

# Building Safer Communities

Output Document  
June 2020



## About Building Safer Communities

Building Safer Communities is a programme of community engagement and consultation to gather residents' ideas for how Portsmouth's Community Crime Reduction Fund should be spent to improve community safety in the city.

- Portsmouth's Community Crime Reduction Fund is a local pot of money worth £90,000.
- Over the next three years, the north, centre and south of Portsmouth will each receive a share of the £90,000 pot, which will be spent on making communities in these areas safer.
- The best ideas for making the city's communities safer will be developed into initiatives and delivered using money from the fund.
- Residents had their say on how the Community Crime Reduction Fund should be spent at independently facilitated workshops run at community meetings across the city.
- Consultation took place between January and March 2020, independently facilitated by Pam Hamilton and Nicola Waterman from Paraffin.

## The Building Safer Communities team attended community meetings across Portsmouth

We attended five meetings across the city and invited residents to imagine their ideal neighbourhood and come up with ideas to help achieve it.

### Workshops were held in:

- Milton; *Wednesday 26 February*
- Paulsgrove; *Monday 2 March*
- Portsea; *Wednesday 4 March*
- Somerstown; *Monday 9 March*
- Eastney; *Wednesday 11 March*
- *A sixth workshop was due to be held in Landport & Buckland at the Heartlands Community Voice meeting on 30 March, but this was postponed due to the coronavirus crisis.*

## We collected more than 400 ideas from residents for how to spend the fund

### At city level the main themes were:

- Activities for children/young people
- Policing/community wardens
- Community cohesion
- Road safety
- Public transport



## **Councillor Lee Hunt is reviewing the ideas before making a decision on awarding the funding**

Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Cllr Lee Hunt is reviewing the 400+ ideas collected from across the city and will decide which will be put into practice using the £90,000 Community Crime Reduction Fund.

Cllr Hunt's decisions will also be informed by the results of the 2020 Community Safety Survey, analysis of which will add depth and breadth to our understanding of the issues and what will be effective in improving safety in our communities.

## **The context within which we are doing this work has changed as a result of the Covid-19 crisis**

The timing of this community consultation has been extended due to lockdown measures changing the way we work. However, the team will continue to develop the ideas you have suggested and will keep you informed of progress.

## **More about this work**

Please visit the Building Safer Communities webpage for further updates:  
<https://www.saferportsmouth.org.uk/have-your-say-on-building-a-safer-portsmouth/>

To talk to someone about the project, please contact Lisa Wills:  
[lisa.wills@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.wills@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

# MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

## Milton residents came together to share their ideas for Building Safer Communities in Portsmouth

On Wednesday 26 February, the Building Safer Communities team attended Milton Neighbourhood Forum to run a 60-minute workshop with residents. Forty-three residents took part in the workshop.

Following an introduction by Cllr Lee Hunt, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, council officer, Lisa Wills briefed residents on the key issues relating to community safety in the city. Our independent facilitator, Pam Hamilton then asked residents to think about what their ideal Milton would look like and share their thoughts on the Ideal Neighbourhood templates put up around the room.

Finally, Pam invited residents to share their initial ideas for how Milton could move closer to their ideal version of the neighbourhood.



**The main themes for Milton were activities for children and young people, road safety and public transport**

**Three main themes emerged from the Milton workshop:**

- 1. Activities for children and young people** - the message was clear: we need to consult with young people themselves to understand what they need. There was also support for activities to bridge the generation gap.
- 2. Road safety** - particularly the need for more effective traffic calming measures, safer cycling routes, and protection for pedestrians from cyclists.
- 3. Public transport** - in particular the need for an affordable and regular bus service.



# We collected 156 ideas from Milton residents

## Ideas included:

**"Shouldn't something like this be taken to schools so we can hear from 15 and 16 year olds and college age students?"**



**"We need to look at non-punitive, restorative solutions like restorative justice and community mediation"**



**"Cheaper bus fares – free, maybe."**

**"We don't understand what modern young people need – they feel ignored, lost, not part of society, and are crying out to be heard"**



**"One of the nurseries in the area have set up a scheme with one of the local care homes – adopt a grandparent. Let's do more of that"**



**"Teach cycling proficiency again in schools."**

**"Mixing with young people keeps older people young, and younger people can learn a lot from older people. Need to build that bridge between the generations"**

**"I'm OK on the pavement, but as soon as I need to cross a road, I don't feel safe – it feels like I'm being driven at! It might be an age thing, but it feels like cars drive faster"**



**"Evening bus not ending at 5.15pm"**

**"Introduce French traffic lights which go red if you are speeding"**





# PAULSGROVE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## Paulsgrove residents came together to share their ideas for Building Safer Communities in Portsmouth

On Monday 2 March, the Building Safer Communities team attended a meeting of the Paulsgrove Residents Association to run a 30-minute workshop with residents. Eleven residents took part in the workshop, which lasted longer than planned because people had so much to say!

Following an introduction by Cllr Lee Hunt, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Our independent facilitator, Pam Hamilton asked residents to think about what their ideal Paulsgrove would look like and share their thoughts on the Ideal Neighbourhood templates put up around the room. Finally, Pam invited residents to share their initial ideas for how Paulsgrove could move closer to their ideal version of the neighbourhood.



### The main themes for Paulsgrove were activities for children and young people, policing and community cohesion

Three main themes emerged from the Paulsgrove workshop:

1. **Activities for children and young people** - not only to give them something to do, but also to give them a sense of pride in their community and ambition for themselves.
2. **Policing** - residents felt strongly that the area would benefit greatly from a return to community policing.
3. **Community cohesion** - the community is ready to get involved to make things happen.

Residents also expressed a lack of trust in the council, which they feel focuses its efforts on the centre and south of the city. As one resident put it, 'You're not going to collect all this and then forget about us, are you?'



# **We collected 104 ideas from Paulsgrove residents**

## **Ideas included:**

**“Perhaps we could build something for young people/the community and get them involved in building it – sense of ownership”**



**“Young people being empowered to achieve and defy stereotypes. Kids from Paulsgrove CAN achieve”**

**“We started by talking about money, but lots of the ideas up on the wall are low cost”**

**“Not being stigmatised – when people mention Paulsgrove in a negative way”**



**“Building public confidence [in the Police]”**

**“Redundant space up in the chalk pits – what about a community farm? Would be helpful for school children”**



**“Neighbourhood where people can feel safe and trust each other again. Paulsgrove is a true community that’s missing in other parts of the city”**

**“Community Wardens had a good rapport with kids ... They were fantastic with [them] – knew them all by name”**



# PORTSEA ACTION GROUP (PAG)

## Portsea residents came together to share their ideas for Building Safer Communities in Portsmouth

On Wednesday 4 March, the Building Safer Communities team attended Portsea Action Group's Annual General Meeting to run a 30-minute workshop with residents. Twenty-one residents took part in the workshop.

Following an introduction by Cllr Lee Hunt (Cabinet Member for Community Safety) and Cllr Cal Corkery (Shadow Cabinet Member for Community Safety), our independent facilitator, Pam Hamilton asked residents to think about what their ideal Portsea would look like and share their thoughts on the Ideal Neighbourhood templates put up around the room. Finally, Pam invited residents to share their initial ideas for how Portsea could move closer to their ideal version of the neighbourhood.



### The main themes for Portsea were activities for children and young people, community wardens and CCTV.

Three main themes emerged from the Portsea workshop:

1. **Activities for children and young people** - particularly outdoor activities. Residents also identified the need to consult with young people themselves e.g. via the adventure playground.
2. **Community Wardens** - residents felt strongly that the area would benefit greatly from a return of Community Wardens, who know and are part of the community.
3. **CCTV** - the message was clear: more CCTV (both to deter people, and to help catch perpetrators).





# **We collected 156 ideas from Portsea residents**

## **Ideas included:**

**“Make kids’ play areas more inviting so that people see them and use them”**



**“Nothing for children to do outdoors. Play parks are not suitable all ages”**

**“Teenagers are stuck indoors - nowhere for them to hang out or anything to do outside”**

**“Change culture so that people don’t have to report issues and be at risk i.e. more CCTV ”**



**“We want the community to look after the area e.g. community wardens on patrol”**



**“Community wardens are now classed as something like 'clean team' without any authority. We need the community to know they can rely on 'watchdog' style support”**

**“Better quality CCTV down all the side roads so that people can’t avoid them – they know they’re on the main roads so go down side roads to avoid them”**



**“More community wardens, more policing. Need the CW when we need them – no point finishing at 10 when the problems are in the early hours of the morning”**

# SOMERSTOWN PATCH

## Somerstown residents came together to share their ideas for Building Safer Communities in Portsmouth

On Monday 9 March, the Building Safer Communities team attended the monthly meeting of PATCH to run a 45-minute workshop with residents. Six residents took part in the workshop.

Following an introduction by Cllr Lee Hunt (Cabinet Member for Community Safety) and Cllr Cal Corkery (Shadow Cabinet Member for Community Safety), our independent facilitator, Pam Hamilton asked residents to think about what their ideal Somerstown would look like and share their thoughts on the Ideal Neighbourhood templates put up around the room. Finally, Pam invited residents to share their initial ideas for how Somerstown could move closer to their ideal version of the neighbourhood.



### The main themes for Somerstown were policing, activities for children and young people and waste.

Three main themes emerged from the somerstown workshop:

1. **Policing** – in particular, faster response times and a return to community policing i.e. they know the area and the people.
2. **Activities for children and young people** – particularly after school drop-in activities. Residents also identified the need to consult with young people themselves e.g. via the Brook Club.
3. **Waste** – residents were keen to see more bins and recycling points.



# **We collected 63 ideas from Somerstown residents**

## **Ideas included:**

**“101 - ring it up and the problem is gone. Faster response”**

**“More community wardens on the ground doing outreach + building relationships”**



**“Police at community meetings”**

**“Giving young people meaningful, interesting things to do”**

**“Mushroom - like the one in Paulsgrove; a bus-type shelter specifically for young people to hang out in”**



**“Drop-in place/hangout place like/near Domino's”**

**“Improved recycling - collected weekly, and more items collected (including glass!)”**

**“More litter bins”**



# EAST SOUTHSEA NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

## East Southsea residents came together to share their ideas for Building Safer Communities in Portsmouth

On Wednesday 11 March, Paraffin's Nicola Waterman attended East Southsea Neighbourhood Forum to brief residents on the project and invite them to share their ideas for improving community safety in their area by completing and returning an idea card.

The meeting was attended by over 100 residents, who took 115 idea cards away with them after the meeting.

### The main theme for East Southsea is road safety

One main theme has so far emerged from ideas submitted by East Southsea residents:

1. **Road safety** - particularly the need for more effective traffic calming measures, reducing the number of cars in the city, and protection for pedestrians from cyclists.



# **We have so far received 5 ideas from East Southsea residents**

## **Ideas included:**

**“I have heard that Police are unable to monitor the speed of cars in Portsmouth. I have seen local volunteers monitoring speed and taking photos of speeding cars. They give to the Police and they send out a letter to the perpetrator. A 2nd letter would result in a fine. I saw this working in Rowlands Castle. I received one of these letters! So it works ... I definitely slowed down going through there”**

**“Control speeding along the seafront. More traffic wardens as so much illegal parking in the 'loading only' bays = lorries parking in cycle lanes and busy road”**



**“Cycling on the pavements is hazardous because neither cyclists nor pedestrians know what is expected. Much better guidance is required ”**

**“There are many rules displayed on noticeboards that aim to control cycling on the promenade, dogs on the beach, and parking on the street, but insufficient is done to enforce them. We need to see more policemen or wardens about who will take charge of the miscreants”**



**“There are too many cars parked on the streets of Portsmouth, and the flow of traffic is hazardous. One car per household, and at the higher permit charge is a way of improving traffic flow”**



## About the workshops

The Building Safer Community workshops were organised and independently facilitated by Paraffin on behalf of Portsmouth City Council.

We would like to thank all of the participants, and the community groups whose chairs so generously allowed us to join them and run a workshop at their meeting:

Janice Burkenshaw, Milton Neighbourhood Forum  
David Webb, Paulsgrove Residents Association  
Brenda Tregarthen & Gina Perryman, Portsea Action Group  
Phillip Dicken & Graham Keeping, Somerstown PATCH  
Jerry Brown, East Southsea Neighbourhood Forum  
David Horne, Paulsgrove Community Association  
Chris Collier, Heartlands Community Voice

## About this document

This document was produced by Paraffin on behalf of Portsmouth City Council. For more information, please contact Nicola Waterman: [nicolaw@paraffin.ltd](mailto:nicolaw@paraffin.ltd)

