

COMMUNITY UPDATE

COVID-19



24/04/20



Since the on-set of the Coronavirus pandemic and particularly since the introduction of social distancing restrictions introduced on the 23rd March life has changed significantly across Suffolk. Our usually bustling towns and beauty spots are all but deserted and the normal interactions we value have disappeared.

Policing prides itself in planning for and dealing with a wide range of emergency situations and incidents many of which have a profound impact on individuals and communities. Whilst this current crisis is different to anything any of us have had to deal with before we have, as an organisation, put in place robust plans that will allow us to manage the demands placed on us and the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner are working hard to ensure we have the resources we need.

Suffolk Constabulary is here to protect its communities, respond to those individuals that need our help and to save life and prevent harm. Our officers, police staff, Special Constabulary and volunteers remain absolutely committed to serve in this way and at the

same time engage, encourage and where necessary enforce the government restrictions that are aimed at saving lives. I want to reassure you we will continue to be here when you need us.

The response to Covid-19 is a true partnership approach and we are working closely with other Public Services across Suffolk to respond to the outbreak in the most effective way we can and to ensure the best county response. It is by working together as agencies and as communities that we have the best chance to defeat this virus. I know the challenge of social distancing and how this becomes harder the longer we are asked to do so but there is no doubt that the public adherence to the rules have had a significant impact on infection rates and on the numbers, who have tragically died as a result of Covid-19. The way communities have come together to support each other has been so impressive and I would like to say thank you to parish and town councils and other bodies that have led and encouraged this so positively.

I ask for your continued support to comply with the restrictions that we all face and I am truly grateful to the vast majority of Suffolk's public for this compliance. It is of course frustrating that despite many heart wrenching accounts from NHS colleagues, that a small minority still choose to flout or ignore them and risk increased infection. As I have said above our approach is firstly one of engagement and encouragement through explaining but again please let me reassure you that we will not hesitate to make use of the powers we have been given when it is appropriate to do so.

So as a Constabulary we are here to support and protect and play our part to its fullest in beating the pandemic. We are as committed as ever to serve our communities across Suffolk, tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and to protect all those that need us.

You can contact us on 999 in an emergency or on-line or on 101 in non-emergency situations and please do visit our website and check our social media channels for regular updates.

Many thanks - **Temporary Assistant Chief Constable David Cutler**



CONTACT US THROUGH OUR
SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS



REPORT A COVID-19
BREACH AT [SUFFOLK.POLICE.UK](https://www.suffolk.police.uk)



YOU CAN TALK TO YOUR
LOCAL SNT