contacting our website [WWW.GREENWICHNHWCNECT.ORG](http://WWW.GREENWICHNHWCNECT.ORG) and we can find out from our records.

When setting up a new scheme, you need to define where it is, i.e the road or block in which you live.

So, now you have that sorted, how about recruiting your neighbours to start with you and build a safer community where you live. Not everyone in your street or block needs to join a scheme in order for it to work. It will work as long as there are enough residents to keep an eye out for each other and to liaise with the police. Sometimes people contact their local SNT team and organise a residents meeting. We find this works well and our committee are always available to attend to provide guidance and support.

Contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team and let them know that you wish to start a scheme in your area, as the more effective scheme will be, so to find your local policing team, these are ward by ward (voting areas), so the best way of finding them is by visiting [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)



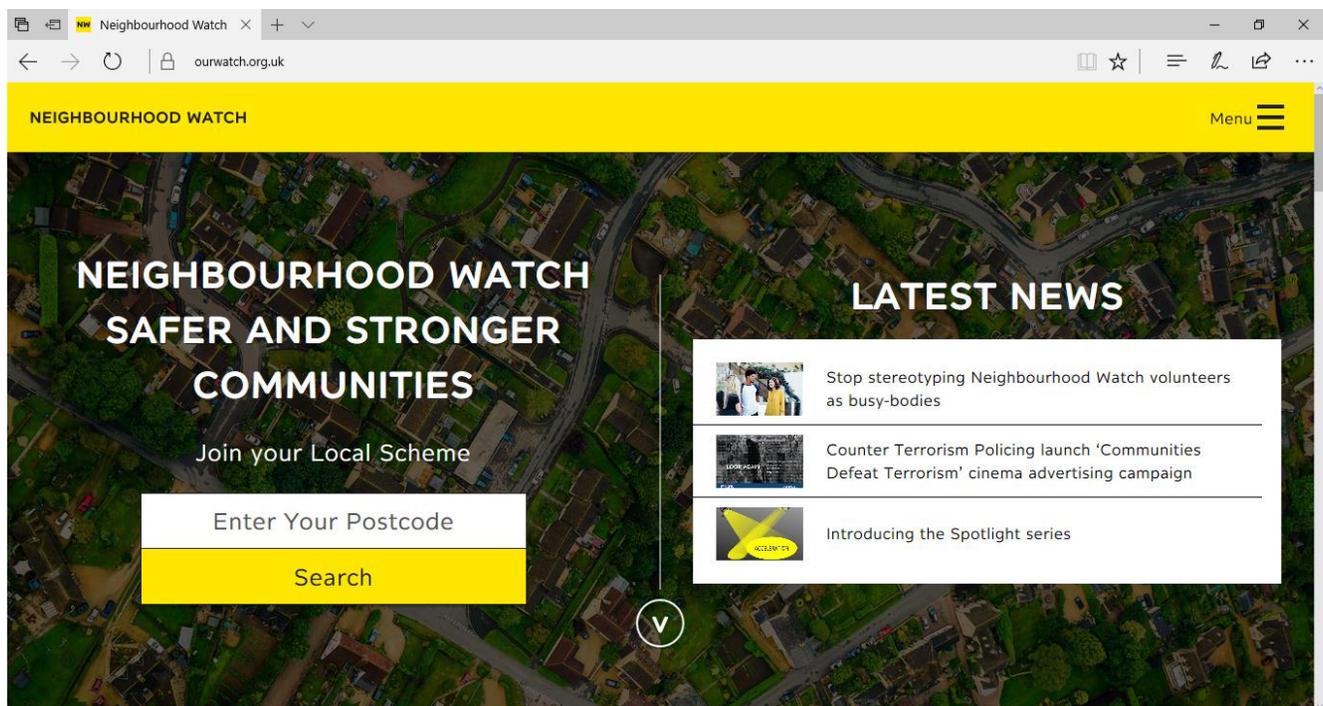
Scroll down to What's happening in your area? And you will find Find your area. Type in your postcode and details of your local policing team will be on the screen. If you scroll down the page, it will give you information about the Safer Neighbourhood Team in your area and contact details.

# LETS GET YOU REGISTERED

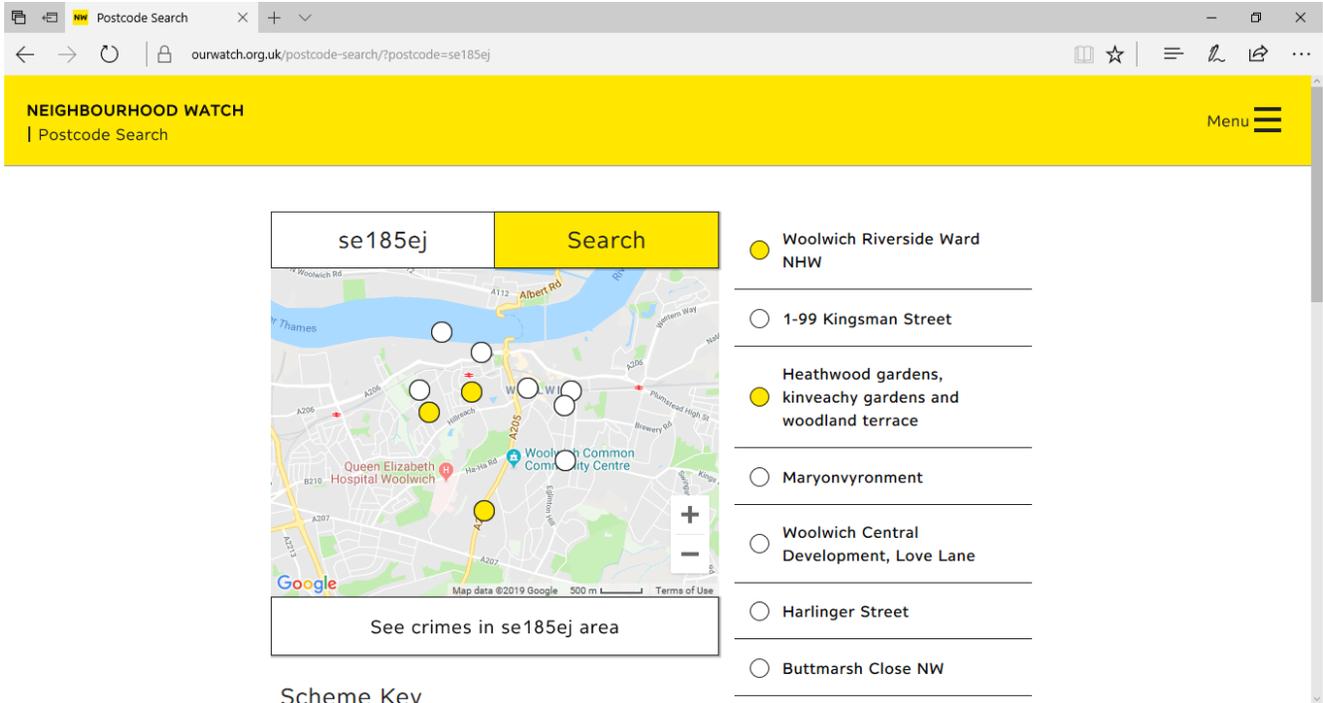
So you have a coordinator, you have members, you have let your SNT know that you have started a scheme, so what's next?

You need to register with the National Team.

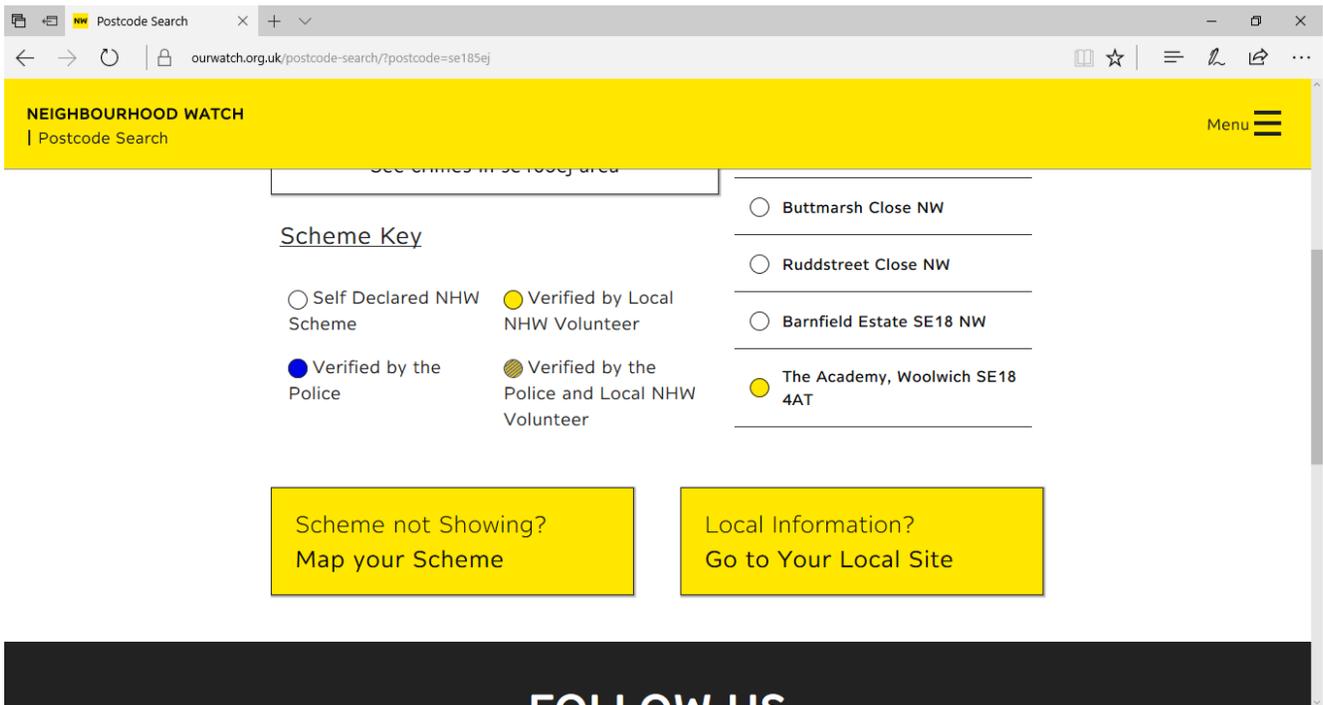
Go to [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)

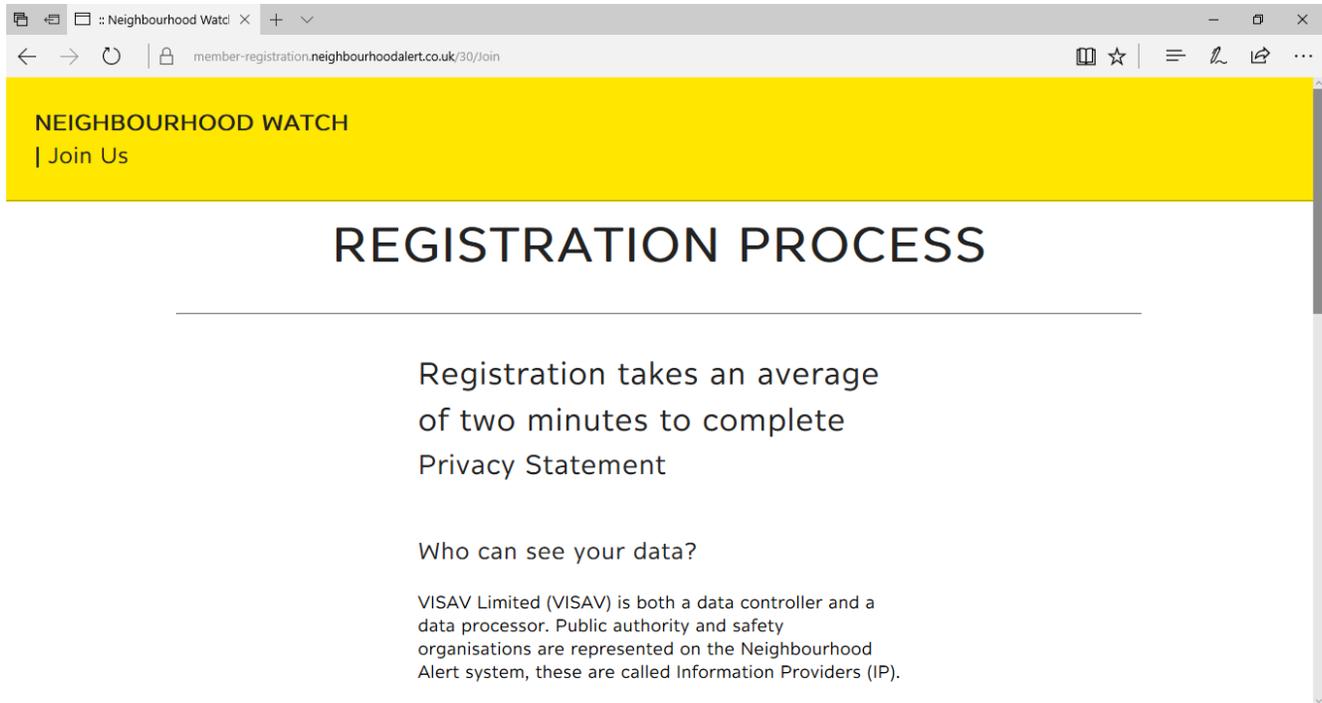


On the left hand side you can type in your postcode and click on SEARCH.



A screen will appear and show you current schemes in your area, as you are setting up a new scheme, if you scroll down you will come to SCHEME NOT SHOWING? MAP YOUR SCHEME. Click on this.





And then simply follow the instructions

## **FUNDRAISING:**

Many schemes get funding from the members themselves to cover the cost of newsletters, some schemes apply for funding from Ward budgets through their councillors etc.

## **SIGNAGE:**

Each scheme will get TWO signs per road, additional signs are available to purchase, at your own costs. We also provide window stickers. The funding for this for 2019 has been provided by MOPAC (Mayors Office for Policing And Crime) and in additional years we are aiming to get a local business to sponsor these.

***To order the signage, please visit our website and click on ORDER YOUR SUPPLIES HERE.***

## **ACTIVITIES & PARTNERSHIPS**

Traditionally, Neighbourhood Watch activities have focused on the immediate vicinity of homes, with members looking out for anything suspicious and helping their neighbours. However, more and more schemes are broadening their work to target a

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range of other problems such as cyber-crime, anti-social behaviour, vandalism and graffiti. When links are made with other local schemes and wider alliances are formed, the membership can become a powerful voice within a community and get actively involved in problem-solving.

Neighbourhood Watch is well-known to help reduce burglary, anti-social behaviour, doorstep crime and environmental problems. But criminals are no longer constrained by geographical boundaries, and in recent years there has been a steady rise in fraud and cybercrime.

Neighbourhood Watch is in a strong position to help tackle this kind of crime as well, by being a trusted source of information and support for people within their communities and keeping their eyes open for those who might be vulnerable. Victims of fraud and cybercrime might be embarrassed to confide in their families, or worry about losing their independence, and may not know that a crime has been committed or feel that they can't report it to the police. This is where Neighbourhood Watch members and coordinators can help.

As well as the police, Neighbourhood Watch schemes may also work with other agencies within their area who have an interest in reducing crime and building stronger communities. These may include Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), local authority environmental and social care teams, Trading Standards services, and Fire & Rescue services. You might also want to link up with other community groups like Residents' Associations and special interest or cultural groups.

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# **SCHEME SETUP CHECKLIST**

- **SETUP AN EMAIL ADDRESS**

We recommend that you set up a generic email address for your scheme. Such as [NWatchYOURROAD@gmail.com](mailto:NWatchYOURROAD@gmail.com) we can help you set one of these up

- **POST YOUR INTRODUCTION LETTER TO NEIGHBOURS**

We can email you a generic letter for introducing your scheme to your neighbours, a copy of this letter is in the pack.

- **HOLD A MEETING WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS**

Arrange a meeting to introduce yourself to your neighbours, we can help you with this and liaise with your Safer Neighbourhood Team to attend.

- **SIGN UP TO OUR WEBSITE**

Visit our website [www.greenwichnhwconnect.org](http://www.greenwichnhwconnect.org) and sign up for our newsletter and alerts. There is also a calendar for events, which we hold throughout the year. This also allows us to register your scheme with our Network.

- **ORDER YOUR SIGNAGE**

On our website there is a facility to order Window Stickers and Street Signage

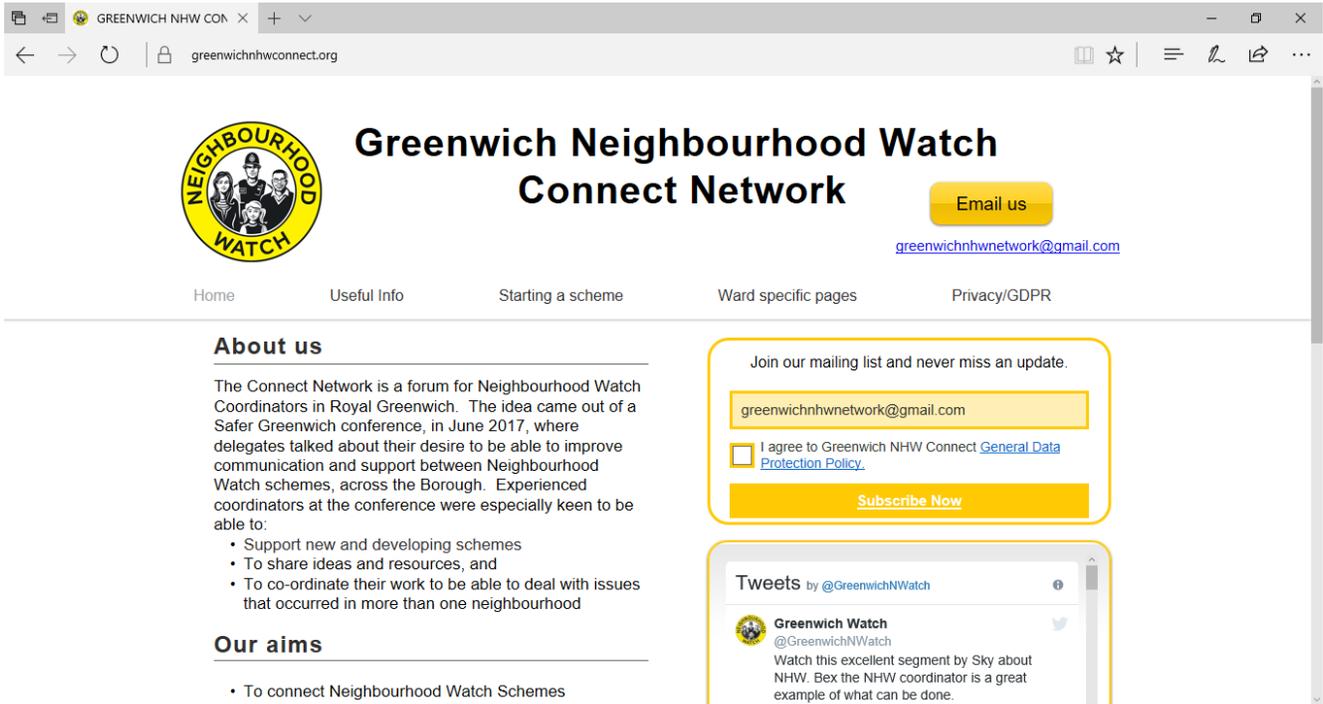
- **ATTEND OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

We hold an annual conference for our coordinators, this is usually held in September.

- **FIND OUT THE CRIME STATISTICS FOR YOUR AREA**

Visit [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) and find out the crime statistics for your area by road!! This is a really great way of finding out about what is happening in your area and you can communicate this to your members.

# Our Website



Our website is designed to hold as much resources and information that you can use to provide the best information to your members. There is an opportunity to join our mailing list and to become a site member.

There is also links to information about the wards that you live in and our partners details. There is an Events Calendar where several ward panels and events are listed.

The idea is that this website is a tool. It has a live Twitter feed as well.

***“It’s a tool for you and a great place to exchange information, building a NHW community”***



# Greenwich Neighbourhood Watch Network

Web: [www.greenwichnhwconnect.org](http://www.greenwichnhwconnect.org) Email: [greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com)

25<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Resident

**RE: CRIME AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN YOUR ROAD**

We have received reports from your local Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team that several neighbours in your road have informed them about crime in your area and would like to start a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

This letter is to establish if you would like to join the N.W. group and keep updated on policing and community safety issues. Neighbourhood Watch is passionate about providing a PROACTIVE approach to crime prevention and prides itself on its proven record of reducing crime by preventing it from happening in the first place.

Please can you email your neighbour at [NWatch#####@gmail.com](mailto:NWatch#####@gmail.com) if you would like to join the NW group for your road.

Response will be monitored for about a month and if your neighbour indicates that response was good from your area, then we can arrange for us and the local policing team to advise you of a date and venue for you to meet your new coordinator and discuss methods on how to tackle crime in your area.

Benefits of being part of a NW scheme include: Safer and Stronger community, discount on home insurance and discount on RING system.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us further.

**GREENWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK**

[greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com)



@GreenwichNWatch



Greenwich Watch

**SIGNAGE & LEAFLETS**

**THIS IS A**



**AREA**

[www.greenwichnhwconnect.org](http://www.greenwichnhwconnect.org)

**Be Part of The Solution**

Being a local resident means that you know the local area. You can play an important role in helping to reduce crime.

We need you...

**Neighbourhood Watch In Greenwich Borough**

**JOIN A SCHEME OR BECOME A COORDINATOR**

**Building a Stronger & Safer Community in Royal Greenwich**



**WEBSITE:**  
[www.greenwichnhwconnect.org](http://www.greenwichnhwconnect.org)



**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH FOR GREENWICH BOROUGH**  
*SUPPORTING SCHEMES AND HELPING BUILD NEW ONES*

- **TWITTER:** @GreenwichNWatch
- **FACEBOOK:** Greenwich Watch
- **EMAIL:** [greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com)

NHW in Greenwich Borough has over 200 schemes. There are many people across the borough who work together with their neighbours to create a stronger and safer place to live.

Working in partnership with **Safer Greenwich**, **NNWN** and the **MET Police**, NHW in Greenwich is a community lead on Crime Prevention.

We offer support and advice to all our members

**[www.greenwichnhwconnect.org](http://www.greenwichnhwconnect.org)**

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# Useful Contact Details

## Greenwich Neighbourhood Watch Network

Website: [www.greenwichnhwconnect.org](http://www.greenwichnhwconnect.org)  
Email: [greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:greenwichnhwnetwork@gmail.com)  
Twitter: @GreenwichNWatch  
Facebook: Greenwich Watch

## Metropolitan Police

Emergency: 999  
Non-Emergency: 101  
Twitter: @MetCC to report crime 8am-10pm  
Website: [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)

## Antisocial Behaviour Team (Greenwich)

Telephone: 0208 921 4411/4422

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## **SNT POLICING TEAM PHONE NUMBERS**

<b>WARD</b>	<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>
ABBEY WOOD	020 8721 2286
BLACKHEATH & WESTCOMBE	020 8721 2635
CHARLTON	020 8721 2734
COLDHARBOUR & NEW ELTHAM	020 7161 9521
ELTHAM NORTH	020 8721 2637
ELTHAM SOUTH	020 8721 2636
ELTHAM WEST	020 8721 2716
GLYNDON	020 7161 8420
GREENWICH WEST	020 8284 5494
KIDBROOKE with HORNFAIR	020 7161 8420
MIDDLE PARK & SUTCLIFFE	020 8649 3538
PENINSULA	020 8721 2633
PLUMSTEAD	020 8721 2639
SHOOTERS HILL	020 8649 3540
THAMESMEAD MOORINGS	020 8721 2630
WOOLWICH COMMON	020 8721 2629
WOOLWICH RIVERSIDE	020 8721 2735