



April 2019

Felixstowe Partnership Funded PCSO Report

Parking

This month I have decided to take a slightly different approach to parking in the town centre which has had positive results. I have worked on educating motorists about the rules in Hamilton Road and rather than give tickets I have tried to 'intercept' cars before drivers get out and walk away. By doing this it has greatly decreased the number of cars parked illegally which allows traffic to flow with ease on Hamilton Road. There are still occasions where I have issued tickets for offences however I have had a better reception from drivers who are asked to find a more suitable space to park than having vehicles parked anywhere along the road. There is still a problem with the section of Hamilton Road between Bank Corner and Bent Hill. The main issue I have observed is vehicles parking outside of the bank which makes it difficult for cars and goods vehicles to negotiate that area. Many of the drivers are using the bank and cash point briefly but some vehicles have been parking for a significant amount of time. One car alone does not always become a problem however on many occasions there are several vehicles parked there which results in single file traffic. This problem can be extended further towards Bent Hill which results in problems at the junction as cars have to travel on the opposing side of the road when navigating the junction. I have recorded over 200 offences in Felixstowe related to parking which have been dealt with either by a fixed penalty or a warning notice.

Schools

I have seen an improvement at some schools and there have been days where there has been no illegal or unsafe parking. I would like to see this continue into the summer. I will be continuing to show a presence at schools in Felixstowe to encourage safer parking. I am working closely with schools to address any problems that are occurring during drop off and pick up times to ensure safe travel between home and school. There is still a concern that parents and carers are continuing to park in unsafe places such as on the zig-zag lines and on corners of junctions. This is being addressed and by working with the school's, students and parents this can be dealt with accordingly.

Emerging Issues

There are potential problems arising in public open spaces as the nights become longer and warmer. Particular areas of interest are parks and playgrounds such as Seaton, Cavendish and the Skate Park. Positive engagement with young persons and park users in addition to collaborative working with other agencies and services could see anti-social behaviour reduced and managed as we come into the summer. The number of reports of anti-social behaviour has been low so far however with regular and high visibility patrols I hope that ASB can remain low.

Making Suffolk a safer place to live, work, travel and invest