

# A SAFER KEYHAM...

*Keeping our streets safe and strengthening the community*

## A SAFER KEYHAM

CCTV and more street lighting, better home security and environmental improvements, community training, youth engagements and projects to improve the community are all coming to your area.



In December 2021 it was announced that £800,000 of government funding had been granted to Keyham, Ford and the surrounding areas to pay for a programme of community engagement and crime prevention to reassure residents that your neighbourhoods are safe places to live, work and play following the tragedy on 12 August 2021.

The funding is split into two grants:

- A Safer Keyham grant of £308,000 for crime prevention measures as listed above
- A Keyham Community Policing Fund of £514,000 to pay for a dedicated community team of police officers for the area.

The Keyham Community Policing Team is already on the beat and over the next few weeks residents will notice more improvements and initiatives thanks to the Safer Keyham grant.

This newsletter explains where the money is being spent, what services are available to you, and how you can get involved.

**To get in touch email: [plymouthtogether@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:plymouthtogether@plymouth.gov.uk) or call 01752 668000 (option 0).**

## NEED HELP OR SUPPORT?

The Community Hub is open at Keyham Green Places (163 Renown Street) for face-to-face support and signposting to professional support agencies and a range of community activities taking place in and around Keyham.

In addition the Plymouth Together website offers a list of websites and support agencies and an action plan for the area's recovery.

Find out more at

[www.plymouthtogether.co.uk](http://www.plymouthtogether.co.uk)

Your local councillors are also available to help with a range of issues:

### Devonport Ward

[mark.coker@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:mark.coker@plymouth.gov.uk)

07585 888047

[charlotte.cree@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.cree@plymouth.gov.uk)

07890 059252

[william.stevens@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:william.stevens@plymouth.gov.uk)

07773 717826

### Stoke Ward:

[sally.cresswell@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:sally.cresswell@plymouth.gov.uk)

07890 059274

[jemima.laing@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:jemima.laing@plymouth.gov.uk)

07876 367569

[kevin.neil@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.neil@plymouth.gov.uk)

07814 953271

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**PLYMOUTH TOGETHER**



# FEELING SAFE IN KEYHAM AND FORD

The Feel Safe Scheme has returned to the area thanks to funding from the Safer Keyham grant.

This free service provides a comprehensive safety service for your property including:

- Fitting front door locks
- Replacing broken window locks
- Fitting window restrictors (which prevent a window being opened beyond a certain point)
- Fitting spy holes
- Fitting door handle tamper alarms.

“We’ve done 33 properties in less than a month,” said Kevin Sproston, chair of the Keyham Neighbourhood Watch (KNW) which has partnered with Plymouth City Council to lead the scheme. “And we’ve fitted 85 window handles, 19 locking mechanisms, 19 door chains, 37 window restrictors, 37 handle alarms, and seven hinges which is great additional security for these families and individuals.”

To be considered for this service you need to either own your home, be a PCH (Plymouth Community Homes) tenant or have permission from your landlord (screenshot text or email) before you send in your request request via [facebook.com/KeyhamNHW](https://www.facebook.com/KeyhamNHW).

KNW will need to know your name, address, phone number and whether you own your home or rent. (If you have contacted them in the past and have not yet had any work done then please try them again.) Kevin will then come to your home and explain what is needed and signpost to other support agencies if required.

“This is a way of us fighting anti-social behaviour and crime by ensuring people have better secured buildings,” said Kevin, “But it’s also helping people feel safe in their homes. Because if you feel safe in your own home then you will begin to feel safe within your community and we will all feel safe together.”



**This free service is being offered to residents every Monday in February. To book your slot contact the Keyham Neighbourhood Watch through its Facebook page or email [keyhamnhw@gmail.com](mailto:keyhamnhw@gmail.com)**

# FREE COURSES FOR RESIDENTS AND GROUPS

Trauma awareness, crime prevention, mental health training and training for those supporting young people are some of the free courses that residents and groups have been – and will be – benefitting from.

The aim of the council’s Training and Resilience Plan, funded by the Safer Keyham grant, is to help the community feel more resilient and equipped with different skills to support each other. For example, the trauma awareness training will help survivor and victim recovery long-term while the crime prevention course promises to help attendees feel more secure.

Residents have already attended two trauma awareness sessions, an appreciative enquiry session, bystander training, and two crime prevention training sessions developed by Devon and Cornwall Police. Some of these have taken place in person and some online.

“I attended the trauma informed training session and I found it incredibly helpful,” said one Keyham resident. “It was cathartic and very respectful of the different experiences of attendees in the room. The people delivering the workshop were so experienced in dealing with the aftermath of trauma and in delivering this particular type of training. Acquiring the knowledge of how to think differently was really helpful.”

Besides more trauma awareness sessions, courses planned over the next few weeks include a focus on mental health training and sessions for supporting young people. To see what courses are coming up visit: [www.plymouthtogether.co.uk/community-training](http://www.plymouthtogether.co.uk/community-training)

# IMPROVING OUR PUBLIC SPACES

Upgrading open public spaces and improving the local landscape by removing graffiti, landscaping and street clean-up will soon be taking place in the area.

Under the banner of 'reclaiming public spaces' a number of public consultation events have taken place in which residents were asked what improvements they would like to see in Keyham, Ford and the locality.

So far these have featured 12 pop-up events as part of the Community Voices initiative, which engaged more than 150 residents, and an Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) consisting of two walkabouts involving representatives from the community, police and specialists to see what sites needed particular improvements including better street lighting etc.

"The consultations have been very well organised," said local resident Helen Powell, "And Debbie, Nicki and the volunteers at the Community Hub have done an amazing job with gathering in all the resources. The launch Community Voices event was very well attended and it was fantastic meeting all the professionals involved - it has been important to just talk and start the process of bringing the

community together. I've also been to various drop-ins and it feels as though my feedback and my opinions do matter."

The results of this community engagement are now being collated and will be used to inform final proposals for the area which will be made possible by funding from the Safer Keyham grant.

From the consultation it was clear that green spaces meant a lot to the community and, as a result, a Green Space Plan has been commissioned. Working with Green Minds (the council's natural infrastructure team) and the community the plan aims to improve the parks in the Keyham area and focus on 'uplifting' the green spaces through such natural methods as rewilding, planting and cutting back as well as such safety measures as improving access lighting on pathways. Some work has already started with cut backs taking place in Marley and Linear Park.



## COMMUNITY PROJECTS TO HELP BUILD A STRONGER KEYHAM

Community Sparks Grants are aimed at individuals, groups and organisations who have great ideas and projects for improving their community and supporting children, young people and families.

Delivered in partnership through the council and the Plymouth Octopus Project they are funded by the Safer Keyham grant with contributions from a separate fund from the Department for Education.

Over the next few weeks residents will see a number of large projects, as voted on by the community (funded up to £3,000), and smaller ones (funded up to £500) taking place in the area.

These include: more provision of food to families as part of the KGP Food Bank, a new scouting section and more activities for the 1st Keyham (St Mark) Scout Group, and free gym membership and youth classes for youngsters at the Ford Youth and Community Centre.

To see a list of projects that are being funded visit [www.plymouthtogether.co.uk/keyham-community-sparks-grant](http://www.plymouthtogether.co.uk/keyham-community-sparks-grant)

**CCTV cameras and more street lighting will soon be appearing in Keyham to reassure residents that their area is a safe place in which to live, work and play.**

The two cameras and more than 70 new lights follow consultations with the community and are the result of the Safer Keyham grant awarded by the Home Office in December.

The state-of-the-art cameras can be deployed for three months at a time at different locations in the area and will be used as a long-term asset to fight crime and keep the streets safe.

The new lights, costing more than £90,000, will be appearing in different locations around the community. Engineers have identified poorly lit areas and so, over the next few weeks, lights will be installed in the streets and local parks.

## BOBBIES ON THE BEAT

The Keyham Community Policing fund was issued to pay for a new, dedicated policing team as well as problem solving activity and youth engagement support.

In response to the tragedy on 12 August 2021 this team provides community reassurance through visible patrols as well as constant community engagement.

“We have the Keyham Community Policing Team specifically for the recovery of Keyham and the surrounding area,” said Inspector Paul Laity who heads the team. “We want to be part of the community and understand what the community needs.”

Besides the day-to-day fight against crime and mission to make the community feel safer, Paul’s team has partnered with bodies such as Plymouth City Council to help organise and appear at a large variety of community events including a Superhero Halloween event, a Bonfire Night, a free football event and an initiative called Operation Elf in which the policing team delivered Christmas packages to 16 families in need.

“And there is a lot we have ongoing,” said Paul. “Such as Cuppa with a Copper in which the public chat with us over a hot drink, and the Mini Police Project which is taking place at different local schools. We teach children about respect and rules in a fun way.”

Paul is also keen to highlight the introduction of a two-way targeted message system called the Devon and Cornwall Alert. It informs people who register about what is happening in their area concerning crime and community events and allows them to respond directly with any information they might have.

To sign-up to the Devon and Cornwall Alert visit [alerts.dc.police.uk](https://alerts.dc.police.uk)

Let the team know what the current issues are and what they should be focusing on. Email [keyhamcommunitypolicingteam@dc.police.uk](mailto:keyhamcommunitypolicingteam@dc.police.uk) or tweet @KCPTPlymouth



## GIVING YOUTH A VOICE

Young people are being invited to have their say on what they would like to see in Keyham and the surrounding areas.

A consultation has started giving 10 to 18-year-olds the chance to tell the council what they want in their area, where they want it, who they would want to deliver it and – if they don’t want it in this area – where would they like to see it?

Suggestions so far have included drop-ins such as youth clubs, different sporting opportunities, and classes in Parkour and street dance.

“Young people should get involved in this consultation because it’s an opportunity for them to have their say and their voice in the area,” said Caroline Storer, the council’s senior youth worker.

The consultation will take place throughout February and any youngsters aged 10 to 18 who live in Keyham, Ford and the surrounding areas are invited to send in their thoughts to: [youthdetached@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:youthdetached@plymouth.gov.uk)

The youth engagement is funded by the Home Office’s Keyham Community Policing fund.

To see what support is available for children and young families visit [www.plymouthtogether.co.uk/support-for-children-and-families](http://www.plymouthtogether.co.uk/support-for-children-and-families)