

Statistically Hungerford is one of the safest places in England and the fear of crime outweighs actual crime. However, there is a problem with anti-social behaviour which, although not always criminal, directly affects residents' quality of life and should be tackled before the problem escalates out of hand. The town is served by both a manned police station and a retained fire station. These need to be preserved and continue to be located near the town centre.

The town must work in partnership with the police force to encourage a proactive sense of security rather than merely responding to insecurity. This can be achieved by extending the current level of CCTV coverage, increasing the presence and visibility of police officers and encouraging the use of community support officers.



Policies

Minimise crime and anti-social behaviour in and around Hungerford.

Encourage the community to work in partnership with the police to help develop a proactive sense of security.

Seek to ensure that all residents feel safe and secure.

Work to reduce the fear of crime, particularly among the elderly population.

Engender the further development of a caring community with the emphasis on the consideration of others.



Key Actions

- Retain the manned police station and make sure people are aware of opening times or alternative contact methods.
- Campaign to reintroduce a permanent 'beat Bobbie' whose first priority is the policing of Hungerford.
- Introduce community support officers.
- Work with all relevant agencies to ensure that drug abuse does not become a major problem.
- Improve drug awareness among young people to prevent abuse.
- Keep the retained fire station and resist any moves to relocate it from its present position.
- Ensure ambulance response times are maintained so that residents are assured of a first class service.
- Consider making drinking in public illegal to discourage anti social behaviour and binge drinking.
- Encourage the police to enforce speed limits and parking restrictions on local roads and reduce anti-social driving.