



May 2019

## Felixstowe Partnership Funded PCSO Report

### Parking



Parking has proven to be a dynamic and constantly changing issue with everyday being different. Some days there are no problems and on other days there will be countless illegally parked vehicles in and around town. I have dealt with nearly 300 parking offences and 74% of these offences have occurred in the town centre with over 40% being in Hamilton Road alone. I have tried a number of different methods to deal with the parking in Felixstowe from informative leaflets to zero-tolerance enforcement each with varying effect. Having spoken with numerous drivers and members of the public there are two overarching opinions with regard to parking in the town centre, the first being the driver believed they were allowed to, and the second being there were no lines. Unfortunately, ignorance to the rules is not excusable but where possible I believe it is important to educate the driver in the hope that they do not repeat the offence again. I will be carrying out zero-tolerance parking enforcement across town and penalty notices will be issued to vehicles found to be parked illegally. I would like to point out that while patrolling through Hamilton Road I noticed that many of the illegally parked vehicles were displaying blue badges. Whilst it is legal for badge holders to park in the black bays only, numerous cars were parked outside of the signed black bays resulting in navigating through the shared space both difficult and dangerous for pedestrians and motorists. Parking outside of the bays results in 'choke' points being created where the road is made narrower and the danger to pedestrians increased. It is important that drivers look out for the various signs and restrictions in town.



Only disabled badge holders and goods vehicles may park in the black bays on Hamilton Road. No vehicles are permitted to park **anywhere** on Hamilton Road except for the **marked or signed bays**. Cars must not park outside of Barclays bank.

### Schools

There has been a positive improvement with some schools which may be due to the warmer weather with more children walking or cycling to school. There are some schools which due to their location, road layout and number of pupils which are suffering from more problems. At one particular school traffic there are nearby roadworks which resulted in increased traffic along the road. The increased traffic and the narrow road eventually became gridlocked with cars unable to move. There will be a continued effort to work with schools to address such issues.

### Emerging Issues

The school holidays have highlighted some anti-social behaviour taking place in public open spaces and parks such as the skate park and spa gardens. This ASB involves substance misuse, vandalism and general nuisance. It is important to address this prior to the summer holidays with high visibility and regular patrols during the evenings when most ASB is occurring.

Following the closure of one side of the academy entrance students are now travelling along the high road and along Maidstone road to get home. This has brought numerous problems and complaints from residents. Working with the school we hope to address this as soon as possible to prevent anti-social behaviour before and after school.