



Town Hall | 61 Newland Street | Witham | CM8 2FE
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witham.gov.uk

AGENDA

Meeting of: **Community Committee**

Date: **Tuesday, 18th February 2025** Time: **7:30 p.m.**

Place: **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Newland Street, Witham, CM8 2FE**

Members are hereby summoned to attend the above Meeting to transact the following business. Members are respectfully reminded that each item on the Agenda should be carefully examined. If you have any interest, it must be duly declared.

To be present: Councillors

L.	Barlow	(Chairman)	L.	Headley
P.	Heath	(Vice Chairman)	R.	Playle
E.	Adelaja		R.	Ramage
J.C.	Coleman		J.	Robertson
B.	Fleet		E.	Williams

Nikki Smith
Town Clerk
NS/GK/13.2.2025

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive and approve apologies for absence.

2. **MINUTES**

To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Committee held 11th November 2024 (previously circulated).

3. **INTERESTS**

To receive any declarations of interest that Members may wish to give notice of on matters pertaining to any item on this agenda.

4. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

An opportunity to enable members of the press and public present to comment.

Order Note: A maximum of 30 minutes is designated for public participation time with no individual speaker exceeding three minutes unless otherwise granted an extension by the Chairman under Standing Order 3(F) & 3(G).

5. ESSEX POLICE

An opportunity to receive any updates concerning local criminal matters and hear from any officers in attendance.

6. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

To receive a verbal report from the Town Clerk on matters arising.

7. POLICIES

(a) **Grant Awarding Policy**

To receive and review the Grant Awarding Policy attached at page 5.

(b) **Councillors' Grant Scheme Awarding Policy**

To receive and review the Councillors' Grant Scheme Awarding Policy attached at page 7.

8. PROJECT REVIEW FORMS

(a) **Friends of Witham St John CIC**

To receive a project review form from Friends of Witham St John CIC attached at page 10.

(b) **Witham Carnival Association**

To receive a project review form from Witham Carnival Association attached at page 13.

9. GRANT AID REQUESTS

(a) **Witham Boxing Club**

To receive and consider a request for grant aid funding from the Witham Boxing Club attached at page 18.

(b) **Friends of Witham St John CIC**

To receive and consider a request for grant aid funding from Friends of Witham St John CIC attached at page 24.

(c) **Witham Carnival Association**

To receive and consider a request for grant funding from the Witham Carnival Association attached at page 30.

(d) **Mill Lane Bowls Club**

To receive and consider grant funding from the Witham Bowls Club attached at page 36 .

10. COMMUNITY COMMITTEE INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND BUDGET REPORT

To receive the Community Committee Income and Expenditure report for the period up to November 2024 attached at page 42.

11. COMMUNITY EARMARKED RESERVES

- a) To receive an update on the Events EMR .
- b) To receive a request to open and vire funds to a Town Clock EMR

12. MEMBER'S MOTION REQUEST

To receive a Motion Request regarding Community Engagement from Councillor Jack Coleman, attached at page 44.

13. EVENTS UPDATE

To receive an events update attached at page 45.

14. STREET WARDEN'S REPORT

To receive the Street Warden's Reports for October 2024 to January 2025 attached at page 47.

15. SHOPS SAFE

To receive information on 'Shop Safe' attached at page 64.

16. SAFER STREETS SURVEY

To receive the results of the District Council's Safer Streets Survey attached at page 78.

17. SOCIAL MEDIA

To receive social media statistics attached at page 97.

18. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

At this point, the Chair will move the following resolution: Under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 S.1(2) and in accordance with Standing Order 3(d), the press and public should be excluded from the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

19. INFORMATION CENTRE

To receive a report from the Information Centre Manager attached at page 98.

20. IMPROVING HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN WITHAM WORKING GROUP

To receive the Minutes for the Meeting of the Improving Healthcare Facilities in Witham Working Group held 13th November 2024 attached at page 102.

21. CHARTER MARKET

To receive a verbal report regarding the Charter Market.

Grant Awarding Policy

Agenda Item 7(a)

Policy Overview

Witham Town Council aims to direct funding towards projects and services that work in partnership with the Council's funding priorities.

Eligibility

The following groups may apply for funding from Witham Town Council-

- Voluntary Organisations
- Welfare Organisations
- Cultural Organisations
- Not for Profit Organisations
- Sports Organisations
- Social Organisations

Please note that applications from amateur boxing clubs and martial arts organisations can only be considered if the application organisation is affiliated to the sport's appropriate governing body.

Applications can only be accepted if the following stipulations are met-

- The Responsible Financial Officer must be satisfied with the accounts and financial status of the applicant.
- There will be a sliding scale of matched funding required.
Applicants must have raised the appropriate amount of the total cost of the project elsewhere before an application is submitted. This can be through matched funding, fundraising or from grant applications from other sources.
For grants over £5,000 – 50% of matched funding will be required of the total project cost.
For grants between £250 & £5,000 – 25% will be required of the total project cost.
Micro funding of less than £250 will not require any matched funding.
- The applicant has signed to indicate that they will complete a grant reporting form within 6 months of the completions of the project.
- Monies will be paid directly into the organisation's bank account.

Funding Priorities

The council will only fund applications that help tackle the following priorities-

- Regeneration
- Community Health
- Community Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Community Development
- Investing in Young People
- Provision of Transport Interlinking with Other Funding Priorities

- Improving Services for Older People
- Environmental Sustainability

The Application Process

Applications will only be accepted in the correct format.

If an application is found to be incomplete or requested documents have not been provided, the form will be sent back to the applicant and no further action will be taken until it is returned complete.

Applications can be submitted at any time and once reviewed by officers will be included on the agenda of the next appropriate meeting.

Funding is considered on the order in which applications are received and will be funded up to the maximum budget in any one financial year.

Applicants will be notified once their project has been voted on by committee and if an application has been unsuccessful the reasons why funding has not been offered will be outlined. As all committee meetings are held in public applicants are able to attend the relevant meeting if they so wish.

If an application is successful, funding will be offered as a direct cash grant. The Committee may attach special conditions to a grant, which must be fulfilled before any payment can be made, and grants may be paid in stages over a period as a project progresses and evaluation and monitoring procedures take place.

If the total amount of requested grants exceeds the budget, priority will be given to those who have not previously received a grant

Evaluation and Monitoring

Applicants will be expected to submit a completed Project Review Report within 6 months of receiving the grant funding. This is used to evaluate and assess the benefits of providing grant funding to the community.

If further information regarding any aspect of the Council's Grants Policy is required, please contact JJ Reeve, Finance Assistant, on 01376 520627 or finance@witham.gov.uk

Agreed at Minute 62, Community Committee Meeting held 28.2.2022

Reviewed: 20.2.2025

Review Date: February 2026

POLICY NO: WTC/045 – COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

[Back to Agenda](#)

Councillors' Grant Scheme Awarding Policy

Policy Overview

Witham Town Council is committed to supporting local community projects that enhance the lives of residents

Each Councillor is allocated £500 per year to fund projects that benefit their ward. This scheme is designed to be straightforward and accessible for community groups.

Eligibility

Who Can Apply?

Eligible groups include:

Registered Charities

Constituted 'not for profit' Community or Voluntary Groups

Social Enterprises

Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committees

Schools (for community-benefiting projects)

Who Cannot Apply?

Ineligible groups include:

Informal Groups

Individuals

Private Businesses

Profit-making organisations

Grant Details

- **Grant Amount:** Each Councillor can award between £100 and £500 for each project.
- **Funding:** 100% funding is available; no match funding is required.
- **Application Timing:** Applications can be submitted at any time.
- **Decision-Making:** Your local Ward Councillor(s) will recommend grant requests for approval. Contact details for your Ward Councillor can be found at www.witham.gov.uk/councillors.
- **Multiple Contributions:** Several Councillors can contribute to a single project, allowing for larger grants.

- **Project Location:** Councillors may fund projects outside their ward if it benefits residents within their ward.
- **Funding Duration:** Grants must be spent within 6 months of approval, with a possible extension to 12 months in certain cases.

Application Process

To apply, your organisation must:

- Be a formally governed 'not for profit' organisation with a written governing document (e.g., Constitution, Trust Deed).
- Have a UK bank account in the organisation's name.

Eligible Expenditure

Grants can fund:

- Capital costs (e.g., building improvements, playground equipment)
- Revenue costs (e.g., salaries, training fees)

Ineligible Expenditure

Grants cannot fund:

- Recoverable VAT
- Depreciation
- Bank charges or loan repayments
- Retrospective costs
- Projects that primarily benefit individuals

Transparency and Reporting

- **Publicity:** All awards will be published on the council's website, with no personal information disclosed.
- **Monitoring:** Successful applicants must complete a monitoring form detailing project outcomes within 6 months of receiving the grant. Receipts for all expenditures must be provided.

Legal and Compliance

Organisations must comply with all relevant legal, health and safety, and safeguarding requirements. Projects should be accessible to all sectors of the community.

Additional Information

- **Data Protection:** The council will handle personal information in accordance with data protection laws.
- **Elections:** No grants will be processed during election periods.

- **Councillors Interests:** If it is felt that there is a conflict of interest with the Ward Councillor recommending the grant for approval and the beneficiary the grant will be refused.

By applying for a Councillors' Community Grant, applicants confirm that the information provided is accurate and that the grant will be used solely for the stated purposes. This streamlined policy retains the essential details while making it easier to read and understand. It focuses on clarity and accessibility for applicants, reducing the complexity of the previous version.

If further information regarding any aspect of the Council's Grants Policy is required, please contact JJ Reeve, Finance Assistant, on 01376 520627 or finance@witham.gov.uk

Agreed at Minute 62, Community Committee Meeting held 28.2.2022

Reviewed: 20.2.2025

Review Date: February 2026

POLICY NO: WTC/045 – COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

[Back to Agenda](#)

PROJECT REVIEW REPORTContact Details

1.	Name of your organisation	FRIENDS OF WITHAM ST. JOHN C.I.C.
2.	Primary contact name	PAULA FRANKLIN
3.	Primary contact telephone number	[REDACTED]
4.	Primary contact address	[REDACTED]
5.	Primary contact email address	[REDACTED]
6.	Position within the organisation	Chairperson

Project Details

7.	Project title	Friends of Witham St. John C.I.C.
8.	Project location	Spring Lodge, Powers Hall End WITHAM CMS 2HE
9.	Actual start and finish date	29.4.23 - 5 yrs lease 31/05/23 - 31/05/24
10.	What was the total cost of the project?	To date as attached
11.	Please breakdown exactly how the grant received from Witham Town Council was spent	As listings attached Running Costs of hall, + repairs Since our audit we have had to pay for a new motor to the garage Roller Shutter door £1644-00 We have an estimate of repair for Emergency Light £298 + VAT.

Our boiler is 16 yrs old, serviced regularly,
Bank statement was at 31/12/24
£5599-70

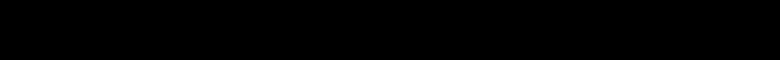
12.	If there are any discrepancies between how the grant was spent and what was on the application form please explain why	This is an ongoing Project and at any given moment we could be liable for a new boiler or repairs for damage to the building We had to repair the Motor to the Rotter Shutter Door of the Garage & trees etc harboured.
13.	Do you believe that the project was a success? If so how was this success measured?	A total for us and the Community. The Division are back at their H.Q. where equipment is stored We are holding our Meetings and exams plus First Aid Courses for the Public and Training for local Organisations besides covering Events locally and further afield
14.	How many people benefited from this project both directly and indirectly?	Besides our immediate Division, the community of Witham, Tiptree, Hatfield several and duties outside our area

15.	What lessons do you feel were learnt during this process?	<p>That despite^{that} our Volunteers are working for nothing, we are still a commercial Enterprise so all standing Charges are increased and that - we are subject to Corporation Tax!</p> <p>Witham Town Council and B.D.C. & Priti Patel, are still very supportive, That there are still good people willing to give up their time for the Community</p>
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Name..... PAULA FRANKLIN

Position within the organisation..... Chairperson

Telephone number..... 

Email address..... 

Signature.....  22.01.25.

[Back to Agenda](#)



PROJECT REVIEW REPORT

Contact Details

1.	Name of your organisation	WITHAM CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION
2.	Primary contact name	SANDRA HOWELL
3.	Primary contact telephone number	[REDACTED]
4.	Primary contact address	[REDACTED]
5.	Primary contact email address	[REDACTED]
6.	Position within the organisation	VICE CHAIR TREASURER

Project Details

7.	Project title	WITHAM CARNIVAL
8.	Project location	1) 1-DAY STREET CARNIVAL WITH ENTERTAINMENT IN PARK. 2) REPRESENTING WITHAM AT OTHER CARNIVALS
9.	Actual start and finish date	1) 1 DAY 13 th JULY 2024 2) YEARLY JULY TO JULY
10.	What was the total cost of the project?	£14,000
11.	Please breakdown exactly how the grant received from Witham Town Council was spent	PLEASE SEE ATTACHED BID BREAK DOWN. THE GRANT GOES TOWARDS MOST THINGS ON LIST, EXCEPT ANYTHING INVOLVED FOR THE QUEEN & COURT.

12.	If there are any discrepancies between how the grant was spent and what was on the application form please explain why	None that I am aware of.
13.	Do you believe that the project was a success? If so how was this success measured?	YES, IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. THIS IS MEASURED BY THE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE LINING THE STREET AND THE HUNDREDS WHO COME INTO THE PARK TO WATCH THE ENTERTAINMENT
14.	How many people benefited from this project both directly and indirectly?	THE PEOPLE OF WITHAM BENEFIT FROM AN ENJOYABLE EVENT. THE REPUTATION OF WITHAM BENEFITS FROM THE COURT VISITING OTHER TOWNS AND TAKING PART IN COMPETITIONS ETC. THE STALL HOLDERS BENEFIT FROM PEOPLE SPENDING MONEY ON THEIR GOODS - BUSINESSES IN WITHAM BENEFIT FROM MORE PEOPLE IN THE TOWN. ESPECIALLY EATING & DRINKING PLACES

15.	What lessons do you feel were learnt during this process?	<p>THERE ARE ALWAYS LESSONS TO BE LEARNED. THERE NEVER SEEMS TO BE ENOUGH MARSHALS ON THE DAY. ANGRY MOTORISTS WHO SAY THEY DIDN'T KNOW A CARNIVAL WAS HAPPENING (NOT TRUE AS SIGNS ARE ERECTED APPROX. 2 WEEKS AHEAD. WE INTEND TO ADVERTISE EARLIER FOR MORE MARSHALS AND HELPERS ON THE DAY</p>
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Name..... SANORA HOWELL.....
Position within the organisation..... VICE CHAIR / TREASURER.....
Telephone number..... [REDACTED].....
Email address..... [REDACTED].....
Signature..... [REDACTED].....

**WITHAM CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION
CARNIVAL DAY – SATURDAY 13th JULY 2024**

Breakdown of expenses likely to be incurred for Witham Carnival Day on Saturday 13^h July 2024

Hire of PA System	600.00 (estimate)
PAT testing electrics on float	100.00 (estimate)
Portaloos – in Park	500.00 (estimate)
Presentation Trophies & Engraving	400.00 (estimate)
Provisions for Visitors	500.00 (estimate)
Van Hire	100.00 (estimate)
Annual Insurance (for £5,000,000 cover)	1200.00 (estimate)
Special Events Licence	150.00 (estimate)
Hire of park	80.00 (estimate)
PRS License	80.00 (estimate)
Braintree District Council (processing charge for road closures)	450.00 (estimate)
Marching Band	400.00 (actual)
Scottish Piper	200.00 (estimate)
Punch & Judy	200.00 (estimate)
Main Arena Events	800.00 (estimate)
Procession Professional Entertainers	2500.00 (estimate)
First Aiders – attendance on Carnival Day	300.00 (estimate)
Hire of Public Hall for Selection & Presentation Evenings	550.00 (estimate)
Hire of Football Club for visiting Queens Teas Carnival Day	100.00
Disco for Selection & Presentation Evenings	300.00 (estimate)
Dresses, Capes, Crowns, tiaras etc For Queen and Court	800.00 (estimate)
Petrol/Diesel for vehicle towing float & chaperone's car	700.00 (estimate)
Secretarial Expenses – Ink cartridges, paper, stamps etc.	200.00 (estimate)
Computer host, domain and webmaster fee	200.00 (estimate)
Garage Rental for storing float	650.00 (estimate)
Total Estimated Expenses	£12360.00

Community Committee Agenda - 18th February 2025
WITHAM CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION
CARNIVAL DAY – SATURDAY 12th JULY 2025

Breakdown of expenses likely to be incurred for Witham Carnival Day on Saturday 12^h July 2025

Hire of PA System	600.00 (estimate)
PAT testing electrics on float	100.00 (estimate)
Float Repairs	1500.00 (estimate)
Portaloos – in Park	500.00 (estimate)
Presentation Trophies & Engraving	400.00 (estimate)
Provisions for Visitors	500.00 (estimate)
Van Hire	100.00 (estimate)
Annual Insurance (for £5,000,000 cover)	1200.00 (estimate)
Special Events Licence	150.00 (estimate)
Hire of park	80.00 (estimate)
PRS License	80.00 (estimate)
Braintree District Council (processing charge for road closures)	450.00 (estimate)
Marching Band	400.00 (actual)
Marching Band 2	600.00 (actual)
Scottish Piper	200.00 (estimate)
Main Arena Events	1000.00 (estimate)
Procession Professional Entertainers	2500.00 (estimate)
First Aiders – attendance on Carnival Day	300.00 (estimate)
Hire of Public Hall for Selection & Presentation Evenings	700.00 (estimate)
Hire of Rugby Club for visiting Queens Teas Carnival Day	100.00 (actual)
Disco for Selection & Presentation Evenings	400.00 (estimate)
Dresses, Capes, Crowns, tiaras etc For Queen and Court	1000.00 (estimate)
Petrol/Diesel for vehicle towing float & chaperone’s car	800.00 (estimate)
Secretarial Expenses – Ink cartridges, paper, stamps etc.	200.00 (estimate)
Computer host, domain and webmaster fee	300.00 (estimate)
Garage Rental for storing float	800.00 (estimate)

Total Estimated Expenses **£14960.00**

[Back to Agenda](#)



GRANT FUNDING SCHEME APPLICATION FORM

Contact Details

1.	Name of your organisation	Witham Community Boxing Club
2.	Primary contact name	Rosie Welch
3.	Primary contact telephone number	[REDACTED]
4.	Primary contact address	3D Perry Way, Witham, Essex, CM8 3SX
5.	Primary contact email address	withamcbc@hotmail.com
6.	Position within the organisation	Welfare Officer

Financial Background

7.	Please state the nature of your organisation (circle those that apply) and include a copy of the minutes of your latest AGM.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voluntary organisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sports Organisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not for Profit Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify).....
8.	Organisation Address	3D Perry Way, Witham, Essex, CM8 3SX
9.	Registered charity number if applicable	N/A
10.	What year was your organisation formed?	2024
11.	Please describe the main activities of your organisation and any services you provide to the community	Witham CBC is a new, community boxing club, offering: Amateur Boxing - England Boxing Affiliated Beginners No Contact Boxing Adults Boxing Ladies Only Boxing
12.	How many committee members/paid staff/volunteers are involved in the running of your organisation?	6 volunteers, no paid staff
13.	Does your organisation have a registered bank account in its name?	Yes

14.	What is your organisations average yearly income?	TBC - £25,000
15.	What is your organisations average yearly outgoings?	TBC - £20,000
16.	Have you applied for a grant from Witham Town Council in the past? If so when and how much?	No

Project Details

17.	Project title	Witham Community Boxing Club
18.	Project location	3D Perry Way, Witham, Essex, CM8 3SX
19.	Anticipated start and finish date	January 2025 - ongoing
20.	Description of project	<p>In November 2024 a team of volunteers set up Witham's first community boxing club. The club is open 4 nights a week from 5pm - 9pm offering a range of sessions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Witham Warriors for ages 5 - 9 - Beginners for ages 10 - 14 - Amateurs for ages 10+ who are carded or wanting to compete - Mixed adults, and - Ladies only <p>The club is affiliated to England Boxing and the set up has been funded by £24,000 from the club volunteers.</p> <p>We would like to apply for a grant from Witham Town Council to enable us to buy some additional equipment for the club as outlined in the section below.</p> <p>We have also asked for support covering our rent for one quarter, this will enable us to use the club funds for that quarter to build up some reserves to help parents and competitors cover the costs associated with competing.</p>
21.	What evidence do you have that this project is needed by the local community?	<p>According to national health data Witham has high levels of depression, loneliness, childhood obesity and in some area's violent crime. A community boxing club would help address these issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Witham, is a mid-Essex commuter town that has grown rapidly in size and has seen an increase in crime and anti social behaviour. There is little in the town to keep children and young adults busy. - The closest boxing gym is in Maldon a7-mile journey (20 minutes by car or 55 minutes by bus). In Witham 20% of households do not own a car (2021 Census Data). -The overall crime rate in Witham in 2023 was 89 crimes per 1,000 people. This is 5% higher than the Essex rate of 84 per 1,000 people. Witham has a high incidence of possession of weapons offences (Police UK). Witham scores lowly on the Community Needs Index. The Index was developed to identify areas experiencing poor infrastructure, isolation and low levels of participation in community life.

<p>22.</p>	<p>The council prioritises applications that meet one or more of the criteria detailed in the accompanying policy. Please explain all those you meet and why?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing in Young People <p>22% of the Witham population are aged 17 or under. The Essex Violence and Vulnerability (VVU) Listening Report 23/ 24 highlighted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Having trusted adults around (10%) and being at a youth club or organised activity (6.8%) are two things that help young people feel safe. - When asked where they feel safest, at a youth or sports class was the second most popular answer (after home). -Over 50% of young people in Essex said they would like to see more sports activities available to them. <p>Witham Community Boxing Club provides a safe and inclusive environment for young people to train, learn new skills and make friends. It provides a constructive outlet for people to focus their energy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Health <p>Boxing clubs bring communities together and help people from all walks of life become fitter, healthier, more resilient and happier. 2018/19 Data from the Active Essex LDP Pilot showed that 23.5% of the Essex population were inactive, at a cost of £179.065,097 per year. As highlighted earlier in the document there isn't a boxing gym in Witham and so the club will offer people more choice when considering physical activity.</p>
<p>23.</p>	<p>If the project reaches fruition what will the benefit be to the local community?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A community boxing club, offering an inclusive and accessible space for people to train, improving fitness, wellbeing and resilience. - The club provides a place for young people to go and learn new skills and focus their energy in a disciplined environment. - The new gym equipment will enhance the training on offer whilst the additional but essential training items (gloves, headguards etc that not all parents can afford to buy) will make the club more accessible to those that want to compete. - Finally attending competitions and shows can be costly particularly in regards to travel and in some instances, Boxcups for example, paying for accommodation. We don't want this to stop those that can't afford to cover these costs from competing so we would like to build up our reserves to help parents. This is where the rent support will help.
<p>24.</p>	<p>How will you ensure sustainability of the project?</p>	<p>We will use the funding to expand our equipment offer.</p> <p>The main costs of setting up the gym have already been covered from personal funding - through the volunteers.</p> <p>Funding from Witham Town Council will allow us to get some additional items for the gym without taking any money out of the club.</p> <p>Money from members attending sessions is put back into the club for future use and to cover running costs thereby ensuring sustainability.</p>

25.	How will you measure success?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback from club attendees on their health and wellbeing, gathered pre funding and 6 months after funding by club volunteers. - Participation numbers for sessions. - Demographics of competitors (i.e has there been an increase in the number of people competing because the club has been able to support them with competition costs if needed).
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Funding Specifics

26.	What is the total project cost?	£36,000 for the start up of the Community Boxing Club. The majority of which has been self-funded by the club with on-going costs covered by session charges.
27.	Please state the total amount of grant required from Witham Town Council	£8,325
28.	Please break down exactly how this will be spent and include 2 quotes supporting this breakdown and showing best value.	<p>1. Additional fitness equipment for the gym (prices correct as of 30 December 2024 on www.geezersboxing.co.uk and compared with equivalent equipment on www.boxfit.com):</p> <p>Medicine balls 7kg x 10 - £400 Medicine balls 5kg x 3 - £105 Medicine balls 3kg x 3 - £90 Free-standing punch bag - members currently share bags and we would like the option of having an additional one. Having a freestanding bag will enable us to take it to schools/ community groups/ local events if required - £800</p> <p>3. Additional training wear to take the pressure off of parents/ members to buy them (prices correct as of 30 December 2024 on www.geezersboxing.co.uk and compared with equivalent equipment on www.boxfit.com)</p> <p>Gloves x 10 - £650 Groin guards x 4 - £160 Competition Approved Head Guards x 4 - £440 Branded Competition Kit - £1000</p> <p>4. Rent assistance for 1 quarter - this will allow us to build the club funds to support parents with travel and accommodation costs associated with competitions - £4,680</p>

29.	How much has been raised so far for this project?	£24,000
30.	Please detail any funding that will be given 'in kind'	N/A
31.	Please give details of how the balance of funding required will be sourced	<p>The club has set itself up and purchased the essentials needed to open and be granted England Boxing affiliation.</p> <p>On-going year 1 costs (we opened on 1 December 2024) and additional equipment will be funded through members paying for their sessions and through continued applications for grant funding. We will also be seeking sponsorship from local businesses and have 2 interested to date with discussions on-going.</p>
32.	How many people will benefit from this funding being given, both directly and indirectly	<p>The club currently hosts 11 sessions per week for those aged 5 and upwards (no upper age limit). Each session has a capacity of 20 which means that approximately 200 people can benefit from the sessions directly.</p> <p>There will also be more indirect benefits felt by parents/ guardians and school professionals as children become fitter and healthier and their well-being improves.</p> <p>Having a place to go may encourage children off the streets and away from gangs, crime and anti social behaviour which again will have a positive impact on the local community.</p>

Public Engagement

33.	How do you publicise the services you offer?	<p>The club is promoted regularly through social media, we have also had an article in the Braintree and Witham Times with a follow-up planned in the New Year. We have started making contact with local schools and businesses and have been in touch with local councillors to make them aware of what the club has to offer. In addition we have a mailing list of over 200. The club also has a website which will launch in Jan 2025.</p>
34.	How will you make sure that your project reaches its intended targets	<p>Targeted promotion , we have already had a good take up from local people and would like to improve our offer further. We will continue to reach out to schools and relevant community groups and organisations.</p>

Referees

35.	Please include the names and addresses of two independent referees who are not members of your organisation but know of the group	<p>Reference 1</p> <p>Cllr Jack Robertson Witham Town Councillor cllr.j.robertson@witham.gov.uk</p> <p>Reference 2</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
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I understand that if the project changes in any way, I must inform the Finance Assistant immediately.

I understand that if a completed project review report is not sent to the Finance Assistant within 6 months of receiving funding that I may be required to repay all monies received.

I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant organisation and confirm that I have read, understood and accept the stipulations listed above and that the information provided in this application is accurate.

Name.....Rosie Welch.....

Position within the organisation.....Club Welfare Officer.....

Telephone number [REDACTED].....

Email address.....withamcbc@hotmail.com.....

Signature.....[REDACTED].....

[Back to Agenda](#)



GRANT FUNDING SCHEME APPLICATION FORM

Contact Details

1.	Name of your organisation	FRIENDS OF WITHAM ST. JOHN CIC
2.	Primary contact name	PAULA FRANKLIN
3.	Primary contact telephone number	[REDACTED]
4.	Primary contact address	[REDACTED]
5.	Primary contact email address	[REDACTED]
6.	Position within the organisation	CHAIRPERSON

Financial Background

7.	Please state the nature of your organisation (circle those that apply) and include a copy of the minutes of your latest AGM.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voluntary organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Organisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not for Profit Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify).....
8.	Organisation Address	SPRING LODGE (ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BUILDING) POWERS HALL END WITHAM. ESSEX CM8 2HE
9.	Registered charity number if applicable	-
10.	What year was your organisation formed?	2022
11.	Please describe the main activities of your organisation and any services you provide to the community	To manage the Hall so that the Witham/Tiptree Division can continue to meet here, to serve the community
12.	How many committee members/paid staff/volunteers are involved in the running of your organisation?	4 Volunteers - No salaries No Expenses
13.	Does your organisation have a registered bank account in its name?	Yes, Metro Bank One Southampton Row [REDACTED]

14.	What is your organisations average yearly income?	last yr £ 4000 + £3000 + Fundraising but now less due to SJA
15.	What is your organisations average yearly outgoings?	£6500 approx
16.	Have you applied for a grant from Witham Town Council in the past? If so when and how much?	yes 2022 £4000 & 2023 £4000

Project Details

17.	Project title	FRIENDS OF WITHAM ST. JOHN CIC
18.	Project location	SPRING LODGE, POWERS HALL END WITHAM CMR 2HE (ST. JOHN AMBULANCE)
19.	Anticipated start and finish date	23/05/22 5yr Lease
20.	Description of project	To manage the building costs utilities, repairs, insurances, tax liabilities, and as we have a self-repairing lease, pay for arbouring of trees etc repairs of forecourt if necessary, roof etc & have a contingency fund for Roof/Boiler. In order that the Division can meet, store First Aid Equipment, and undertake training of the Public
21.	What evidence do you have that this project is needed by the local community?	Many Events could not take place without First Aid cover being in place as required by their Insurers.

<p>22.</p>	<p>The council prioritises applications that meet one or more of the criteria detailed in the accompanying policy. Please explain all those you meet and why?</p>	<p>We support a Voluntary Organisation and are also active in the Division, we are a Voluntary Organisation, live in Witham and actively fundraise.</p>
<p>23.</p>	<p>If the project reaches fruition what will the benefit be to the local community?</p>	<p>The Division continues to serve both the local community and that of further afield. We have many events booked to cover this coming year, and have bookings from local organisations to train their staff and supporters. The more people who learn First Aid, the more benefit to the community.</p>
<p>24.</p>	<p>How will you ensure sustainability of the project?</p>	<p>By ongoing Fundraising. Spot Hire income from St. John Ambulance, which might not be forthcoming). Under the terms of our lease, the building is for the sole occupation of St. John Ambulance and we are not allowed to hire it out to Third Parties. By the Directors continuing to not take salaries nor expenses.</p>

25.	How will you measure success?	<p>St. John Ambulance Organisation closed down 117 Divisional Headquarters around the country. With the support of Priti Patel and both Witham Town Council and Braintree District Council we are now in our 3rd year of occupying the property that we were cast out of by STA. That in itself is a measure of success.</p>
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Funding Specifics

26.	What is the total project cost?	<p>so far £5343 + motor for garage door Total £6087 £1644</p>
27.	Please state the total amount of grant required from Witham Town Council	£3500
28.	Please break down exactly how this will be spent and include 2 quotes supporting this breakdown and showing best value.	<p>Audited Accounts submitted The money is needed for ongoing running costs, and repairs. Unfortunately we are viewed as a commercial Enterprise so our tariffs are higher. We pay to insure Building and Contents, although BDC charge a peppercorn rent Just paid out £1644 for new motor for roller shutter door on the garage.</p>

29.	How much has been raised so far for this project?	ongoing - T.C. grant - Spot Hire as attached (only in the past)
30.	Please detail any funding that will be given 'in kind'	We don't take any money at all, we cut the grass, clean the building, provide all cleaning materials for the Division and give up our time to deal with all paperwork as required. Both, Baverstocks & Brights Solicitors give their services free of charge.
31.	Please give details of how the balance of funding required will be sourced	By Grant Applications & Fundraising
32.	How many people will benefit from this funding being given, both directly and indirectly	The local and wider community

Public Engagement

33.	How do you publicise the services you offer?	The Division has a Facebook Page to give details of Training Events. We cover local events and give talks to organisations, and hold stalls
34.	How will you make sure that your project reaches its intended targets	We monitor closely our outgoings. Unfortunately, the Tax situation does not improve. 3 out of the 4 Directors are also Members of the Division who give their time and support to duties as well.

Referees

35.	Please include the names and addresses of two independent referees who are not members of your organisation but know of the group	<p>Reference 1</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div> <p>Reference 2</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div>
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I understand that if the project changes in any way, I must inform the Finance Assistant immediately.

I understand that if a completed project review report is not sent to the Finance Assistant within 6 months of receiving funding that I may be required to repay all monies received.

I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant organisation and confirm that I have read, understood and accept the stipulations listed above and that the information provided in this application is accurate.

Name..... PAULA FRANKLIN

Position within the organisation..... Chairperson

Telephone number.....

Email address.....

Signature.....

[Back to Agenda](#)



GRANT FUNDING SCHEME APPLICATION FORM

Contact Details

1.	Name of your organisation	WITHAM CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION
2.	Primary contact name	SANDRA HOWELL
3.	Primary contact telephone number	[REDACTED]
4.	Primary contact address	[REDACTED]
5.	Primary contact email address	[REDACTED]
6.	Position within the organisation	Vice Chair / Treasurer

Financial Background

7.	Please state the nature of your organisation (circle those that apply) and include a copy of the minutes of your latest AGM.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voluntary organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Organisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not for Profit Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify).....
8.	Organisation Address	AS ABOVE
9.	Registered charity number if applicable	N/A
10.	What year was your organisation formed?	1976
11.	Please describe the main activities of your organisation and any services you provide to the community	1) An annual carnival, with street procession, plus activities in the park 2) Representing Witham by supporting other carnivals. Taking part in their competitions
12.	How many committee members/paid staff/volunteers are involved in the running of your organisation?	Approx 12 unpaid committee members, who meet monthly. up to 20 volunteers on carnival day
13.	Does your organisation have a registered bank account in its name?	Yes

14.	What is your organisations average yearly income?	Depending on grants and donations Approx £12,000. Plus Street collection
15.	What is your organisations average yearly outgoings?	All of street collection given to local organisations & Most of grant spent.
16.	Have you applied for a grant from Witham Town Council in the past? If so when and how much?	Yes, every year except 2020 (Covid) In 2024 £8,000 was granted

Project Details

17.	Project title	Witham Carnival
18.	Project location	Procession through high street and Maldon Road Park
19.	Anticipated start and finish date	Saturday 12th July, start and finish various dates other carnivals
20.	Description of project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) AN ANNUAL CARNIVAL WITH STREET PROCESSION & ENTERTAINMENT IN THE PARK 2) A SELECTION DANCE FOR CHOOSING THE CARNIVAL QUEEN & COURT 3) A PRESENTATION EVENING FOR TROPHY WINNERS & BENEFICIARIES OF STREET COLLECTION 4) REPRESENTING WITHAM AT OTHER CARNIVALS AND COMPETITIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR 5) (WHEN POSSIBLE) SHOP WINDOW COMPETITION
21.	What evidence do you have that this project is needed by the local community?	<p>THE LARGE CROWD IN THE STREET AND SUBSEQUENT CROWDS IN THE PARK, ENJOYING THE ENTERTAINMENT AND FUNFAIR, ARE EVIDENCE OF HOW MUCH THE PEOPLE OF WITHAM ENJOY THEIR CARNIVAL.</p> <p>SINCE COVID LOCKDOWN THE CROWDS HAVE GOT BIGGER, WHICH WOULD INDICATE THE NEED FOR SPIRIT LIFTING EVENTS</p>

<p>22.</p>	<p>The council prioritises applications that meet one or more of the criteria detailed in the accompanying policy. Please explain all those you meet and why?</p>	<p>WITHAM CARNIVAL INVESTS IN YOUNG PEOPLE BY GIVING THEM THE OPPORTUNITY OF REPRESENTING THEIR TOWN. WE WATCH THEM GROW IN CONFIDENCE AND MATURITY BY GIVING THEM A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND PURPOSE. MAINLY OUR AIM IS TO GIVE A SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, TO ENCOURAGE FAMILIES HAVE FUN WHILE TAKING PRIDE IN THEIR TOWN. ALSO HOPEFULLY HELPING SHOPKEEPERS, PUBS & RESTAURANTS INCREASE REVENUE. BY ALLOWING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS HAVE FREE STALLS IN THE PARK WE SHOW THE PUBLIC WHAT WITHAM HAS TO OFFER</p>
<p>23.</p>	<p>If the project reaches fruition what will the benefit be to the local community?</p>	<p>WITHAM CARNIVAL OFFERS MANY BENEFITS TO THE TOWN. THE LARGE CROWDS BRING REVENUE TO LOCAL BUSINESSES. IT ALLOWS PEOPLE TO ENJOY A FAMILY OCCASION, WHILST HELPING RAISE FUNDS FOR LOCAL CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS IT FOSTERS A COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND PROVIDES A SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF WITHAM. WE ALSO LIKE TO THINK WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE FAMILIES OF OUR QUEEN AND COURT BY ENABLING THEM TO HAVE AN EXPERIENCE TO CHERISH & REMEMBER</p>
<p>24.</p>	<p>How will you ensure sustainability of the project?</p>	<p>THERE ARE MONTHLY COMMITTEE MEETINGS, OVERSEEN BY THE CHAIRMAN. THERE IS ALSO A COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT. FOR 2024/25 THIS IS COUNCILLOR PHIL BARLOW. THE CARNIVAL TREASURER IS USUALLY THE LIAISON PERSON FOR THE COUNCIL TO CONTACT REGARDING FINANCE</p>

25.	How will you measure success?	<p>SUCCESS IS USUALLY MEASURED BY THE AMOUNT OF REVENUE TAKEN ON THE DAY. BUT AS THE LAST 3 CARNIVALS HAVE BEEN FREE IT IS DIFFICULT TO GAUGE. PRESS REPORTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA HAVE BEEN OUR BEST GUIDE AND ALL HAVE BEEN POSITIVE.</p> <p>THE STREET COLLECTION IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT, WHEREAS MONEY COLLECTED USUALLY INDICATE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WATCHING</p>
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Funding Specifics

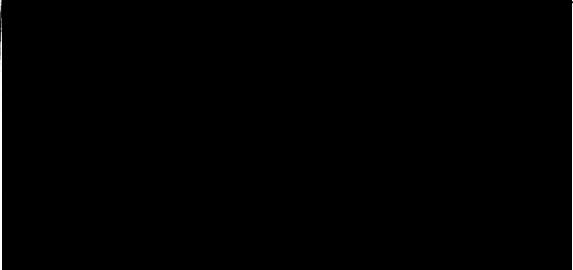
26.	What is the total project cost?	<p>APPROX. £13,000 BUT WE HAVE TO FIND AN EXTRA £1500 FLOAT REPAIR</p>
27.	Please state the total amount of grant required from Witham Town Council	<p>BECAUSE WTC HAS INDICATED YOU WOULD STILL LIKE US TO PROVIDE A FREE EVENT WE NEED TO REQUEST THE SAME AMOUNT OF £800</p>
28.	Please break down exactly how this will be spent and include 2 quotes supporting this breakdown and showing best value.	<p>SEE ATTACHED BREAKDOWN MOST OF WHICH IS ESTIMATED</p> <p>WE HAVE HAD SOME VERBAL QUOTES BUT NOTHING IN WRITING YET.</p>

29.	How much has been raised so far for this project?	WE TRY TO KEEP £3000 IN OUR BANK ACCOUNT IN CASE WE DON'T GET A GRANT
30.	Please detail any funding that will be given 'in kind'	YAXLEY HAIR & BEAUTY DOES GIRL'S HAIR ON CARNIVAL DAY SIMARCO SUPPLIES 6 LORRIES AND DRIVERS MICHELLE FLORIST SUPPLIES GIRLS BOUQUETS R.B.L LOANS US TABLES & CHAIRS
31.	Please give details of how the balance of funding required will be sourced	WE HAVE REGULAR DONATORS PRESLAND FAIR £500 YAXLEY HAIR & BEAUTY SPONSORS GIRLS DRESSES UP TO £500 USUALLY £500 FROM ONE OF THE ESTATE AGENTS THEN WE GO TO LOCAL BUSINESSES AND BUILDERS
32.	How many people will benefit from this funding being given, both directly and indirectly	POTENTIALLY THE WHOLE OF WITHAM, CERTAINLY MANY HUNDREDS IN THE STREET AND MANY HUNDREDS MORE IN THE PARK. OUR CONSTITUTION STATES THE STREET COLLECTION MUST BE GIVEN TO CHARITIES/ LOCAL ORGANISATIONS SO EACH YEAR AROUND 500 ORGANISATIONS BENEFIT

Public Engagement

33.	How do you publicise the services you offer?	WE HAVE OUR OWN FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEBSITE WE USE FREE ADVERTISING, LOCAL PRESS, LOCAL RADIO, SOCIAL MEDIA, WITHAM VOICE & WITHAM VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE LOCAL CHURCHES, LOCAL GROUPS NEARER THE TIME WE ASK SHOPS TO PUT UP POSTERS, AND WE USE ESTATE AGENTS BOARDS
34.	How will you make sure that your project reaches its intended targets	BY USING ALL OF THE ABOVE

Referees

35.	Please include the names and addresses of two independent referees who are not members of your organisation but know of the group	<p>Reference 1</p>  <p>Reference 2</p> <p>C. I. COBBLERS KIOSK 1 THE GROVE CENTRE WITHAM (SUPPLIER OF TROPHIES)</p>
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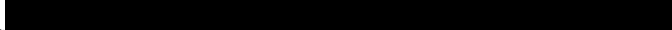
I understand that if the project changes in any way, I must inform the Assistant RFO immediately.

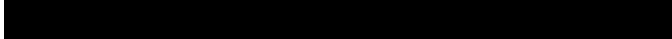
I understand that if a completed project review report is not sent to the Assistant RFO within 6 months of receiving funding that I may be required to repay all monies received.

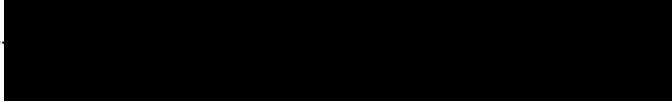
I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant organisation and confirm that I have read, understood and accept the stipulations listed above and that the information provided in this application is accurate.

Name..... SANDRA HOWELL

Position within the organisation..... TREASURER

Telephone numb 

Email address..... 

Signature..... 

[Back to Agenda](#)



GRANT FUNDING SCHEME APPLICATION FORM

Contact Details

1.	Name of your organisation	Witham Mill Lane Bowls Club
2.	Primary contact name	Knut Aabakken
3.	Primary contact telephone number	[REDACTED]
4.	Primary contact address	
5.	Primary contact email address	
6.	Position within the organisation	Greenkeeper

Financial Background

7.	Please state the nature of your organisation (circle those that apply) and include a copy of the minutes of your latest AGM.	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary organisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Sports Organisation</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Not for Profit Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify).....
8.	Organisation Address	Witham Mill Lane Bowls Club Mill Lane, CM8 1BP
9.	Registered charity number if applicable	
10.	What year was your organisation formed?	2012 when the members took over from BDC
11.	Please describe the main activities of your organisation and any services you provide to the community	We are a bowls club catering primarily for retired people
12.	How many committee members/paid staff/volunteers are involved in the running of your organisation?	We currently have 13 committee members, no paid staff, 2 members looking after the green and 1 member cutting the grass outside the green. In addition, several members are involved in workparties in the spring and autumn
13.	Does your organisation have a registered bank account in its name?	Yes, at Lloyds Sort code: 30-91-14 Account number: 01087238

14.	What is your organisations average yearly income?	Approximately £8000
15.	What is your organisations average yearly outgoings?	Approximately £8000
16.	Have you applied for a grant from Witham Town Council in the past? If so when and how much?	We applied for and got a grant for £998.80 in 2020

Project Details

17.	Project title	Clubhouse maintenance and website
18.	Project location	Witham Mill Lane Bowls Club
19.	Anticipated start and finish date	Start early April and finish early June 2025
20.	Description of project	<p>The project consist of 2 parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Repair soffitt, fascia, guttering and woodwork on the outside of the clubhouse 2. Design and create a website for Witham Mill Lane Bowls Club
21.	What evidence do you have that this project is needed by the local community?	<p>The clubhouse repair work will make the exterior of the clubhouse more attractive and safer for members and visitors to the club.</p> <p>The website will create exposure for Mill Lane Bowls Club showcasing the merit on physical and mental wellbeing by participating.</p>

<p>22.</p>	<p>The council prioritises applications that meet one or more of the criteria detailed in the accompanying policy. Please explain all those you meet and why?</p>	<p>Community health: Physical activity is very important for people of all ages and interacting with other people is very good for mental wellbeing.</p> <p>Lifelong learning: Learning to play bowls contain a lot of new skillsets. How to judge the line to take, how hard you have a throw the bowl and where to tactically aim for amongst them.</p> <p>Improving Services for Older People: Absolutely Yes as outlined above.</p>
<p>23.</p>	<p>If the project reaches fruition what will the benefit be to the local community?</p>	<p>It will help raising the profile of the club and attract new members which is vital to the future of the club. It will help showcase our club and give new bowlers a great first experience.</p>
<p>24.</p>	<p>How will you ensure sustainability of the project?</p>	<p>For the website we will carry the annual cost of hosting and maintenance. The building will be maintained and painted as necessary by club members</p>

25.	How will you measure success?	<p>If we increase the membership as a consequence of the website, that will be a success.</p> <p>If we prevent the clubhouse from disintegrating bit by bit, that will be a success.</p>
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Funding Specifics

26.	What is the total project cost?	£5295
27.	Please state the total amount of grant required from Witham Town Council	£3945
28.	Please break down exactly how this will be spent and include 2 quotes supporting this breakdown and showing best value.	<p>£3050 for clubhouse repair. We have 2 quotes for this and have chosen the cheapest even if more work are included in the more expensive quote</p> <p>£895 for website design. We have 2 quotes for this and have chosen the cheapest as this is the only one specifying what they will do.</p> <p>The rest of the total project cost, £1350, is materials the club have to provide and manpower contribution from club members.</p>

29.	How much has been raised so far for this project?	Nothing
30.	Please detail any funding that will be given 'in kind'	All manpower required will be provided by club members. This include specification of the website and testing the website to ensure that our specifications are met. Also included is the contribution of club members for the repair work as a club member must be present when the work is carried out. The club members will also do the painting after the work is done.
31.	Please give details of how the balance of funding required will be sourced	Please see point 30 above
32.	How many people will benefit from this funding being given, both directly and indirectly	We have 46 members in the club. In addition we have teams in the NWEBA league, the CMBL league, friendly matches and individual competitions against other clubs in singles, pairs, tripples and fours. The total numbers of players in our club exceeds 300 every year

Public Engagement

33.	How do you publicise the services you offer?	Local councillors sponsored our club last year and got an article in Braintree and Witham Times. The new website should help showcase Witham Mill Lane Bowls Club. Having an online presence is very important today.
34.	How will you make sure that your project reaches its intended targets	By having a well designed website which will be linked to the Bowls England website

Referees

35.	Please include the names and addresses of two independent referees who are not members of your organisation but know of the group	<p>Reference 1</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin-bottom: 20px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 30px;"></div>
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I understand that if the project changes in any way, I must inform the Finance Assistant immediately.

I understand that if a completed project review report is not sent to the Finance Assistant within 6 months of receiving funding that I may be required to repay all monies received.

I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant organisation and confirm that I have read, understood and accept the stipulations listed above and that the information provided in this application is accurate.

Name.....Knut Aabakken.....

Position within the organisation.....Greenkeeper.....

Telephone numbe [redacted]

Email address [redacted]

Signature... [redacted]

[Back to Agenda](#)

Month No: 8

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
300 Community							
1300 Information Sales Income	35,903	75,000	39,097			47.9%	
1310 Witham Festival Income	150	1,500	1,350			10.0%	
1311 Music Festival	695	1,500	805			46.3%	
1320 Teddy Bear's Picnic	50	50	0			100.0%	
1501 Dog Show	1,298	500	(798)			259.7%	
1509 Christmas Events	2,900	1,500	(1,400)			193.3%	
Community :- Income	40,997	80,050	39,053			51.2%	0
4301 Community Team PAYE/LGPS	46,488	87,505	41,017		41,017	53.1%	
4302 Events PAYE	329	0	(329)		(329)	0.0%	218
4303 Safer Streets PAYE/LGPS							
4305 Remembrance	782	1,000	218		218	78.2%	
4306 D-Day	1,756	2,500	744		744	70.2%	
4310 Silver Cinema	287	300	13		13	95.7%	
4315 Town Clock	0	1,500	1,500		1,500	0.0%	
4330 Music Festival	10,458	10,000	(458)		(458)	104.6%	
4340 Christmas Decorations	8,424	10,600	2,176		2,176	79.5%	
4345 Information Centre Purchases	27,244	65,000	37,756		37,756	41.9%	
4355 Information Centre Administrat	1,180	3,000	1,820		1,820	39.3%	
4360 Community Grant Aid	2,000	15,000	13,000		13,000	13.3%	
4365 Citizens Advice Bureau	5,000	10,000	5,000		5,000	50.0%	
4371 Community Safety	0	1,500	1,500		1,500	0.0%	
4372 CCTV	9,448	13,000	3,552		3,552	72.7%	
4373 Special Constable Expenses	2,226	5,000	2,774		2,774	44.5%	
4374 Special Constable Recruitment	223	1,000	777		777	22.3%	
4375 Other Community Support	450	1,500	1,050		1,050	30.0%	
4376 Halloween	1,375	2,200	825		825	62.5%	
4377 Easter Trail	260	1,650	1,390		1,390	15.8%	
4379 Witham Dog Show	2,446	0	(2,446)		(2,446)	0.0%	
4380 Witham Summer Events	29,194	25,500	(3,694)		(3,694)	114.5%	
4383 Twinning	525	2,000	1,475		1,475	26.3%	
4390 Christmas Events & Tree	3,453	4,000	547		547	86.3%	
4395 New Events Improvements	235	1,500	1,265		1,265	15.7%	
Community :- Indirect Expenditure	180,817	265,255	84,438	0	84,438	68.2%	27,252
Net Income over Expenditure	(139,820)	(185,205)	(45,385)				
7000 plus Transfer from EMR	27,252						
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(112,568)						

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2024

Month No: 8

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
Grand Totals:- Income	40,997	80,050	39,053			51.2%	
Expenditure	180,817	265,255	84,438	0	84,438	68.2%	
Net Income over Expenditure	(139,820)	(185,205)	(45,385)				
plus Transfer from EMR	27,252						
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(112,568)						

[Back to Agenda](#)



ITEM NO: 12

Councillor: Jack Coleman

Ward: South

Title: The Big Listen, Our Town - Our Future

Motion:

WTC should immediately embark on a programme of engagement with citizens of the Town, and Groups with legitimate interests, in order to:

Ensure the broadest possible involvement in determining the future of our town, the nature and powers of its Local Devolved Government, the necessary improvements in public services, especially Transport, the means of expanding employment opportunities, the rapid provision of local, self-sufficient, Health Facilities, Sports and Leisure Opportunities, and all those elements of social life that serve to enhance the quality of community well-being.

To this end, WTC should consider and agree upon as many direct engagements with the Townsfolk as possible, by whatever means are appropriate. However, the main emphasis should be on enabling as many members of our Community as possible to make their views and aspirations known to us so that we might better represent them.

It is therefore proposed that an engagement process be launched. As many opportunities to engage people as possible, in as many venues as appropriate, and through whatever media are appropriate, should be launched, with the sole purpose of listening and facilitating the exchange of views and ideas to inform ourselves in our deliberations better.

As the exercise progresses, the Council may invite particular common interest groups to occasional meetings with Members, no fewer than 4 at a time, to keep abreast of their concerns, needs, or ideas. These may be modestly catered, to encourage participation. Sports groups, the Clergy, Traders and Shopkeepers, Carers, and many others might have many interesting points to offer. It might even be possible to re-engage with representatives of our school students.

Supporting Information supplied by officers:

Pop-up stalls would normally re-start in Spring, but other face-to-face interactions could also be decided upon and set in the calendar. Members could also resolve themes for pop-up stalls rather than holding more generalised ones.

[Back to Agenda](#)



ITEM NO: 13

Officer Report: Events Update

Easter Trail

Our next event is the "Easter Trail" which is being held on Saturday 19th April 10am-4pm. We are going to release 600 tickets.

VE Day 80 Anniversary Event & Beacon Lighting

It is being encouraged that Town and Parish Councils light their beacons on Thursday 8th May 2025 to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. We parade from The Avenue with the Caledonian Marching Band to the River Walk where there will be a Mobile Bar and Fish & Chips stall along with the Essex Military Band. St Nicolas Church will ring the bells at 6.30pm.

We are also in talks with the RBL about providing afternoon tea on the 10th May 2025 for residents.

Witham Dog Show

This will be held on the River Walk by Chipping Hill, on Saturday 17th May 10am-3pm. We are actively looking for stalls to come along.

United In Music

This will be held on the River Walk by Chipping Hill, Saturday 14th June 3pm-10pm. We have booked the majority of artists and food stalls. Our next step is sending invitations to Witham community clubs.

Teddy Bear Picnic

This will be held on Thursday 7th August with lots of free activities for young children.

VJ Day 80th Anniversary Commemorative Event

RAFA club have agreed to hold at their club on Friday 15th August 4pm-10pm. Suggestion is that we hold a food festival with the possibility of adding entertainment. The RAFA will open their licensed bar.

Witham Street Entertainment Festival

Will be held on Saturday 20th September in Witham Town centre, the theme will be "ART".

Advice:

To receive and note.

[Back to Agenda](#)

Street Warden Report October 2024

Agenda Item 14

Today, the Town Clerk and I attended the Community Safety Scheme Day at Springfield Police Headquarters. The morning featured presentations from various police officers, each speaking on their areas of expertise. One officer discussed shoplifting and the measures the police are implementing to address it—a timely topic, given Witham's current struggle with shoplifting.

We took the opportunity to speak directly with the officer responsible for this initiative. He has agreed to visit Witham on October 18th to walk around, visit several shops, and talk with local businesses about the issue.

We also discussed implementing a town link radio system, which the officer agreed could be a possibility. He plans to discuss it further during his visit on October 18th, and a Special Sergeant is also expected to join us for the walk around Witham's shops.

In the afternoon, an awards ceremony was held, where I was honoured to receive the "Accredited Person of the Year 2024" award. It was a proud and humbling moment to be chosen from among many dedicated individuals. I received a beautiful glass trophy and a certificate, and the Town Hall was also recognised with an award, making it a truly rewarding experience.

Afterward, I visited some of the shops to discuss the town link radio system and inform them that a representative will visit on October 18th to engage with local shop owners. It was a productive and worthwhile day.

Yesterday, shoplifting incidents were reported at Boots, Savers, and Holland & Barrett. I ensured that all cases were reported to the police, as this is necessary for every shoplifting incident.

An enforcement officer from Braintree District Council collected additional CCTV footage related to fly-tipping behind the YMCA. A particular individual has fly-tipped at their rear entrance five times without attempting to notify them. The items left were broken, unusable furniture and general waste. This individual is scheduled to attend Causeway House next Tuesday, where he will be interviewed under caution and likely issued a £1,000 fixed penalty notice.

This morning, I spoke with local dog walkers around the Riverwalk area and reported a dumped chest freezer left at the entrance of Lockrams Lane. Braintree District Council has confirmed they will collect it next week.

Additionally, a man who claims to be homeless has been seen asking for money outside Peacocks. I spoke to him on Monday and escorted him to the train station, advising him to return to Braintree. I've informed the police, who are preparing an order to prevent him from begging in Witham. This individual is not homeless; he resides in a flat in Braintree and has similar orders in place in Braintree and Colchester.

Today, a female shoplifter in Savers acted aggressively toward an employee. The police were called, and officers reviewed CCTV footage and searched the area, as she was reportedly seen entering and exiting the Witham Hub throughout the day.

Lastly, I visited several shops in Witham to discuss the upcoming visit from a representative on October 18th. They will explore the option of establishing a police town-link radio network for stores, complementing the existing and successful WhatsApp group for local security updates.

I spoke with the Grove Shopping Centre manager about the police visit regarding the town link radio system. He plans to attend to meet the officers and ask any questions. I'll also bring up the town link radio system to the Newlands Street Shopping Centre manager.

I asked the manager at the library about recent issues with youths causing disturbances. They mentioned they're still experiencing some problems in the evenings, but now they report all incidents directly to the police. Additionally, I make daily visits, and the Witham Town Police team calls in when they're on duty.

On my walk along Riverwalk, I stopped by Maltings Academy and spoke with the safeguarding teacher as students left for the day. I also reported a discarded fridge and freezer left on a road in the Humber Road estate, which falls under East Light's responsibility. I provided them with the details, and they confirmed their rangers would remove the items.

I contacted Braintree District Council regarding complaints about restaurants on Lockrams Lane dumping waste behind their premises, including doors. This is attracting rats, and residents have started voicing their concerns. I also discussed this with the town clerk.

I also met with a homeless man who has been living in his car for the past year. Representatives from the United Reformed Church's House of Grace in Witham agreed to meet him.

This morning, I discussed recent issues with the special sergeant. Last evening, a group of young boys stole bottles of sauce from a shop and then squirted the sauce on Superdrug's windows and door. I asked Superdrug to file a report with the police and will request the shop to do the same.

I visited more stores across both shopping centres to inform them of the police visit scheduled for the 18th, where officers will discuss the town link radio system and address issues around shoplifting and staff abuse.

During a Riverwalk patrol, I spoke with local dog walkers about two youths riding electric bikes at high speeds on the paths. The police have been informed, as this poses a serious accident risk.

A known shoplifter was in town again and stole from Superdrug. The incident was reported via 999, but no police attended. Later, I went to the Methodist Church around 10:30 a.m., where I gave three food vouchers to two men and a woman who are currently homeless and staying in Maldon Road Park. The woman sometimes sleeps in her car. They expressed gratitude for the support as they seek additional help. They also receive aid from Bethel Church and occasionally visit the Well Café for food.

While at the Grove Centre, an elderly woman approached me, distraught over losing her purse while shopping. I retraced her steps and found the purse at Savers, where a young employee had turned it in. I returned it to the woman, intact with all her belongings, and she was immensely relieved.

Two policemen visited town today. We patrolled the High Street, checking in with various shops about recent shoplifting issues. We then walked through Maldon Road Park, where locals raised concerns about two young men selling items to others on electric bikes and riding at dangerous speeds along the paths and Riverwalk.

I also spoke with shop managers regarding an upcoming police visit to town on Friday. The lack of police presence in recent weeks has been a common concern. Today, we had two PC's, a PCSO and a WPCSO in town for the community surgery. The PCSOs stayed at the town hall while I patrolled with the PCs. We visited shops, walked through both shopping centres, and engaged with people in Maldon Road Park, including a group of men drinking in the park.

We stopped by the library to speak with staff about recurring issues with youths causing disruptions after school hours. Another PC from the Police Business Crime Team and Sergeant also visited, meeting with the Town Clerk and the Grove Shopping Centre manager to discuss shoplifting and antisocial behaviour by young people. Afterwards, both policemen and I visited shops to gather feedback. Many shop owners voiced frustrations over the limited police presence and delays in collecting CCTV footage after incidents. The policemen later raised these concerns with an Inspector at Braintree Police Station.

I also spent time patrolling with the. We visited Domino's Pizza and Asda, both of which have faced recent issues with youths gathering after school.

Today, children took waste bags from a bin and scattered them across the road and path. I picked them up and put them back in the bin. In Maldon Road Park, I encountered some kids being loud in the swing area. I spoke with them about keeping noise levels down for other park users.

After the PC's visit on Friday, shop owners were hopeful for increased police patrols in town and the potential for a town link radio system to enhance communication and support among stores, especially around shoplifting incidents.

Finally, I responded to a medical emergency at the United Reformed Church, where a 78-year-old woman collapsed, likely due to a heart attack. She regained consciousness, identified her angina condition, and was given a GTN spray and aspirin while waiting for an ambulance, which arrived after an hour. I spoke with her friends and ensured her daughter was informed of her condition.

Another PC joined me for patrols today. We walked along the Riverwalk, chatting with residents and dog walkers. Later, another PC and WPCSO joined us, and we reviewed CCTV footage from Tesco related to an incident last week.

Today, we visited the men's barbershop to speak with a lady who had taken a photo of a known shoplifter stealing from Boots earlier that morning. Following this, we went to the library to discuss recent issues caused by children on holiday. Due to increased disturbances, a security guard has been positioned at the entrance to prevent disruptive behaviour.

Our next stop was the Newland Street shopping centre, where we spoke to staff at Savers about an aggressive shoplifter frequently stealing from the store. She was spotted in town again today, shoplifting, so we hope police intervention will prevent further incidents.

We had four police officers on duty to address shoplifting and antisocial behaviour. I spent the morning patrolling with a police constable (PC), covering most of the town and river walk. In the afternoon, I continued with a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for additional visibility, sending a clear message to shoplifters and those engaging in antisocial behaviour. Police will return tomorrow, aiming to arrest a known shoplifter who has become increasingly hostile towards staff.

On Saturday, during the Halloween trail along the river walk organised by Witham Town Council, I engaged with families enjoying the event. I encountered a few youths near the duck pond who were interacting with the swans, likely guarding their young. The event was well attended and without incidents, with councillors and police present.

While patrolling Lockrams Lane, I reported a damaged television to Braintree District Council, which will be removed tomorrow. I also spoke with residents on Lawrence Avenue about concerns regarding youth behaviour and potential drug activity in the evenings. I informed a PC about this, who plans to monitor the area on his late shifts. I also shared this with the PCSOs on duty.

Later, we patrolled around the town, addressing disruptive youths in the shopping areas. We warned them that further issues would result in informing their parents. A visit to the library found it calm, although we were told of prior incidents. A known shoplifter was arrested on Saturday in Brentwood, held in custody, and is due to appear in court on Monday for theft and aggressive behaviour toward staff.

In Maldon Road Park, we received reports of children scattering dog waste bags from the bins, which seems to be a recurring issue this year. I visited the library again to support the security officer in handling three banned youths. Recognising me, they decided to leave peacefully.

I met with business owners in the East Ways industrial estate about various concerns. The Witham Industrial Watch does a commendable job managing issues in the area. I continued along the old railway line back to town and stopped by the Grove Shopping Centre, where I learned that a known shoplifter, currently on remand, had pleaded not guilty with a court case scheduled for December 18.

Finally, I spoke with local dog walkers at Spring Lodge about a man not picking up after his dog. I assured them I would patrol the area regularly to address this concern. A shoplifting incident at Tesco was reported on our WhatsApp group and forwarded to the police, whom I'll follow up with next time they're in town.

We encountered a recurring shoplifter in town, this time accompanied by children, which is concerning. Later, I headed to Asda, where another shoplifting incident had been reported on the local WhatsApp group, helping notify other stores in Witham.

In the skatepark area, I observed a large gathering of kids across the road near Asda. While they were just socialising in groups without causing trouble, I reported it to the town clerk and the police as a precaution, given previous issues in that area.

Next, I visited Maldon Road Park, where several kids were playing in the swing area. They were well-behaved, and parents present with younger children had no complaints. Later, I patrolled the Riverwalk, discussing concerns with residents on Lawrence Avenue about disturbances caused by youths late at night. I assured them I'd spoken to a PC, who had promised to monitor the area during his evening shifts.

As part of my regular check at the train station, I removed stickers with QR codes advertising drugs from lamp posts. I routinely remove these stickers whenever I spot them.

I also spoke with shoppers in town about the new dispersal order in effect over the next few days, which will help manage potential antisocial behaviour around Halloween and Bonfire Night. People appreciated knowing how the police would respond to any incidents.

Today, the kids in town and around the skatepark were generally well-behaved, with no incidents reported. I checked in with staff at the Co-op, who mentioned they were temporarily restricting egg sales due to previous issues with egg-throwing. Customers can request eggs from staff if needed.

Everything remained quiet and calm on the riverwalk, with no large gatherings of youths. I received a report about a group of Polish adults drinking and misbehaving in a park, including one individual who was openly urinating. A concerned parent reported this to me while he was with his young son. I met up with two PCSOs, who joined me in addressing the group. The PCSOs issued a warning, reminding them that drinking in the park is not permitted and that the police would monitor the area to ensure compliance. A certain PCSO plans to consult with the police on better ways to enforce the no-drinking rule in the park.

I wrapped up the day at the library, where four boys were causing a disturbance for staff and the security guard. I spoke with them and suggested it would be best to leave, mentioning that police involvement could complicate matters for them on their last day of holiday. They promptly left, and the staff expressed their appreciation.

Street Warden Report November 2024

Today, Witham had a visit from the Police and Fire Commissioner, the Police Commissioner, and several officers. They began their visit at the town hall, followed by a walk around the high street, accompanied by a photographer who captured several moments. Their presence on patrol was well-received by most residents, though one individual expressed some concerns, which were addressed by an officer.

Later in the day, members of the local policing team, including PCSOs, conducted further patrols around the town, visiting shops and the library to address any ongoing issues. The Witham Town Team was present at the town hall for a police beat surgery, where community members could discuss their concerns. While one PCSO stayed at the town hall to assist with inquiries, another officer joined me on patrol. We visited local businesses to address their challenges and checked Maldon Road Park due to reports of antisocial behaviour, including public drinking and littering.

During the patrol, I discovered a tent hidden along the River Walk near Helen Court, where two individuals appeared to be living. One was unresponsive and wrapped in a blanket, raising concerns about their welfare, while the other was verbally aggressive. I reported the situation to StreetLink and shared details about the individuals and their locations. The incident was also reported to the police, who assured them they would follow up.

I received an email from StreetLink confirming they had visited the two individuals in the blue tent. The pair declined any assistance and stated they were fine. However, they had vacated the area by the next day, leaving a significant mess. I documented this with photos and sent them to the appropriate contact, who informed me that, as the individuals had moved on, the open spaces team would be tasked with cleaning up the site. I'll continue to monitor these individuals and their blue tents during my rounds. If they reappear and are camping outside again, I'll notify StreetLink again.

I've also been invited to attend the next Witham Industrial Watch meeting on December 6th, where I'll introduce myself and briefly overview my role in the town.

During my patrols, I stopped by Savers to speak with the staff, who reported ongoing issues with an aggressive female shoplifter. When confronted, she becomes hostile, creating a challenging and unsafe environment for the young women working there. I also visited the library and spoke with the manager, who mentioned recurring issues in the evenings now that their doorman is no longer stationed. I plan to discuss this with the police to explore possible solutions.

Additionally, I addressed a fly-tipping incident outside Macmillan's. On Tuesday night, a chest of drawers had been dumped outside their store, and the elderly volunteers could not move it. I contacted Braintree District Council, who promptly dispatched a team to collect and dispose of the item. We are currently reviewing CCTV footage to identify the individual responsible for the fly-tipping, and I will pass on any findings to the council's enforcement officers.

During my patrol through Maldon Road Park, I spoke with some mothers enjoying the playground with their children. Unfortunately, three men were sitting at a bench near the park entrance, drinking, swearing, and creating a disturbance. Their behaviour upset the parents, so I approached the men and asked if they could kindly move elsewhere. They complied and left the park, heading along the River Walk. I didn't re-encounter them that day.

Later, I walked toward the train station and noticed more stickers with QR codes linked to drug-related content on the lampposts. I removed them and disposed of them in a bin. Continuing my patrol, I headed toward the housing estate near the courts, speaking with residents out and about. From there, I crossed the railway bridge, picked up the River Walk near Ebenezer, and returned to town, engaging with people walking their dogs.

On Sunday, I assisted with the Remembrance Service held in the memorial garden to honour those who lost their lives in wars and conflicts. The event was well-attended, with the mayor and a prominent local representative present. There was also a noticeable police presence, ensuring everything ran smoothly. I managed road closures near the train station for the service. While most people were cooperative, two drivers expressed frustration about being unable to access the town during the closure. Overall, the event went well and was a respectful tribute.

On Monday, the Special Sergeant joined me for the day. We began at Acorn Academy Junior School, where we discussed safe and considerate parking with parents. Some drivers were parking on the grass, with double yellow lines and paths, creating safety concerns for children and parents. Later, we visited Asda to collect CCTV footage of a shoplifting incident from the previous week.

Afterwards, we patrolled the town before attending the 11:00 AM Remembrance Service at the memorial gardens. Following the service, we returned to Acorn Academy during school pick-up time to address the same parking issues. Some parents continued to park irresponsibly, obstructing paths and grassy areas.

Later in the day, we held the police beat surgery at the town hall with two officers and a PCSO. While no residents attended to speak with the officers, I did meet with a resident concerned about dog fouling in their area. I committed to visiting the location the next day to assess the issue. After the surgery, we conducted another foot patrol, including visiting the Tesco to collect CCTV footage for an earlier incident.

In the afternoon, I observed the parking situation at Little Elms School during pick-up time. While improvements have been made, parking at Chipping Hill School poses significant challenges. I also visited a housing estate, where I spoke with dog walkers about a resident's fouling complaint.

During a patrol through Whetmead and along the old railway line leading to the industrial area, I encountered the same two individuals sleeping in their blue tent. I submitted another report to StreetLink, alerting them that these individuals remain in Witham and are still camping outdoors.

I then headed to the train station to remove more drug-related stickers reported by station staff before visiting a shop near the courts. The shop staff reported ongoing issues with youth-related antisocial behaviour, which I plan to discuss with the police later this week.

Finally, I assisted with an incident involving a female shoplifter at the YMCA. The manager confiscated the stolen goods and asked her to leave. Her details were shared via the business WhatsApp group to alert other shops.

I visited the library, where staff reported ongoing issues with children causing disruptions near closing time. When I meet with the police next week, I will relay this concern.

I also visited the Eastways Industrial Estate, where I spoke with local businesses about the situation there. I plan to follow up during the next Witham Industrial Watch meeting on December 6th, where I will give a brief talk about my duties in the town.

I received an update from StreetLink regarding the two individuals in the blue tent. They visited the area, engaged with the individuals, and will keep me informed about any assistance they might receive. The individuals were initially aggressive, likely out of self-protection, as homelessness can put people in vulnerable situations.

Later, I stopped by Savers to discuss ongoing shoplifting issues with the staff. I'll continue to pass this information to the police. I also received a report from Witham Food Bank about a man living in a tent behind Blackman Way. I found his tent and recognized him from earlier interactions. This individual has been battling drug dependency and had been placed in housing, but he relapsed and was evicted. With temperatures dropping below freezing, efforts are being made to help him get into temporary accommodation. I contacted the relevant services, and they are working to assist him.

I returned to Savers, where the new temporary manager reported another shoplifting incident. Two young girls had been aggressive with staff. I reminded the manager about the importance of calling 999 in such cases.

I also visited Boots, where their CCTV is finally operational, though it only records for 5 minutes. They hope to have it fully running by next week, which will help capture more incidents and improve reporting.

Finally, I revisited the library, where staff shared that the issues with disruptive children persist between 4:30 and 5:00 PM.

An elderly lady came to see me about a parking ticket she received because her disabled badge was not properly displayed in her window. She was very distressed about the situation. I tried to assist her with paying the fine online, but the payment wouldn't go through. To further help, I walked her to the Nationwide Building Society, where I asked if they could assist her in paying the fine. The staff there agreed to help and assured me they would take care of it.

At Savers, there was a shoplifting incident in which a person stole several bottles of Calpol and was reportedly aggressive toward the staff. The individual fled toward the YMCA car park and headed toward Pods Brook House. There have been ongoing issues with kids making a nuisance of themselves at Pods Brook House, such as banging on windows and posting leaves through the letterboxes of elderly residents. This has been reported to the police and is under investigation.

I also spoke with a DASS representative regarding the man living in a tent along the old railway line near Blackman Way. CHES and StreetLink picked him up, and he is now receiving care. DASS is involved again, and efforts are being made to help him with his ongoing drug issues.

On my walk along the Riverwalk, I looked for an individual who has been repeatedly reported for not cleaning up after his dog. Several people have raised concerns about this behaviour, and I plan to talk with him once I meet him.

I also checked in with a known homeless man whom I had reported to StreetLink a few days ago. StreetLink and DASS are currently helping him. Today, they provided him with clothes, and I also assisted him with food. He is temporarily staying with a friend and sleeping in a conservatory as the temperatures have dropped significantly.

I visited the YMCA, where a lady who had been repeatedly shoplifting was causing ongoing problems. She has been reported to the police, and hopefully, they will be able to apprehend her soon, as she is becoming a significant issue for shop owners in the town.

In the morning, I spent time with a lady who was struggling to provide food for herself and her children. I took her to the United Reform Church, where she was given sandwiches and cakes. I informed her that tomorrow, she could visit The Well café, run by the church, for further assistance. I have also informed relevant organizations about her situation, hoping she will receive the support she needs.

Along the River Walk, I heard about a man on an electric bike causing concerns, especially around Lawrence Avenue. He has been darting between the garages, which is making residents uneasy. I advised the locals to report him to the police, and I will pass on the information to them as well.

I then visited the train station, cut through Cut Throat Lane, and walked around the courts, speaking with people as I went. I observed the parking situation around Templars School as children were being picked up. I spoke with several parents about the importance of ensuring the safety of their children, and they all agreed that safety should be the top priority.

Later in the day, the same lady who had previously been shoplifting was caught again at Boots. A member of the public stopped her, and the store manager retrieved the stolen goods from her. This incident was reported to the WhatsApp group.

Today, people were caught stealing from Superdrug, and this was reported to the police. Additionally, the security guard at Tesco managed to stop a man who had stolen £400 worth of goods, including toothpaste and electrical items. This incident will likely be reported to the police, as Tesco generally files reports for thefts.

I received a call from a known homeless man who asked for food assistance. I will contact the general manager of Braintree Foodbank to arrange for a food parcel to be delivered to him. He is staying with a friend, but his friend doesn't work, so they are struggling with food and finances.

In the afternoon, I visited the industrial estate to speak with the security team about the upcoming industrial estates meeting on December 6th. A Special Sergeant joined us, and we visited Boots to speak with the manager regarding the lady who has been shoplifting around town. She filed a report with the police officer, and the case will be taken forward.

We also visited Podsbook House, where residents have been dealing with kids throwing objects through windows. The CCTV footage has been handed over to the police, and letters are being sent to the parents of the children involved. We checked in at the library to see if any of these kids had been causing trouble there, as they had also been causing issues in Greggs.

In the afternoon, two PCSOs and a female police officer joined us for a town patrol. We visited various stores, spoke with the managers, and discussed ongoing issues like shoplifting. We then visited Holy Trinity School to address parking issues, engaging with parents as they dropped off their children. Afterwards, we visited Rickstones School, where we spoke with teachers and parents about parking concerns, and the response from the teachers was very positive.

After our patrol, we returned to the town centre, where we did another round of the Grove and Newlands Shopping Centre before calling it a day.

I worked road closure at Mill Lane on Saturday for the Christmas market's start. There were several interactions with people trying to access Newland Street, which led to some tense situations with angry drivers. Afterwards, I patrolled the market, engaging with people and enjoying the festivities. Four special constables were on duty, dealing with some drunk children causing problems around the

Street Warden Report December 2024

There was a dumping of about 20 black bags some which contained pizzas and cardboard boxes with business name written all over them, so I contacted Braintree District Council and asked if their staff could come down to visit. They came down with a letter which was written under caution for the owners of the business to fill in and let the council know who is responsible for leaving the rubbish in the bags on the street. Later that day there was a man in the Grove Shopping Centre begging for money, I told him he needed to move on as he was throwing the food away that people had given him and just keeping the money. I walked him up to the train station, where I made sure that he took back a train to Chelmsford, where he lived.

There was more shoplifting in the town today mainly at Savers and Superdrug, these crimes have been reported by the shop staff via the online 101 method. I had an engagement with a homeless man this morning I think that his sleeping in the church yard and he seems to have mental health issues, he stands there and has a conversation with himself he carried on walking and would not stop to talk much, I will do a street link for him when I can pin down the area he sleeps regularly.

I went for a patrol around the Crittall road industrial estate, where I was engaging with the workers that are on the estate or visiting, I walked around to the East Ways industrial estate and then on to Forest Road and then on to the courts. I had a walk around the courts and spoke with the people that were out and about, I then headed up to the Rickstones School where I watched the parking situation again as the kids came out from the school. I attended the Witham industrial watch meeting on the industrial estate, where I gave a short presentation of what I do around the town and how long I have been doing this, it was very useful to meet with members of the factories that are on the industrial estate. The meeting went for most of the morning, I had a good chat with PC James Draper who is going to send me some useful links via email, and this will give me access to some extra information for Witham regarding crime figures and speeding and accident blackspots around the town of Witham. In the afternoon I had an engagement with a man from Braintree who was begging for money down the high street, spoke with him and persuaded him to get on the next bus back to Braintree, I waited with him and made sure he got on the bus and left the high street.

I had PCSO Stuart Stranger in town this morning he came in to patrol around the town, there were undercover police in town this morning at the same time their role was to deal with shoplifters, so the PCSO and myself went out and visited the shops where we spoke with the shop managers and told them about the undercover police operation in the town this morning. There was shoplifting in the town the same time as these police officers were in town and they went to deal with the people who were shoplifting, The PCSO and myself went for a patrol in to the Maldon road park where we carried on to the Riverwalk, we called in on the shops that were out of town and made our way back into town, we went to visit the library where we spoke with Sarah the manager who told us about the problems they are still having in the evenings before they close up to go home. I carried on my patrols after lunch by myself where I walked up to the courts I walked around and spoke with the people that were out and about, they were pleased to see someone patrolling the area.

PC James Draper sent me email information of crime hotspots in Witham last week, he told me he would when I spoke with him last Friday, I will patrol some of these areas during the week and will report to him anything that he needs to know about, some of the reports are for collision hotspots and I will see how the traffic is flowing through these areas during the day. Had a walk up to the train station where there were reports of a man sleeping outside the station, there was no sign when I

was there, they told me that they think street link came out to him and took him with them, I have emailed the street link team and am waiting for an answer back from them.

I went down Cut Throat Lane and then on to the housing estate near the cemetery, I walked around and spoke with people as they were out and about. I then headed on to the courts where I had a walk around again, I called in to the shops and spoke with them. Later on, that day I visited the library where they were telling me of certain kids causing problems at closing times, I have told them again to ring 999 if this is going on in the library, I will speak with the police when they next come into the town hall and tell them of this, I will also let Sargeant Jesse know as I know he works roughly around this time some days. We have 2 PCSO police officers in today for the beat surgery, this is the first beat surgery for probably 3 weeks, I know that there are some people out there that want to talk with the police.

I went to visit the Hatfield road estate, I had a walk around the estate where I spoke with people who were out and about, I then headed to spring lodge where I was on the lookout for someone who is leaving there dogs waste on the floor and not picking it up, I have had several complaints about this person but I have not been able to meet him, I visit this area at different times throughout the day.

There had been another fly-tipping behind the YMCA were a load of baby equipment dropped off, unfortunately this was after their closing time, so it was out all-night and got soaking wet, and thus they cannot resell this stuff, so I will have to get the council to come down to take it away and get rid of it.

The Town Clerk and I had a meeting with the people from the housing at Braintree District Council, we were discussing the homeless people that we have in the area of Witham at the moment and how we can best help these people. The mental health team we met today are coming out with me next week and we will do a walk around the town and meet these homeless people, I will also take them to the House of Grace where she can meet the three residents in the house. We went to visit four of the homeless people that will engage with me about Witham, spoke to them about going to the church to collect food as they are not obtaining much food, a couple of them have been visiting the well to have a warm meal during the week.

We had a fly tip around the back of an estate agents, this was reported to Braintree District Council, I sent some pictures to them. Sargeant Jesse came down in the afternoon and we went out on patrol around the town, we called in the library and spoke with the manager, we also visited shops in the two shopping centres where we spoke with shop workers. We also went down and watched the kids coming out of Maltings Academy where we spoke with the teachers and the pupils as they left the school, we were there to see if a group of kids that do not attend the academy but turn up at home time turn up as they cause problems for the teachers and the pupils as they leave the school to venture home. Had 2 PCSOs and a police officer in the town hall today for the police beat surgery, I patrolled the town while the three officers waited in the Heritage Room for any members of the public to come in with their enquires. I patrolled around the town and both of the shopping centerwheel I spoke with the managers of some of the shops, I explained that there were police officers in the town hall if any of them had any questions or problems they needed to see the police about.

I came across a man who was talking to himself outside the health centre in the brick enclosure, he was definitely having problems and was talking with various objects such as leaves, trees and lampposts. I and I went to the local church and got some food which I took back to him he was very hungry, I rang the mental health team up and spoke with her about this man, she ran his name

through the system but didn't come back with anything. When I returned to the Town Hall and spoke with the Town Clerk she recognised the description of the gentleman. With her having visited the gentleman and made a positive identification we were able to contact his care worker who is either going to come out today or tomorrow morning to see this man as he is very vulnerable, having been missing for five weeks and he requires help very quickly. I will hopefully meet with this care worker when he comes out to visit with this man, I have arranged to get him some food in the morning, but he needs to return to his home as soon as possible.

Sargeant Jesse came down a midday and we spent the afternoon walking around the town and again visiting Maltings academy at closing time, we had engagements with the kids as they came out of the school. We also visited Asda's and we then walked along the Riverwalk where the train bridge has been targeted by someone who has graffitied all over the bridge this has been going on around Witham in several different locations, I have sent some pictures to the deputy town clerk so she can send on to the proper organisation so it can hopefully be cleaned up.

I managed to get CHESS and mental health services down to Witham to see a rough sleeper, they brought him food and a sleeping bag they also brought him a change of clothes. They took his mobile phone number so that they can ring him and keep in contact, they will hopefully visit him over the Christmas holiday shutdown period. One homeless guy I made contact with outside Greggs was begging for food, I called his care worker and explained his current state of not being very well and his clearly in some need of medical assistance, the care worker is going to see if he can raise a medical order which will enable the police to be able to pick him up and section him and get him back in it hospital where he will receive the help he requires.

I went around the shops to let them now that my Christmas break is looming and that I will not be around for a few days, wished them all a very merry Christmas and any crime to report to Essex police. Went for a walk around the industrial estates and this is the area that another homeless man spends large amount of his time, he is in need of his medication and he is struggling very much, it's very difficult to get his care worker out to visit him or anyone else at either, hopefully he will be picked up soon and the help he requires he will be able to obtain.

I had a walk along the Riverwalk, where I was talking with people who were telling me about kids messing around with the dog poo bins, they said that they were trying to take the bags out and were messing around. This has been an ongoing issue in the town and around the Maldon Road Park, the police know about the issues with the bins and the kids messing around with the contents, the children have now broken up for the Christmas break and this afternoon the town was invaded by lots of pupils from Maltings academy.

Grove Centre and near Wetherspoons. I returned to Mill Lane to complete the road closure, again interacting with people as they wanted to access Newland Street after the 8:00 pm closure.

Street Warden Report January 2025

A Braintree District Council (BDC) representative visited this morning to check on a homeless man sleeping behind the bins near the health centre. He had been without his medication for approximately five weeks and expressed a desire to return home to be with his mother. His health worker also came to see him, and both agreed that he needed to be off the streets. I had been trying to arrange this visit for about three weeks.

It was particularly cold this morning, and under the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP), individuals should be provided accommodation when temperatures drop below zero at night. The BDC representative transported him back to his mother's home, where arrangements were made for a doctor to assess him and restart his regular medication. Carers will also visit in the mornings to ensure he takes it daily.

Later, I checked on another homeless man to confirm his sleeping arrangements. He is staying with a friend while awaiting documentation from the Home Office. Additionally, we attempted to locate another individual who had been sleeping in a tent along the old railway line behind Witham. He wasn't there then, but we will continue looking for him, as he is eligible for temporary accommodation in a hotel due to the low temperatures.

In the afternoon, I visited local shops to assess how they had managed over the Christmas period regarding shoplifting. There had been several incidents, some of which were reported to the police. However, there has been minimal police presence in town over the holidays.

This morning, I visited the large Morrisons, where a man had been sleeping outside the side of the shop for some time. I contacted StreetLink to see if he could be housed under the SWEP protocol, and they confirmed he was eligible. A cab from Braintree picked him up and took him to Causeway House, where he was placed in a Premier Inn for the night. He is expected to be relocated again on Monday night under the same protocol. His tent and bedding had to be discarded as they were covered in mould and waterlogged, making them unsuitable for sleeping. I was informed that he would be leaving the hotel tomorrow, and I insisted that he be provided with a new sleeping bag and tent upon his departure. I plan to check in with him again on Monday morning.

Later, I was called to assist an elderly woman who felt faint in the high street. A bystander was supporting her when she suddenly lost balance. We managed to prevent her from falling and hitting the ground. She expressed a desire to go home, which was nearby, and declined an ambulance.

In the afternoon, I accompanied a colleague to the allotments, where we were looking for a man known to be sleeping in a shed overnight. He had moved to a different shed and had cleaned up his previous space. We spoke to him about the SWEP protocol, which requires Braintree District Council to provide accommodation for homeless individuals when temperatures drop below freezing. He was eager to secure a hotel stay due to the extreme cold. He packed his belongings, and I walked with him to the train station. Although I did not receive confirmation of his arrival, I later discovered that he was placed in a Travelodge until temperatures rose above freezing. He was also provided with a food voucher. Now that he is in Braintree, he will hopefully be able to access further support services available through the council and partner organisations.

Finally, I visited the YMCA charity shop, where they reported an issue with fly-tipping behind their premises. Fortunately, their CCTV cameras are operational, so I will report the incident to Braintree

District Council. Hopefully, they will review the footage, follow up with the shop staff, and take action against those responsible for the dumping.

I visited the library following reports of a group of young individuals who had been rude to staff and refused to leave despite staff notifying the police. By the time officers arrived, the group had already left. I later spoke with library management regarding ongoing anti-social behaviour. Their security guard has now returned to monitor the entrance, and we are exploring the possibility of relocating tuition sessions currently held in the library to another venue in Witham to help reduce disturbances. The man who had been sleeping in a tent outside Morrisons has now been moved to Braintree and placed in a hotel for seven nights under the SWEP protocol due to freezing temperatures. He has been provided with a food voucher, and I have stored his tent at the town hall for safekeeping until temperatures rise again. The man previously found sleeping in the allotments has now secured accommodation in Harlow. This was confirmed today by a BDC representative.

A particular homeless man is still at Morrisons. He is particularly difficult to assist due to additional challenges, but I will continue liaising with Braintree District Council to ensure regular welfare checks.

I patrolled the industrial estates and Wheatmead Nature Reserve to check for additional rough sleepers. I walked along the River Walk, speaking with local residents and dog walkers. I removed outdated posters near LIDL that no longer served a purpose. I visited House of Grace to check on the three residents. Two of them, with support from the church, have successfully established a gardening business. Their progress has been promising, and they are working towards securing their housing. I patrolled the train station, Cut Throat Lane, and the nearby housing estates, engaging with community members. I monitored school dismissals at two academies. All the children were polite while crossing the zebra crossing, and I spoke with teachers overseeing the area. I also went into Maldon Road Park, where there was evidence of egg-throwing, an ongoing issue in the town. The same was seen at the Grove Shopping Centre, and I will be speaking with the centre manager to check if their CCTV has captured any footage of the incidents.

I visited Acorn Academy in the morning, speaking with teachers as the children arrived for their lessons. Parking remains a significant issue, with cars parked on grass verges and blocking entrances near the Co-op. Teachers have expressed safety concerns regarding children walking between parked cars. I will raise this matter with NCP Parking to see if traffic wardens can be assigned to improve the situation.

Reports of schoolchildren damaging trees in the field opposite the retirement homes were investigated. While some tree damage was observed, it is unclear whether students or recent high winds caused it. There have also been multiple shoplifting incidents in town, affecting stores such as Savers, Boots, and Superdrug. I advised store staff to report these crimes to the police to increase patrol presence.

I followed up with Braintree District Council regarding the ongoing rubbish issue outside the health centre, where a rat problem persists. The council has assured me the area will be cleaned next week, and I will continue to monitor the situation. Shops affected by recent thefts were advised on crime reporting, as Witham still struggles with consistent crime reporting. In addition to previous thefts, a man stole from Boots, Superdrug, and Savers, while another stole from Iceland.

Library staff confirmed that a security guard will be stationed there until March, and no incidents occurred over the weekend. However, racist graffiti was found along the River Walk, which the open spaces team has since cleaned. Graffiti tagging has also increased near retirement homes and railway bridges, and this information has been passed on to the police.

I continued engaging with shop owners, encouraging them to report crimes, as a particularly aggressive shoplifter needs to be dealt with. The homeless individual outside Morrisons reappeared after several days, claiming to have nowhere to stay. His tent had been removed for safekeeping after he had been absent for six days, and donated food left outside had started to spoil.

Two PCSOs were in the town hall for their weekly beat surgery, and I accompanied them on a walk around the shopping centre to discuss ongoing issues, including continued disruptions at the library caused by children attending tuition sessions.

I visited the library and spoke with a local police officer, who addressed concerns about anti-social behaviour around school finishing times. A community representative was also present to discuss ongoing issues in the library.

Later, I went to Morrisons to return some documents, but despite the agreed time, the recipient did not show up. I waited for an hour, but there was still no sign of him. I spoke with café staff and shared concerns about this individual, as it was discovered that he has also been staying in a tent outside the Maldon Morrisons, engaging in similar activities as at the Witham store.

Walked down Blackman Way to check on an individual known to be sleeping in a tent along the railway path near the industrial area. Also spoke with a woman in her 60s, currently staying in a one-bedroom bedsit with her brother. . Plans are in place to speak with the local council to explore any housing support options for her.

Several locals have raised concerns about a new convenience store attempting to open next to an existing fast-food restaurant. There is widespread worry that it may attract the same groups of youths, which is already causing trouble in the area, as the restaurant is already experiencing issues with disruptive behaviour in the evenings.

I spoke with local shop staff to inform them that the policing team will be in Witham over the next few days, patrolling the shopping precincts and high street. I encouraged them to raise any concerns directly with officers while they are in the area.

The library continues to struggle with unsupervised children who remain after tutoring sessions, causing disruptions for staff and visitors. Meanwhile, ongoing support is being provided to an individual who has been living rough and struggling with substance dependency. He is being assessed for a placement at a local support house, though significant assistance will be required.

Still waiting for Braintree District Council to clean up the area outside the health centre. The rat infestation remains severe, and follow-ups will continue if no action is taken.

At the YMCA, another instance of fly-tipping occurred at the store's rear. The incident has been reported to the council, and CCTV footage may provide evidence of those responsible. If their cameras did not capture vehicle details, alternative footage may be available.

Followed up with the council regarding the health centre area. Despite previous assurances, the cleanup had not been completed. After another request, a team was sent out to clear the rubbish left by rough sleepers, which had been attracting rats. A pest control specialist is also expected to treat the infestation.

Two PCSOs visited today. They came into town to check in on various shops and the library. They stayed for a while before heading to the town hall and continuing with their duties. It was good to see them in the area.

Walked around town and along the River Walk, where I spoke with several dog walkers. Some raised concerns about the speed of cars along Howbridge Road, fearing that someone could be seriously injured due to reckless driving. One resident has already written to Priti Patel to express these concerns. I plan to raise the issue with the police the next time I see them and seek their advice.

Visited the area outside a local school to assess parking conditions. As with many schools, parking remains a serious issue, with cars blocking pathways and no-parking zones, creating a dangerous situation for young children moving between vehicles. I will speak to NCP Parking to see if they can offer any solutions or assistance.

Arranged food support for a man in need after he mentioned at the library this morning that he had run out. After checking what he required, a community member offered to bring him some supplies.

Checked in at the library to follow up on the ongoing issues with young people causing anti-social behaviour after school hours. The Witham Town Team PCSOs have been visiting over the past few days while on duty, addressing incidents as they arise.

Walked through the Humber Road estate and spoke with residents out and about. Stopped by a local shop to check in with staff before heading back into town. Visited Savers and met with the new manager, who reported many shoplifting incidents this week, all of which have been reported to the police. Other stores, including Poundland and Iceland, have also been repeatedly targeted throughout the day. Additionally, several shops in the precinct have reported their windows being egged in the evenings as they close up. I plan to speak with the centre manager to check if any CCTV footage is available, so that when incidents are reported, the footage can be passed on to the police to help identify those responsible.

Continued visiting various shops, including Tesco and Peacocks, before heading to the station, where I removed stickers from lampposts advertising drugs. Stopped by Morrisons to check if a particular individual was still outside the store, but he was not there, and his tent was empty.

[Back to Agenda](#)



SMART RADIO & ALERT BIDS & BCRPS



I've just added a new incident to Alert

I have attached the BWV footage and radio audio to it

Looks like a duplicate offender, I'll merge it



Offender Face Match Found
 Name: Unknown Offender
 Last Active: 7 Days Ago
 Total Loss: £13,500
Merge

Audio Recording Linked from SmartRadio



BWV Evidence Linked from DEM

WHAT IS IT?



ShopSafe works by connecting retailers and licensed premises, with each other, the police and CCTV, through the latest Smart Radio and Alert our crime intelligence platform.

Working in partnership to reduce the impact of crime and promote safer and more profitable Town and City Centre.



SMART RADIO



Hytera - PNC370

- ✓ **Instant Voice Communication**
- ✓ **Panic alarm for emergencies**
- ✓ **Limitless Coverage**
- ✓ **Fully remote managed**



COMPACT SMART CAMERA



Hytera - SC580



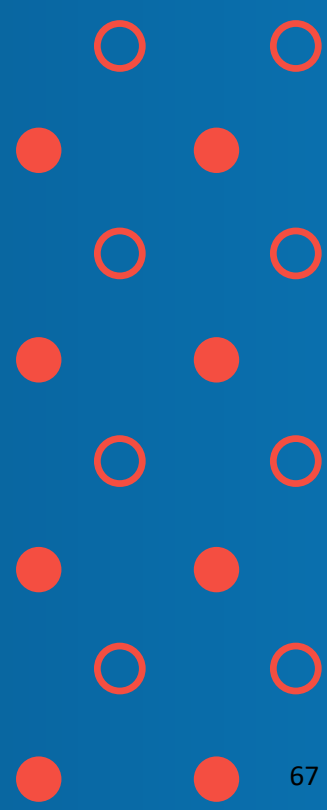
4G & WiFi equipped for streaming and upload



Integrated radio and BWV



6-axis Image stabilisation



ADVANCED SMART CAMERA



Body Camera - VM780



216 degree swivel camera, screen outward facing or hidden



Integrated radio and BWV



4G & WiFi equipped for streaming and upload

RUGGED ANDROID



Hytera - PNC460

- ✓ **Full android operating system**
- ✓ **50MP camera for HD recording & Streaming**
- ✓ **LiPo Battery - Full days operation**
- ✓ **Run Alert & radio on single device**



EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT



4G/WiFi Remote upload or via docking station



Tiered user & group roles and officer and device management


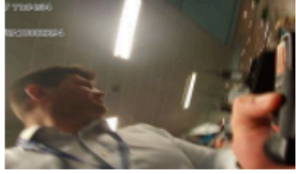

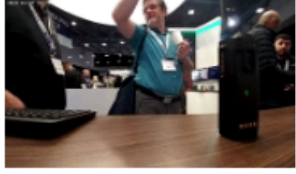



Full audit history, retention & policy management



External file support such as CCTV footage or VMS integrations

The screenshot displays the SHOPSAFE Evidence List interface. The top navigation bar includes the SHOPSAFE logo, a dropdown for 'Demo Company', 'English', a settings icon, and a user profile icon 'EB'. The left sidebar contains a menu with 'Evidence' (selected), 'Cases', 'Officers', 'Devices', 'Settings', 'Recycle Bin', 'Tags', 'Retention Policies', 'Groups', 'Roles', and 'Portal Users'. The main content area shows the 'Evidence List' with a breadcrumb 'Home / Evidence'. Below the breadcrumb are filters: 'Will Demo x + 11 ...', 'Audio x', 'Video x', 'Image x', 'Default Group x', and a date range selector 'Start date → End date'. The table below lists evidence items with the following columns: Officer, Duration, Recorded At, Recycled In, and Tags.

Officer	Duration	Recorded At	Recycled In	Tags
 VM580D 3	Image	10:56:10 - 01/12/2022	60 days	
 VM580 Demo	Image	11:04:36 - 27/04/2023	60 days	
 VM580_DEM	00:00:01	15:02:20 - 08/03/2023	60 days	
 VM580_DEM	00:09:05	16:12:44 - 07/03/2023	60 days	
 VM580_DEM	00:00:02	12:07:37 - 07/03/2023	60 days	

DESKTOP RADIO



Hytera - MNC360



Ideal for CCTV & control rooms



Manage multiple talkgroups



4G & Wifi enabled



Fixed power supply

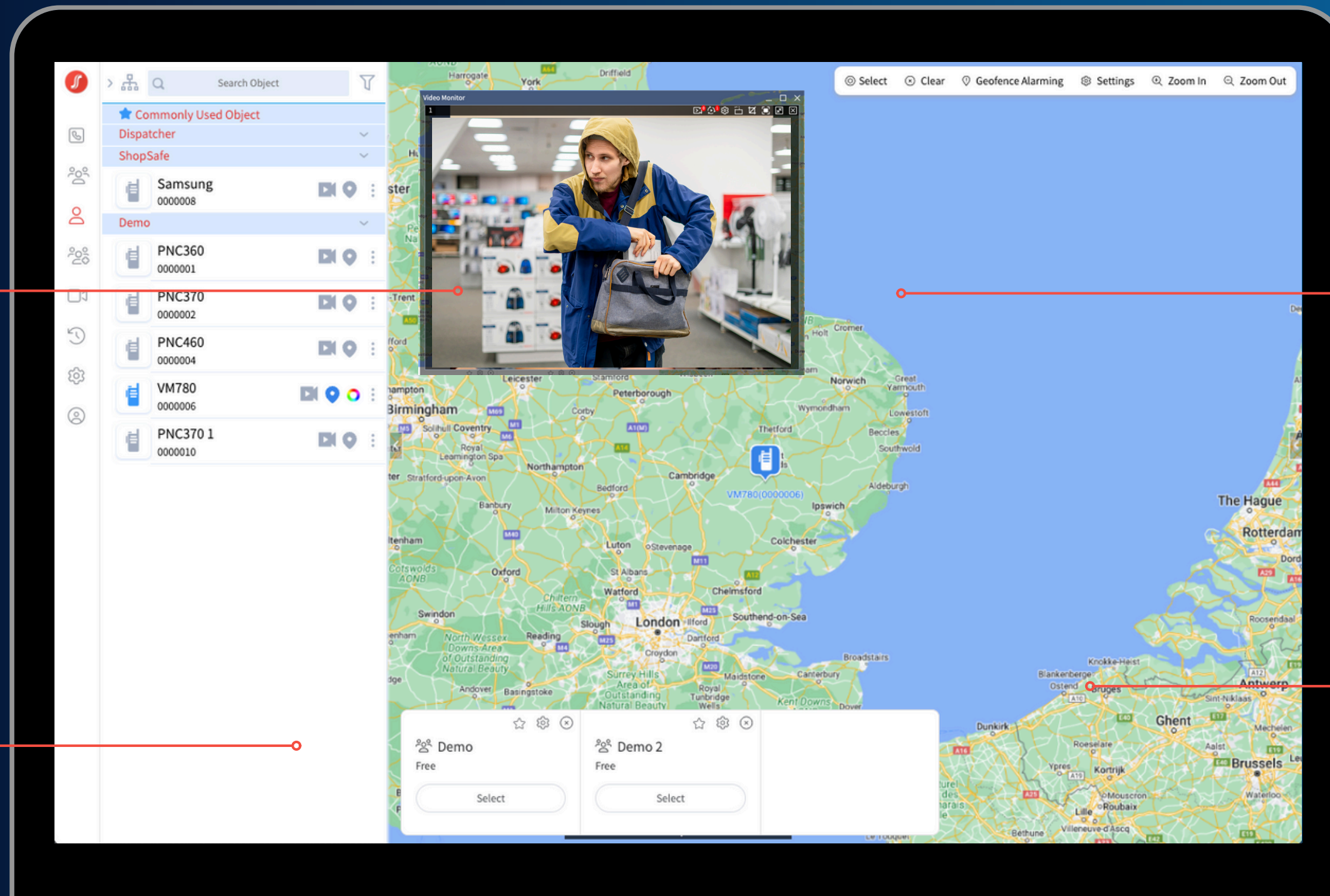
SMART DISPATCH

LOCAL RECORDING

Live video streaming is triggered by panic button which simultaneously starts local device recording

VOICE AND VIDEO

Operator can view video stream live and communicate in full duplex with officer



GPS LOCATION

Device position is highlighted red on screen and centred

ALARM TONE

Alarm tone notifies operator and requires acceptance before speech and video transmission

ALERT - INTELLIGENCE SHARING APP



✓ SHARE INCIDENTS

Upload and view incidents securely as a group – get notified as they happen.

✓ OFFENDERS DATABASE

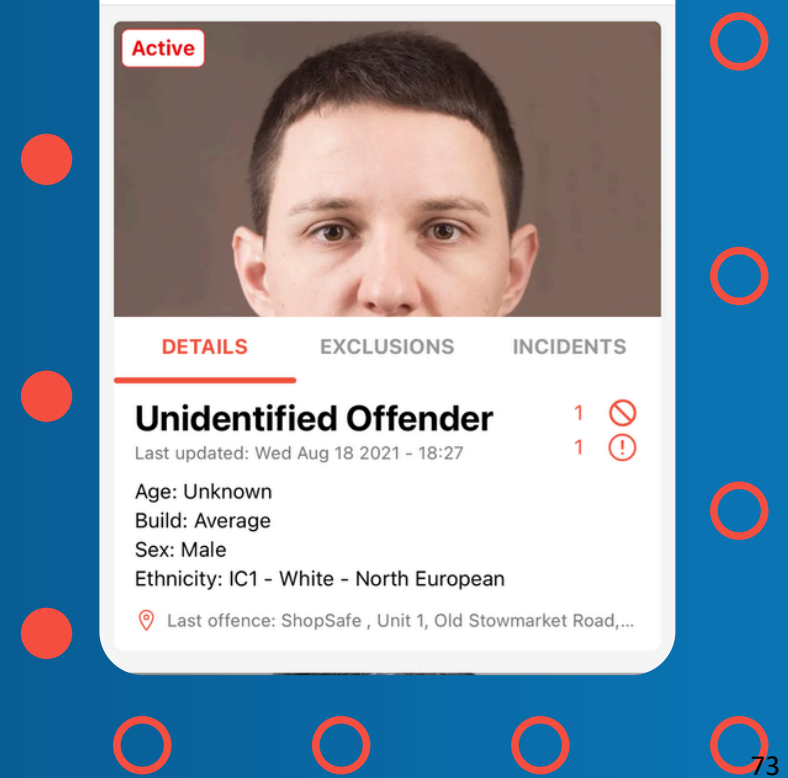
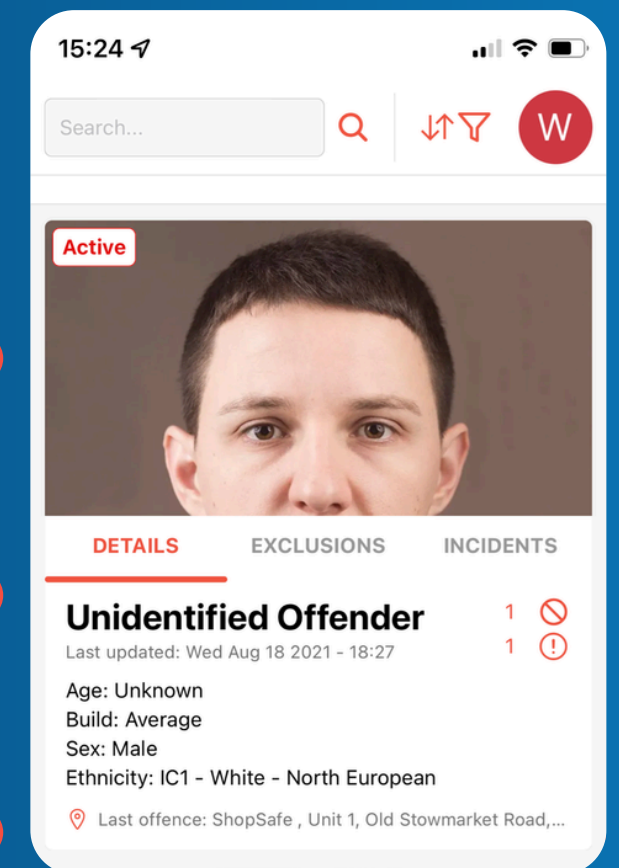
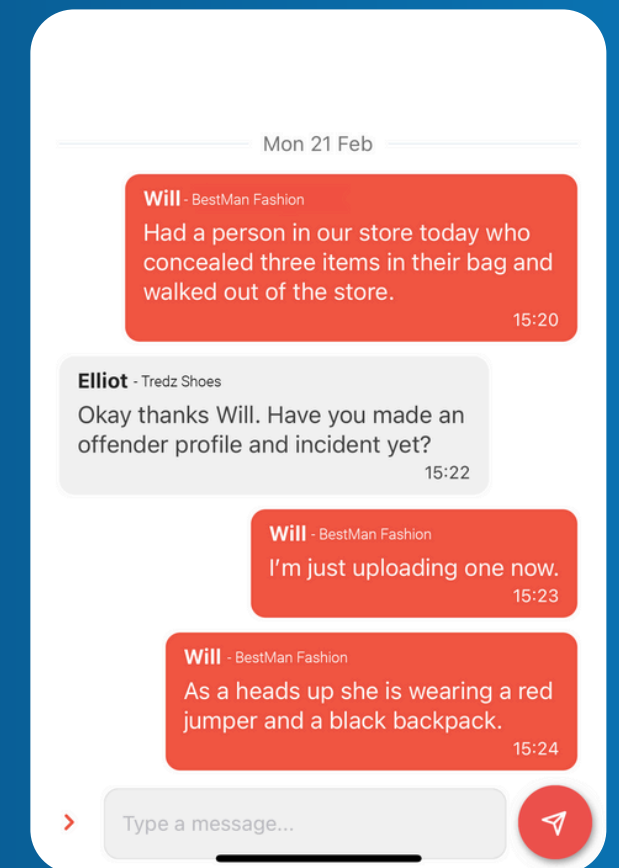
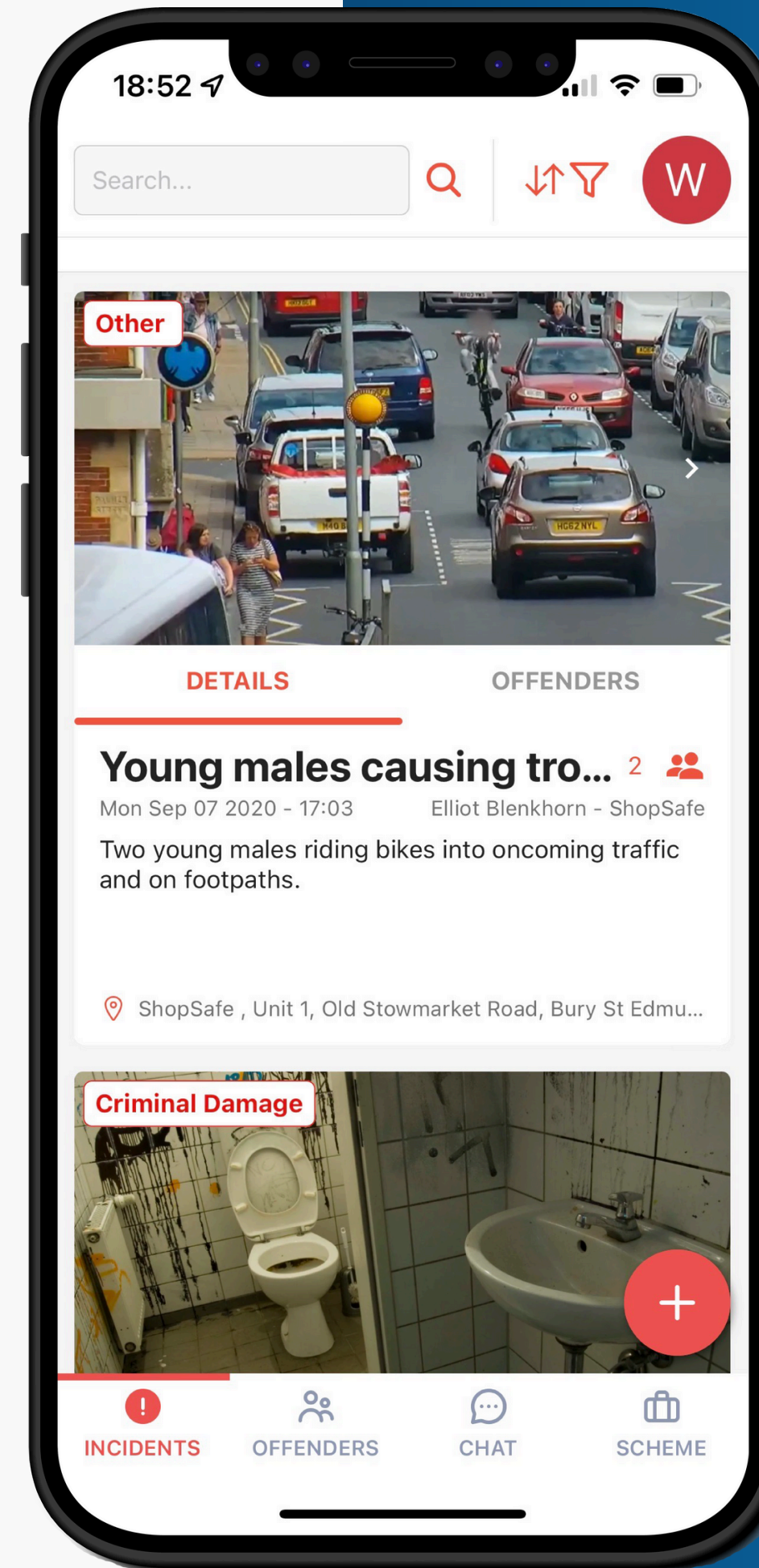
Easily add new offenders and assign exclusions – keep informed and be prepared.

✓ INSTANT MESSAGING

Send sensitive messages and images as a group - share safely and securely.

✓ POWERFUL REPORTING

Generate instant visual reports and usage statistics – Monitor user logins and interactions.



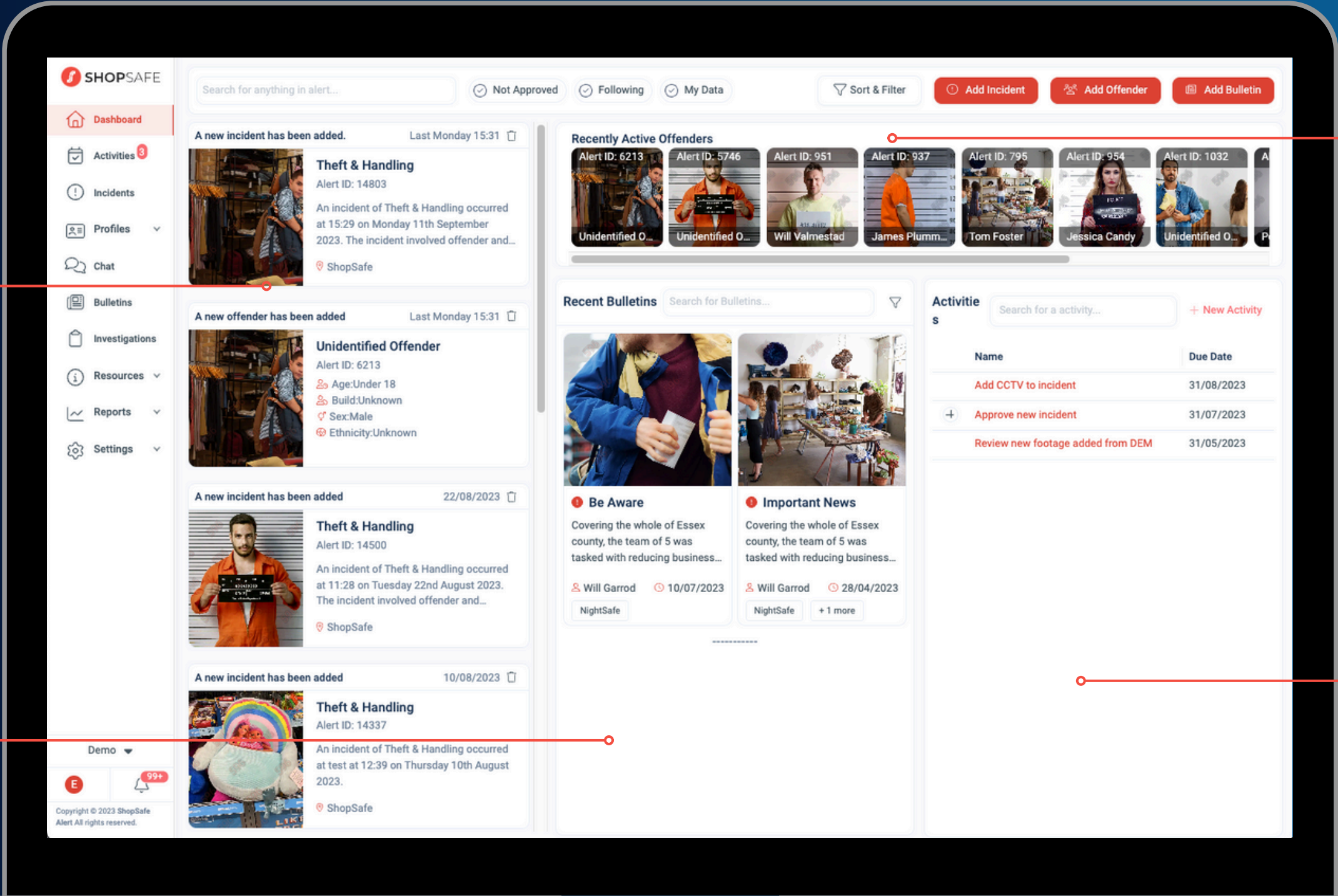
ALERT WEB APPLICATION

ACTIVITY FEED

An amalgamation of everything on the app in one section. This is its own tab on the mobile version.

BULLETINS

Customisable News articles such as most wanted, arrest update or simply meeting events



ACTIVE OFFENDERS

The most recent offenders who have recently submitted incidents in the last 30 days.

ACTIVITIES

Any admin-level tasks either system generated such as approvals or user-generated requests such as followups.

INSIGHT - MEMBER ENGAGEMENT



✓ USAGE REPORTING

Cloud-based reporting platform to see how much and when each radio has been used.

✓ AUTOMATED WORKFLOWS

If a radio hasn't been used in a number of days prompt users by email or text for support issues.

✓ RADIO MANAGEMENT

Assign radios and body cameras to your end users to track your fleet of assets.

✓ AGREEMENT MANAGEMENT

Send and manage signed agreements for radio hire.

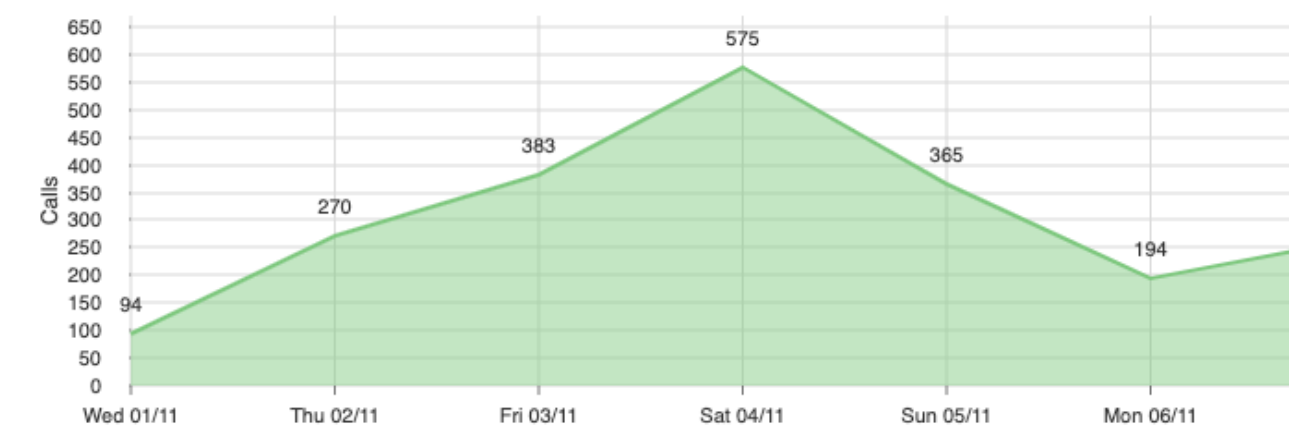
Online Status

User	Wed 01/11	Thu 02/11	Fri 03/11	Sat 04/11	Sun 05/11	Mon 06/11
Monte Carlo Arcade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MooMoo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ness Slip 1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ness Slip 2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newlook 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New York Arcade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Next	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Night Watch	—	—	—	—	—	—
O2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oakleigh	—	—	✓	✓	✓	—

Usage Summary

Total Calls	Total Users	Active Users	Call Duration Total (H:M:S)
5,154	267	144	22:09:22

Total Calls Per Day



RADIO PRICING



Hire - Managed

Managed by ShopSafe, invoiced to the end user. Includes: User signups, Invoicing, Radio Hire, Platform, SIM & Service.

Hire - Self Managed

Single invoice to the partnership. Includes: Radio Hire, Platform, SIM & Service.

Purchase - Managed

Device Purchased (Upfront) Platform, SIM & Service ongoing (Monthly) Invoiced to the end user by ShopSafe.

Purchase - Self Managed

Device Purchased (Upfront) Platform, SIM & Service ongoing Invoiced annually to the partnership

Product	Hire - Managed		Hire - Self Managed		Purchase - Managed		Purchase - Self Managed	
	Upfront	Monthly	Upfront	Monthly	Upfront	Monthly	Upfront	Monthly
PNC370 - Radio	-	£30.00	-	£20.00	£190.00	£15.00	£190.00	£10.00
PNC460 - Touch	-	£40.00	-	£30.00	£410.00	£20.00	£410.00	£15.00
VM780 - BWV <small>Inc unlimited Data SIM & DEM</small>	-	£42.50	-	£32.50	£490.00	£20.00	£490.00	£15.00
SC580 - BWV <small>Inc unlimited Data SIM & DEM</small>	-	£40.00	-	£30.00	£410.00	£20.00	£410.00	£15.00
MNC360 - Desktop <small>Inc Desktop Powersupply</small>	-	£40.00	-	£30.00	£450.00	£20.00	£450.00	£15.00
Dispatcher - PC <small>Inc Monitor & GooseNeck Mic</small>	-	£50.00	-	£50.00	£750.00	£25.00	£750.00	£25.00

THANK YOU.



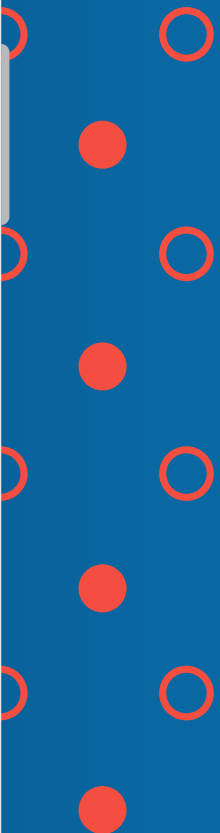
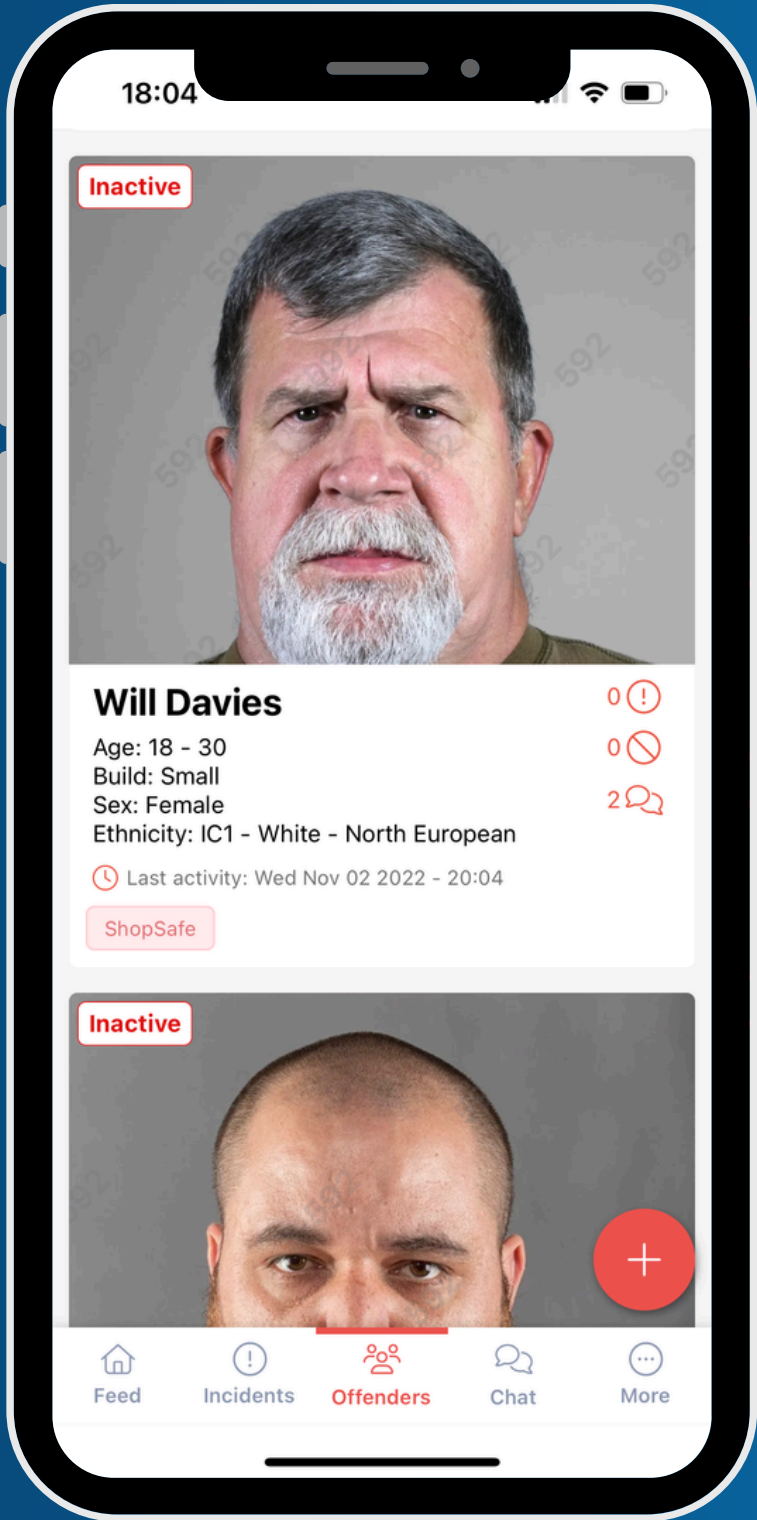
sales@shopsafe.uk



0870 240 5538



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[Back to Agenda](#)



safer streets survey

Procedure Document	Witham Safer Streets Survey Results Analysis II
Status	Final
Revision	01
Produced By	Steph Clark
Date	December 2024

Contents Page

1.0	Introduction	2
2.0	Locations	3
3.0	Survey Results	3
3.1	Demographics	3
3.2	Use of the Areas	4
3.3	Feelings of Safety	5
3.4	Victims of Crime	7
3.5	Main Concerns	8
3.6	Making The Areas Safer	11
4.0	First Witham Safer Streets Survey	12
4.1	Comparing Feelings of Safety	13
4.2	Comparing Victims of Crime	15
4.3	Comparing Main Concerns	16
4.4	Comparing Making Areas Safer	17
5.0	Conclusion	17

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to analyse the results from the second Witham Safer Streets survey which was launched as part of the [Safer Streets programme](#) in Witham. In 2022, the fourth round of Home Office Safer Streets funding was secured by the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership, in partnership with Essex Office of Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

The Witham Safer Streets programme had a focus on reducing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB). The programme ran from October 2022 to May 2024 and a number of activities were delivered with partners in order to improve people's perception of safety in the Witham bid areas.

The Home Office funding came to a total of £297,202, and a further £150,506 was matchfunded by various members of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership to support the bid. Our Witham partners included Essex Police, Witham Town Council, Neighbourhood Watch, Fusion Lifestyle, Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse, Eastlight Community Homes, Crimestoppers and Essex County Council.

As part of the Witham Safer Streets programme, the first survey was launched in February 2023 to ask for people's views on feelings of crime and safety in the Witham bid areas. A second survey was launched in October 2024 to again ask for people's views on feelings of crime and safety in the areas, and this second survey used the same questions as the first survey so that results could be directly compared between the two.

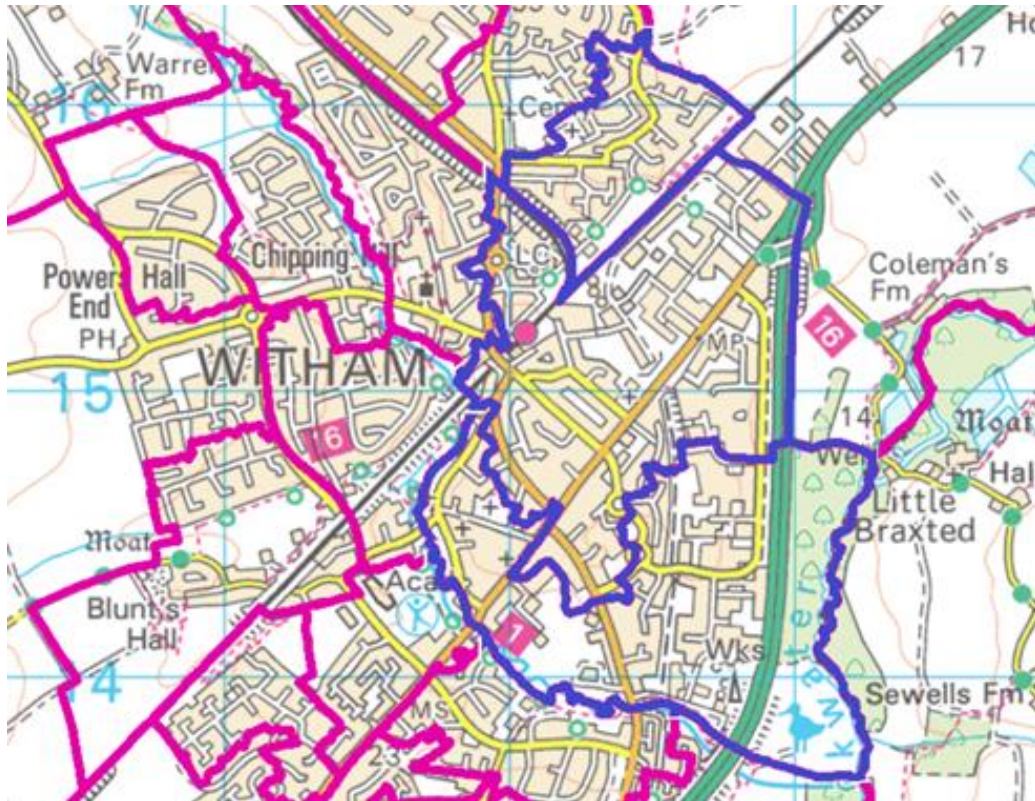
The second Witham Safer Streets survey was promoted online via the Council's social media channels including Facebook and Instagram, as well as with steering group partners to share with their networks. A sponsored Facebook post was also purchased in order to promote the survey specifically to people located in Witham. Members of the public who completed the survey and signed up to receive further information about the Witham Safer Streets programme had the chance of winning a £50 Amazon voucher.

This document will compare the results from both Witham Safer Streets surveys and it will analyse whether there has been an improvement in people's perception of safety between the two surveys and the interventions which were delivered as part of the Witham Safer Streets programme.

2.0 Locations

Respondents were specifically asked about their views on feelings of crime and safety in the bid areas of the Witham Safer Streets programme. This includes Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) EO1021415 17A, EO121416 17B, and EO121420 17C.

The LSOAs are outlined on the map below in purple and they cover most of Witham Central Ward and the southern part of the Witham North Ward.



3.0 Survey Results

There was a total of 74 responses to the survey, which is less than half the total number of respondents to the first Witham Safer Streets survey which had 162.

3.1 Demographics

43 respondents identified as female (58%), 29 respondents identified as male (39%), 1 respondent identified as other (1%) and 1 respondent (1%) preferred not to disclose their gender. The vast majority of respondents (99%) were over eighteen years old, with only 1 respondent being under eighteen years old (1%).



58% Female



39% Male

In terms of ethnicity, 70 respondents (95%) selected White, 2 respondents (3%) selected Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups, 1 respondent (1%) selected Black, Black British, Caribbean or African, and 1 respondent (1%) selected Other Ethnic Group.

3.2 Use of the Areas

Respondents were asked how they use the areas and a total of 59 respondents (80%) lived in the areas, and 15 respondents (20%) did not.



>> *How frequently are you in these areas?*

58 respondents (78%) reported that they use the areas every day, 13 respondents (18%) said they use the areas 1 to 5 days per week, 1 respondent (1%) uses the areas fortnightly, 1 respondent (1%) uses the areas monthly and 1 respondent (1%) uses the areas irregularly.

>> *How do you travel around the areas?*

The options for this question included walking, cycling, driving, travelling by bus and travelling by taxi in the areas. Respondents could choose all options which were applicable to them. 68 respondents (92%) walk, 62 respondents (84%) drive, 13 respondents (18%) travel by bus, 9 respondents (12%) cycle and 4 respondents (5%) travel by taxi.



>> *Do you feel safe using public transport, i.e. buses and taxis?*

The next question asked whether respondents felt safe using public transport which included buses and taxis. 63 respondents (85%) said yes they did feel safe and 11 respondents (15%) said no they did not feel safe using public transport.

If respondents said no, they were asked to explain why. These comments are noted below:

- "Never arrive on time left waiting."
- "Fighting on the streets, unlit areas and bus stops."
- "As a lone woman, I do feel safe on buses but not taxis."
- "Waiting at bus stops not good."

- "The bus stops in my area are used for drug dealing so I would not use public transport to get into this area."
- "Night time drug deals in layby opposite my bungalow."
- "CCTV coverage is limited; police presence is non-existent. You'll always get someone hanging about, either trying to intimidate, harass, behaving aggressively etc."
- "Past trauma and lack of police presence."
- "There are never any staff around when you need help and you never see a police officer."
- "Buses yes, but not taxis."
- "Cars not signalling when turning off main road."



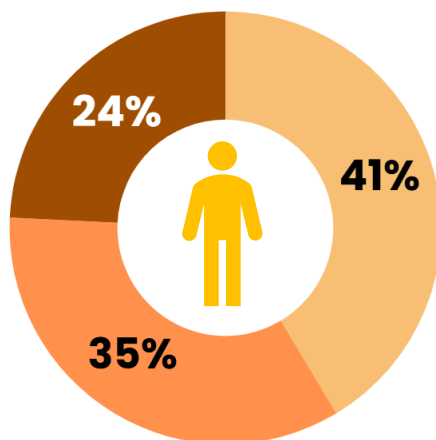
3.3 Feelings of Safety

The next set of questions focused on feelings of safety, the reasons why respondents feel unsafe, what people's main concerns were and whether there were specific areas in Witham where they did not feel safe in.

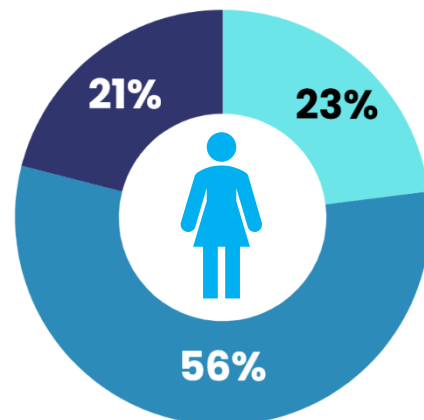
>> *Do you ever feel unsafe when using the areas?*

The options for this question were 'No – I never feel unsafe', 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only', and 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night.' 23 respondents (31%) noted that 'No – I never feel unsafe', 34 respondents (46%) noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only', and 17 respondents (23%) noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night.'

These results have been further broken down to highlight the different responses between male and female respondents. 12 men (41%) selected 'No – I never feel unsafe', 10 men (35%) responded that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only', and 7 men (24%) noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night.'



- No - I never feel unsafe
- Yes - I feel unsafe during the night only
- Yes - I feel unsafe during the day and night



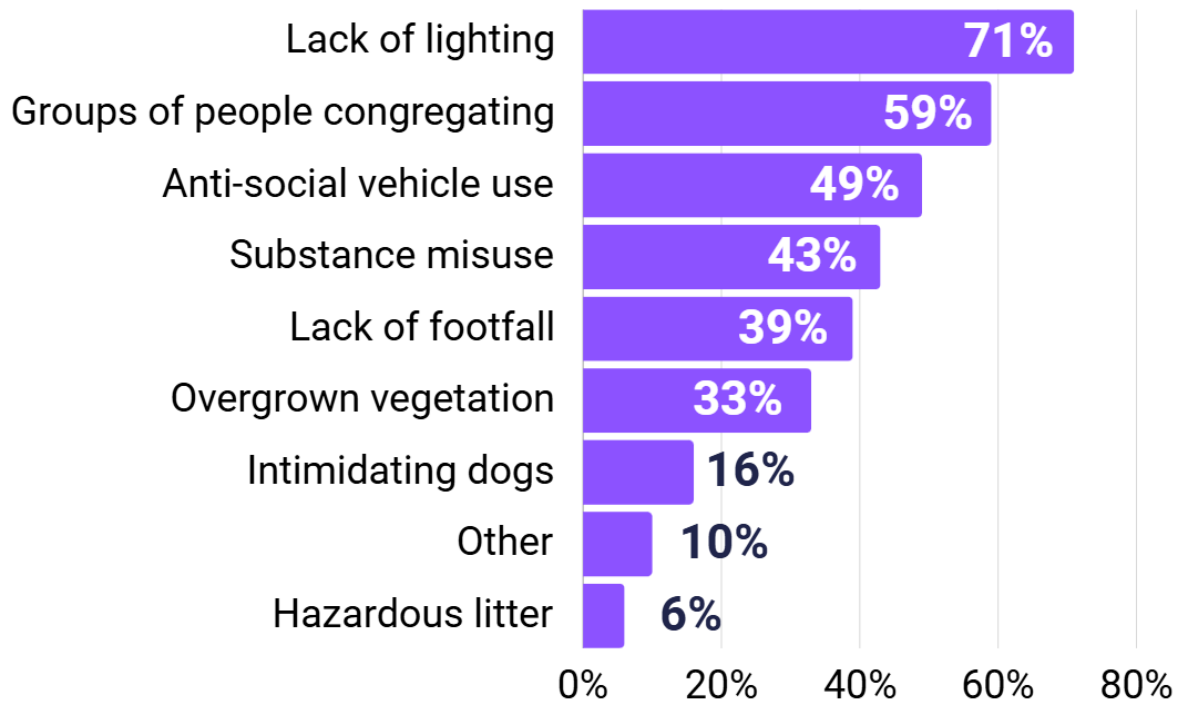
- No - I never feel unsafe
- Yes - I feel unsafe during the night only
- Yes - I feel unsafe during the day and night

10 women (23%) responded that 'No – I never feel unsafe', 24 women (56%) noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only', and 9 women (21%) selected 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night.'

This data highlights that a greater percentage of men (41%) never feel unsafe compared to women (23%) and this is consistent with other data demonstrating that typically women feel more unsafe than men. However, the breakdown also highlights that a smaller percentage of women (21%) felt unsafe during the day and night compared to men (24%).

>> *If yes, why do you feel unsafe?*

Those who responded 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only' or 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night' were asked the reasons why. Respondents could choose all options which were applicable to them and these options included 'Lack of lighting', 'Lack of footfall', 'Groups of people congregating', 'Intimidating dogs', 'Anti-social vehicle use', 'Hazardous litter', 'Substance misuse', 'Overgrown vegetation' and they could also select 'Other' and specify another reason.



Five respondents selected the 'Other' option, and they were then asked to provide further explanation and two respondents commented the following:

- *"Groups of young kids aged about 11 to 13 who intimidate people and throw eggs, tomatoes and even dog poo bags at people and cars and the police don't do anything about it, or can't. Police hide in the Town Hall when in Witham and don't go out and police. Holidays are the worst and shock, all the police take their holiday then and Witham is defenceless except for the Street Warden who can't act on his own when there are gangs of children but he does his best."*



- *"I would feel unsafe in the dark anywhere on my own, not specific to Witham."*

>> *Is there a specific area you feel unsafe in?*

Respondents were asked to note specific area where they felt unsafe, and Witham River Walk was mentioned the most by 17 respondents, and this was closely followed by the town centre and Newland Street which was highlighted by 13 respondents.

The Templars estate was noted by 4 respondents, Cut Throat Lane and the surrounding area was mentioned by 3 respondents, and Witham Train Station was mentioned by 2 respondents. Maldon Road park (Witham Town Park) was mentioned by 2 respondents, and Asda was also mentioned by 2 respondents.

The following locations were only mentioned once by respondents: Witham Library, Howbridge Road by the school, The Avenue, mini roundabout at the top of the Avenue, Guithavon Road, Lockram Lane path behind the Church, Morrisons roundabout, area around Blackwater Lane, Rickstones Road estate, Rickstones Recreational Ground and Hatfield Road estate.

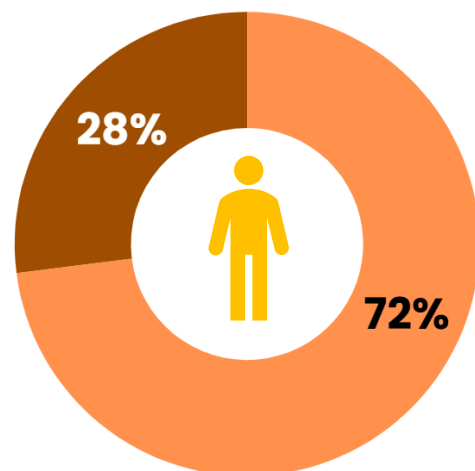
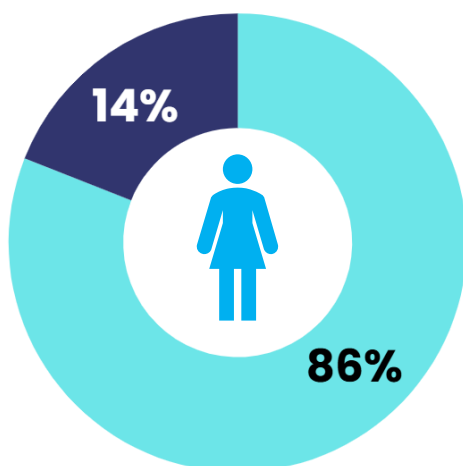


3.4 Victims of Crime

>> *Have you ever been a victim of crime in the areas, i.e. theft, sexual violence, harassment?*

■ No - I have not been a victim of crime
■ Yes - I have been a victim of crime

■ No - I have not been a victim of crime
■ Yes - I have been a victim of crime



59 respondents (80%) noted that no they had not been a victim of crime, and 15 respondents (20%) noted that yes they had been a victim of crime in the areas.

Examining the gender of the respondents for this question highlighted a difference between female and male respondents. 37 women (86%) noted that no they had not been a victim of crime and 6 women (14%) responded yes they had been a victim of the crime in the areas.

However, the number of men that reported they had been a victim of crime was higher. 21 men (72%) responded that no they had not been a victim of crime and 8 men (28%) noted that yes they had been a victim of crime in the areas.

>> *If yes, was this crime reported to Essex Police?*

The 15 respondents who had been a victim of crime were asked whether they reported the crime to Essex Police and 8 respondents (53%) noted yes they did and 7 respondents (47%) noted that no they did not report it to Essex Police.



>> *If no, was this crime anonymously reported to Crimestoppers?*



The 7 respondents that didn't report to Essex Police were then asked whether they reported the crime to Crimestoppers. One respondent didn't answer this question, and the remaining 6 respondents (100%) didn't report the crime to Crimestoppers. Those who responded with no were then provided details on how to contact Crimestoppers in order to report crime anonymously.

>> *Do you personally know someone who has been a victim of crime in the areas?*

42 respondents (57%) noted that no they didn't personally know someone who had been a victim of crime and 32 respondents (43%) noted that yes they did personally know someone who had been a victim of crime in the areas.

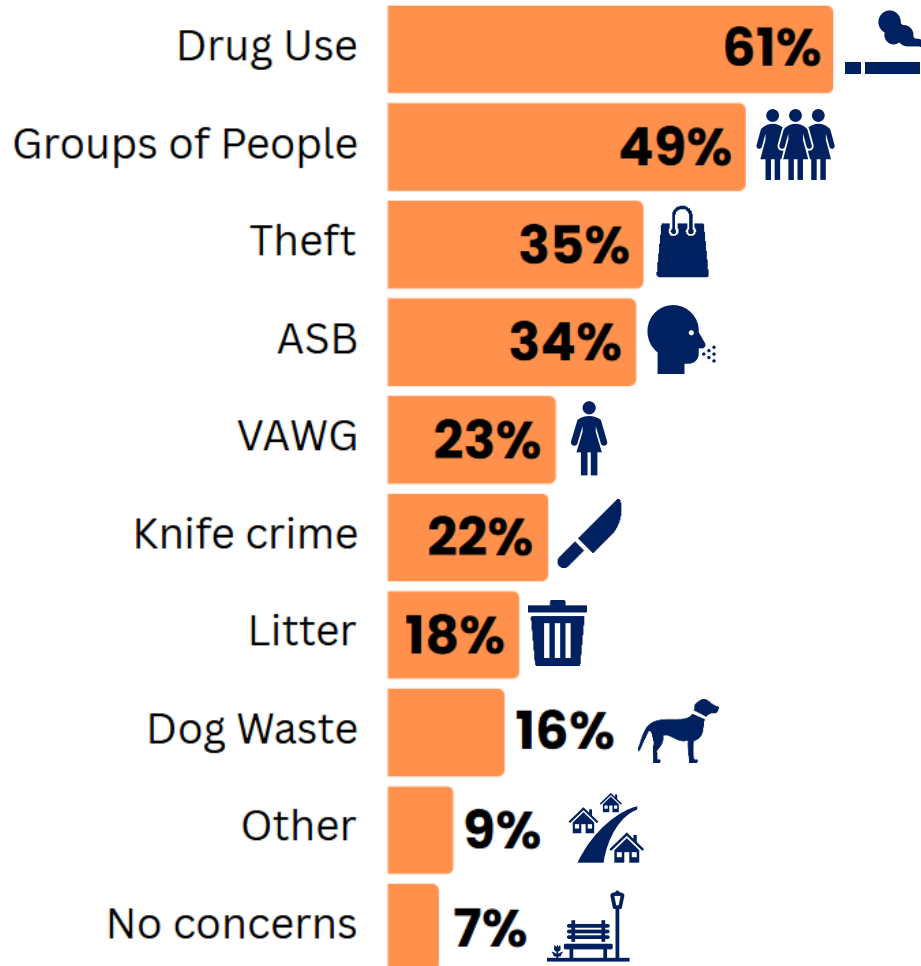


- No - I don't know anyone who's been a victim of crime
- Yes - I know someone who had been a victim of crime

3.5 Main Concerns

The next question asked respondents what their main concerns were in the areas. Respondents could choose all options which were applicable to them and these options included 'No concerns', 'Groups of people', 'Drug use', 'Knife crime', 'Theft', 'Dog waste', 'Litter', and 'Violence against women and girls.'

Respondents could also select 'Anti-social behaviour' and specify the type, and they could also select the 'Other' option and specify a main concern which wasn't listed. 'Drug use' was the prevailing main concern as it was noted by 45 respondents (61%), and 'Groups of people' was the second highest concern which was selected by 36 respondents (49%). 'Theft' was highlighted by 26 respondents (35%), and 'Anti-social behaviour' was noted by 25 respondents (34%) as their main concern.



'Violence against women and girls (VAWG)' was selected by 17 respondents (23%), 'Knife crime' was noted by 16 respondents (22%), and 'Litter' was noted by 13 respondents (18%) as one of their main concerns. 'Dog waste' was chosen by 12 respondents (16%), 'Other' was noted by 7 respondents (9%), and 'No concerns' was noted by 5 respondents (7%).

22 of the 25 respondents that selected 'Anti-social behaviour' specified the type and 16 respondents (73%) noted issues with young people, 8 respondents (36%) highlighted issues with people on bikes/scooters, 6 respondents (27%) specified issues with drugs. All of the respondents comments are noted below:

- "Kids age approximately 11 -12 year olds in groups no consideration for other people bad language etc."
- "Teenagers causing trouble in shops and library."

- *“Groups on bicycles - have been intimidated by young man after using cash machine.”*
 - *“Groups of children/young adults on electric scooters, obvious drug deals, no policing during the day and volunteer Community Police at night. Total invisibility and obvious lack of care re drug taking and alcoholism.”*
 - *“Young boys on bikes, abusing passersby, having things thrown at me.”*
 - *“Electric scooters in the shopping precinct and on pavements, even supermarkets. Lidl has a lady who shops there on her scooter.”*
 - *“Drug dealers. Users of electric bike that go too fast. Youth who do not care who they hurt.”*
-
- *“Drinking very early in public places and drunkenness throughout the town. Use of electric bikes to cruise around at high speeds and usually in the wrong direction on the roads wearing full face balaclava style masks. This is the first time I have heard about the safer initiative and has had no impact to the behaviour of the public. A waste of money to most people.”*
 - *“Intimidating youths.”*
 - *“Groups of people hanging around at bus stops. Drug use/supply - often have seen dealing in the local area. Vehicles driving in go at excessive speed particularly at night along Rickstones Road.”*
 - *“Teenagers congregating in groups during the day and evening. Throwing objects at cars, intimidating people on the pavement, rude and anti-social behaviour. No sign of community police presence so the problem is getting worse.”*



- *“Attempting to throw Tomato Ketchup in my open window.”*
- *“Groups hanging around, damaging thing, graffiti etc. Motorbikes driving round late at night, or sometimes they will drive through the River Walk risking hitting pedestrians, prams. Young lad on electric scooter always speeding about selling weed. Drug addicts stumbling about the town, begging. There is so much obvious crime and nothing is done.”*
- *“Kids playing chicken with cars. Assaults Criminal damage.”*
- *“Youths verbally abusing residents/walkers.”*
- *“Youth violence, theft & drug running.”*
- *“Groups of secondary school children shoplifting, throwing eggs and tomatoes and dog poo bags at people and cars. They have even assaulted somebody who challenged them. Feral.”*
- *“Motorbikes being driven dangerously on riverwalk. Groups of children riding bikes into shops, throwing things at cars, threatening behaviour. Aggressive shoplifters.”*

Overwhelmingly 41 respondents (64%) commented that they would like to see an increase of police presence in the areas. 27 respondents (42%) noted that they would like more lighting and 8 respondents (13%) highlighted that they would like more CCTV in the areas.

5 respondents (8%) would like more Street Wardens and Street Warden patrols, and 4 respondents (6%) would like vegetation to be cut back in the areas to improve visibility. 4 respondents (6%) would like to see more activities for young people, 2 respondents (3%) would like a crackdown on drug use and another 2 respondents (3%) would like to see increased sentencing of criminals.

Other comments made by respondents include increasing awareness about personal safety, better footpaths, more frequent buses, better upbringing of young people, publicised prosecutions, speed cameras and lowering speed limits.

4.0 First Witham Safer Streets Survey

A total of 162 people completed the first Witham Safer Streets survey in 2023 which is larger sample than the 74 people that completed the second Witham Safer Streets survey. In the first survey, 111 respondents (69%) lived in the Witham areas, and 97 respondents (60%) reported that they used the Witham areas every day.

This is lower than the results of the second survey where more respondents were local and used the areas more frequently. 59 respondents (80%) lived in the areas and 58 respondents (78%) used the areas every day.



**safer streets
survey**

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership in partnership with Essex Office of Police Fire and Crime Commissioner has successfully secured Home Office Safer Streets funding for investment in Witham.

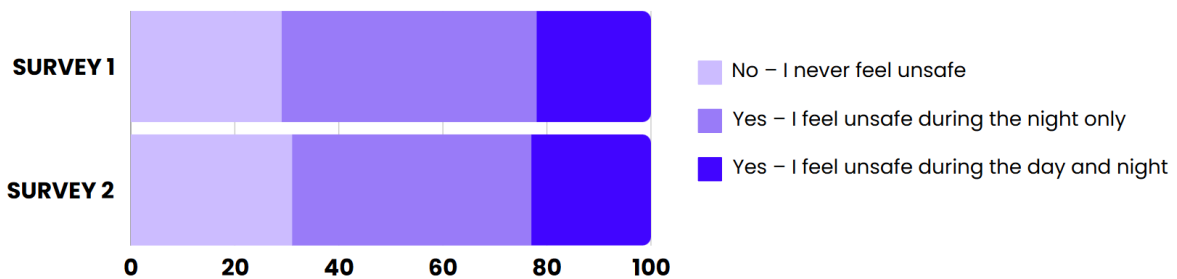
WE WANT YOUR VIEWS!
You could WIN £50 Amazon card

The way respondents travelled around the Witham areas was largely similar for both surveys, however there was an increase in the number of people driving, 115 respondents (71%) in the first survey and 62 respondents (84%) in the second. There was also an increase in the number of people travelling by taxi, 18 respondents (11%) in the first survey and only 4 respondents (5%) in the second survey.

4.1 Comparing Feelings of Safety

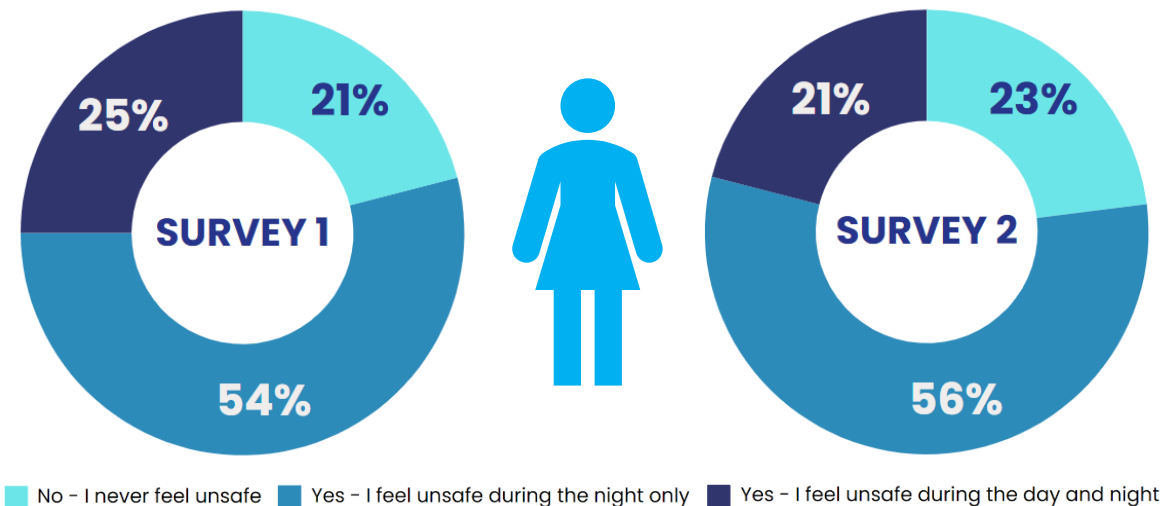
When Witham respondents were asked whether they felt safe using public transport, including buses and taxis, the responses were practically identical in both surveys. 143 respondents (88%) said yes they did feel safe using public transport in the first survey and 63 respondents (85%) said yes they did feel safe in the second survey. The comments that respondents provided about why they did not feel safe using public transport were largely similar in both surveys.

In terms of general feelings of safety, both surveys were again largely similar. A total of 47 respondents (29%) noted that ‘No – I never feel unsafe’ in the first survey, and 23 respondents (31%) noted the same in the second survey. 80 respondents (49%) noted that ‘Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only’ in the first survey, and 34 respondents (46%) noted this in the second survey.



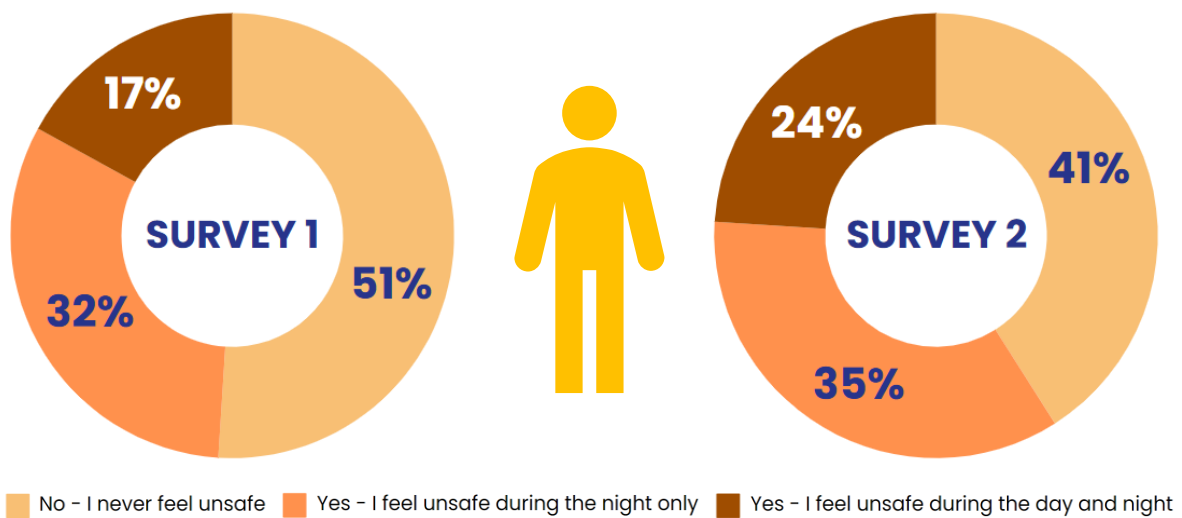
35 respondents (22%) noted that ‘Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night’ in the first survey, and in the second survey there was a slight increase with 17 respondents (23%) noting that ‘Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night.’ However, when this data is split into men and women respondents, the results are much more varied.

23 Witham women (21%) responded that ‘No – I never feel unsafe’ in the first survey, and in the second survey this increased slightly to 10 women (23%). 60 Witham women (54%) selected that ‘Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only’ in the first survey, and 24 women (56%) selected this option in the second survey which is again a slight increase. 27 Witham women (25%) noted that ‘Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night’ in the first survey, and 9 women (21%) noted this in the second survey which is a slight decrease.



In the first survey, 24 Witham men (51%) selected that 'No – I never feel unsafe' and this was selected by 12 men (41%) in the second survey which is a 10% decrease. 15 Witham men (32%) noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only' in the first survey and this was similar to the second survey where 10 men (35%) noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only.'

8 Witham men (17%) noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night' in the first survey and there is another increase in the second survey as 7 men (24%) also selected this option. This data demonstrates that feelings of safety haven't changed significantly for women respondents when comparing the results from both surveys. However, with men respondents there is a decrease in the number of men that never feel unsafe and there is an increase in men who feel unsafe during the day and night.



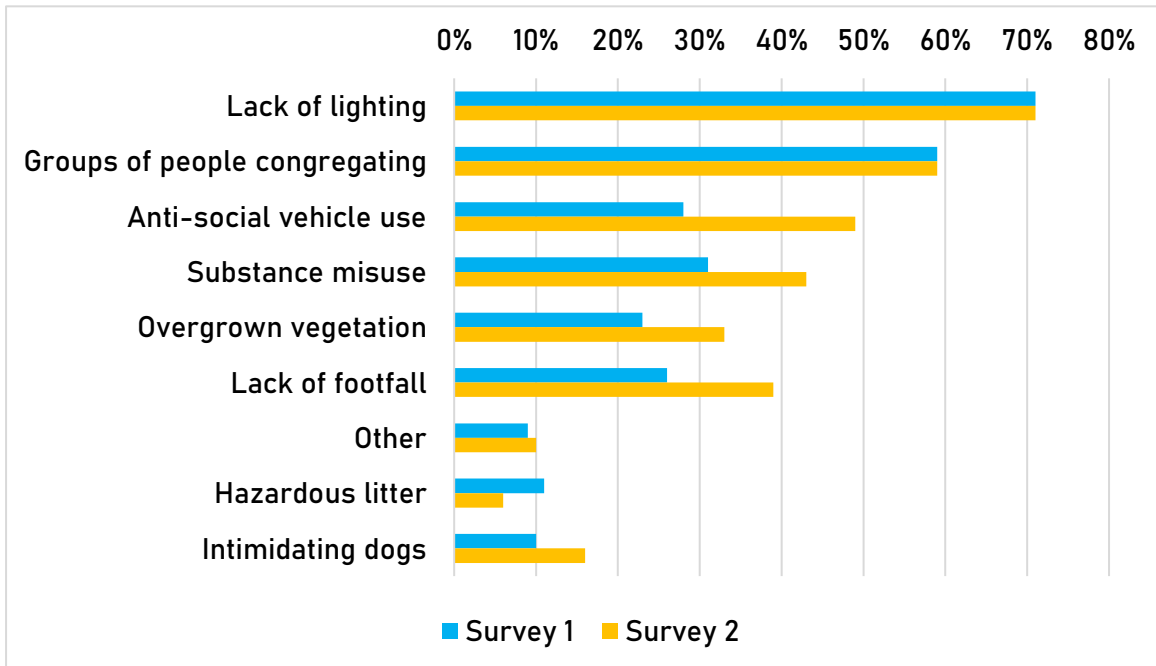
When reviewing the reasons as to why respondents felt unsafe, the top two main reasons were exactly the same for both surveys. 71% of respondents noted that they felt unsafe due to the 'Lack of lighting' and 59% of respondents noted that they felt unsafe due to 'Groups of people congregating' in both surveys.

The largest discrepancy between both surveys was 'Anti-social vehicle use' which saw a significant increase in the second survey, 28% of respondents selected this in the first survey and 49% of respondents selected this in the second survey.

There was also increase in the number of respondents who selected 'Substance misuse', 'Lack of footfall' and 'Overgrown vegetation.' In the first survey, 31% of respondents chose 'Substance misuse' as a reason why they felt unsafe, and this increased to 43% of respondents in the second survey.

'Lack of footfall' was chosen by 26% of respondents in the first survey and in the second survey this was chosen by 39% of respondents. 'Overgrown vegetation' was selected by 23% of respondents in the first survey and by 33% of respondents in the second. The remaining reasons which were chosen by respondents saw a smaller change between both surveys. 9% of respondents noted 'Other' in the first survey and this was noted by 10% of respondents in the second survey. 'Hazardous litter' was chosen by 11% of respondents in the first survey and 6% of

respondents in the second survey. ‘Intimidating dogs’ was chosen by 10% of respondents in the first survey and 16% of respondents in the second survey as the reason why they felt unsafe in the areas.



When comparing the specific areas where respondents felt unsafe in, the results were very similar in both surveys. Witham River Walk was mentioned by the most number of respondents in both surveys, with the town centre and Newland Street coming in second in both surveys. The third most suggested area was Witham Town Park in the first survey, and Templars estate in the second survey. Cut Throat Lane and Witham Train Station were also specific areas highlighted in both surveys where respondents felt unsafe.

4.2 Comparing Victims of Crime

When comparing the results from both surveys, there were similar numbers of respondents who had been a victim of crime in the areas. In the first survey, 136 respondents (84%) noted that no they had not been a victim of crime and in the second survey this was 59 respondents (80%).

There was a slight reduction in the number of respondents reporting crime to Essex Police if they had been a victim of crime with 16 respondents (62%) in the first survey and 8 respondents (53%) in the second survey. In both surveys, respondents who didn't report the crime to Essex Police were asked whether they reported the crime anonymously to Crimestoppers and no respondents from both surveys reported to Crimestoppers.

The number of Witham respondents who personally knew someone who had been a victim of crime in the areas increased slightly from 39% of respondents in the first survey to 43% of respondents in the second survey.

4.3 Comparing Main Concerns

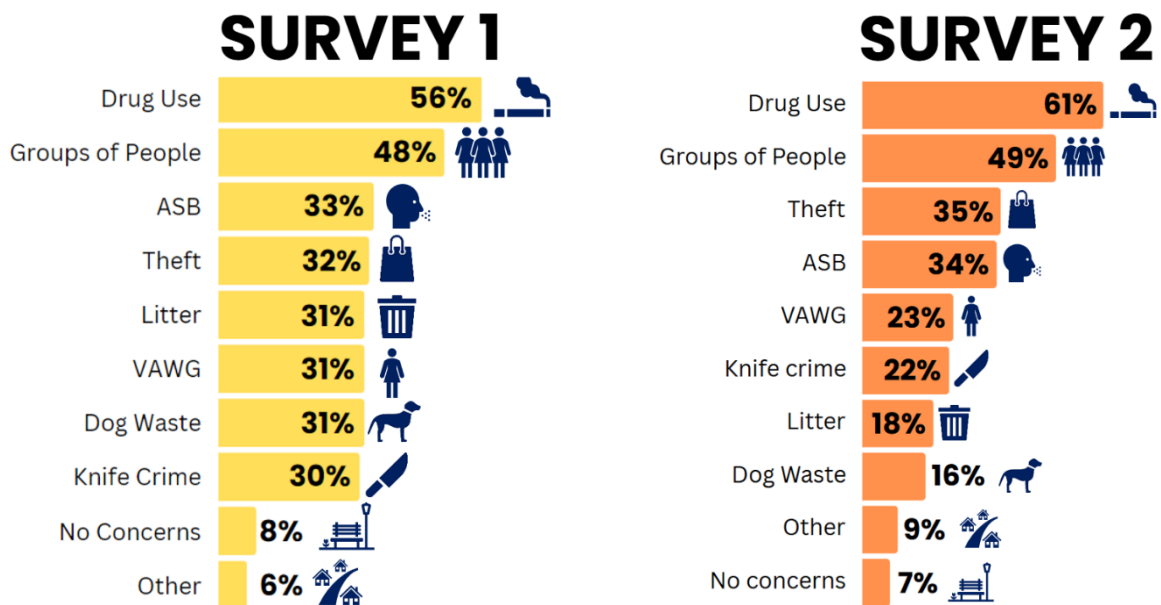
The top four main concerns for respondents of both surveys remained the same and these were ‘Drug use’, ‘Groups of people’, ‘Anti-social behaviour (ASB)’ and ‘Theft.’ ‘Drug use’ was the prevailing main concern for respondents of both surveys with 56% in the first survey and 61% in the second survey.

‘Groups of people’ being a main concern saw almost no change between both surveys with 48% of respondents selecting this in the first survey and 49% of respondents selecting this in the second survey. ‘Theft’ and ‘Anti-social behaviour’ were almost identical in both surveys as well. 32% of respondents noted ‘Theft’ as their main concern in the first survey and this increased slightly to 35% in the second survey. For ‘Anti-social behaviour’, 33% of respondents selected this in the first survey and 34% of respondents chose this in the second.

A number of concerns saw a reduction from the first survey to the second survey and these include ‘Violence against women and girls (VAWG)’, ‘Knife crime’, ‘Litter’ and ‘Dog waste.’ In the first survey, 31% of respondents noted ‘VAWG’ as their main concern and this reduced to 23% of respondents in the second survey. ‘Knife crime’ was selected by 30% of respondents in the first survey and this reduced to 22% in the second survey.

In the first survey, 31% of respondents noted ‘Litter’ as their main concern and this reduced to 18% in the second survey. ‘Dog waste’ was selected by 31% of respondents in the first survey and this reduced to 16% of respondents in the second survey.

Respondents also had the option to select ‘No concerns’ as their main concern, as well as ‘Other’ where they could then specify. The results for both of these options were almost identical across both surveys. 8% of respondents selected ‘No concerns’ in the first survey and this was 9% in the second survey. ‘Other’ was noted by 6% of respondents in the first survey and by 7% in the second.



4.4 Comparing Making Areas Safer

Respondents were asked what they thought would make the areas safer in both surveys and the most frequently mentioned suggestion in both surveys was the same and this was an increase of police presence in the areas. 49% of respondents commented that they would like to see an increase of police presence in the areas in the first survey and this increased to 64% of respondents in the second survey.

The second most frequently mentioned suggestion was also the same in both surveys, and the same number of respondents suggested this. 42% of respondents commented that improving and increasing the amount of streetlights would make the areas safer in the first and second survey.

Increasing the amount of CCTV cameras in the areas was highlighted by 12% of respondents in the first survey which is almost identical to the 13% of respondents who suggested this in the second survey. The other suggestions by respondents were largely similar for both surveys.

5.0 Conclusion

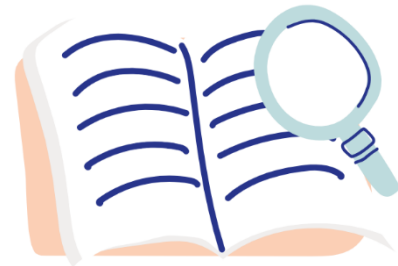
The results of the second Witham Safer Streets survey has not demonstrated a significant improvement in people's perception of safety from the first survey. When comparing the results of both surveys in terms of general feelings of safety, the responses were largely similar. There was a difference when the data was split into men and women respondents.

Women respondents provided very similar answers for both surveys but there was a slight increase in how many women respondents noted that 'No – I never feel unsafe' and a slight decrease in the number of women respondents who noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night.'

There were larger discrepancies with the results from men respondents. In the first survey, 51% of men respondents selected that 'No – I never feel unsafe' and this was selected by 41% in the second survey which is a 10% decrease. The results for men respondents that selected 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the night only' was 32% and 35% for the first and second survey respectively. 17% of men respondents noted that 'Yes – I feel unsafe during the day and night' in the first survey and this increased to 24% in the second survey. The second survey highlights that men respondents feel less safe compared to the first survey.

The top two main reasons as to why respondents felt unsafe were exactly the same for both surveys. There was an increase in the number of respondents who selected 'Anti-social vehicle use', 'Substance misuse', 'Lack of footfall' and 'Overgrown vegetation' in the second survey. 'Anti-social vehicle use' had the largest percentage increase at 21%.

CONCLUSION



When comparing the specific areas where respondents felt unsafe in, the results were very similar in both surveys. Witham River Walk was mentioned by the most number of respondents in both surveys, with the town centre and Newland Street coming in second in both surveys as well.

There were similar numbers of respondents who had not been victims of crime in the areas when comparing both surveys. 84% noted this in the first survey and 80% of respondents noted this in the second. There was a slight reduction in the number of respondents reporting crime to Essex Police if they had been a victim of crime with 62% in the first survey and 53% in the second.

In both surveys, the top four main concerns for respondents of both surveys remained the same and these were 'Drug use', 'Groups of people', 'Anti-social behaviour (ASB)' and 'Theft.' A number of main concerns saw a reduction from the first survey compared to the second survey and these were 'Violence against women and girls (VAWG)', 'Knife crime', 'Litter' and 'Dog waste.'

When respondents were asked what they thought would make the Witham areas safer, both surveys had similar results except for the most frequently mentioned suggestion which was to see an increase of police presence in the areas. The number of respondents who suggested this increased from 49% of respondents in the first survey to 64% of respondents in the second survey. This analysis has demonstrated that more work is required to improve people's perception of safety within the Witham Safer Streets areas.



[Back to Agenda](#)



ITEM NO: 17

Officer Report: Social Media Report – 1st November 24 – 31st January 25

Issue:

The most popular posts on social media in the last 3 months have been:

Facebook: Witham Christmas Fayre cover photo – 63 likes

Instagram: Announcement of banks coming to Town Hall – 14 likes

The posts that reached the most people through the algorithms of social media:

Facebook: Announcement of banks coming to Town Hall – 8.9K

Instagram: 3 day countdown to Christmas Fayre – 494

Traffic on our social media pages:

Facebook visits: 8.4k	New followers: 69	Total Followers: 4,245	People reached: 47.5k
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Instagram visits: 152	New followers: 39	Total Followers: 866	People reached: 1.3k
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We continue to post daily Monday to Friday, promoting WTC events and any other WTC initiatives. On Tuesdays we post or share something climate related, on Thursdays we post anything relevant to the weekend, e.g. Sunday Cinema and on the first of each month we post the upcoming meetings for that month. We also share anything that is relevant to the community, such as information from Essex Police

Advice:

To receive & note

[Back to Agenda](#)