

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

01/04/2011

The New Official National Neighbourhood and Home Watch website goes live

Dear members,

Please find below official notification that the new national website is now live and ready to use which I hope you will use to circulate to the wider membership who may not be aware of the site. The Home Office and the Minister James Brokenshire for Crime Prevention have informed us that they are very happy with the pilot phase of the website and that we should now focus our attentions on promoting it within the Neighbourhood Watch community to populate and update the site with local schemes, news and events.

You will also see that we are now starting to use the new 'Our Watch' branding. As members, please use this branding as you so wish to help market and promote your schemes in your local area. Guidelines on 'tone of voice' and 'our logo and brand' are located on the website. A national marketing and media campaign regarding the new branding and website will be part of Neighbourhood Watch Week (18-26 June 2011). It is envisaged that this will substantially help raise NHW profile nationally as well as locally with the support of the Minister and the Home Office.

Please use the new URL www.ourwatch.org.uk instead of www.mynhw.org in any communications going forward as any site traffic from www.mynhw.org will be redirected to www.ourwatch.org.uk as of Monday 11 April 2011.

Please also note our new contact details in line with the new brand. The email addresses for staff and trustees which had previously ended @nationalnhw.org will from now end in @ourwatch.org.uk. My email address will therefore be James.Maddan@ourwatch.org.uk.

Best wishes,

Jim Maddan

NHWN Chairman



Our Website.

Our Watch.

There's been some really hard work going into designing, building and testing our new website and we'd like to share with you the latest on what has been happening. The new website www.ourwatch.org.uk is now officially live for our members and the wider Neighbourhood and Home Watch community to use, and we would like to encourage you to explore the site. Thank you for the constructive and positive feedback during the pilot phase from those members who have already explored the site.

The website is taking over from the www.mynhw.co.uk site which will be redirecting any traffic to the new site as from Monday 11 April. Our website is the only recognised and supported national website for Neighbourhood and Home Watch by the Home Office and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

We need your help to make it great

One of the best new features is the ability to find schemes quickly and easily. Registering is a quick process and it means that anyone interested in joining a scheme, or just to find out more, can get in touch with the right person. By registering your scheme, new members can send you a message to request to join your scheme without having your contact details in the public domain.

There is also much more local information available now, such as police contacts and your local area crime mapping drawn down directly from the Police.UK website. Scheme coordinators can also post news or promote local community events for everyone to see within your local area if they are a member or not as it will be promoted on the website for all interested people to view.

Please click [here](#) to register your scheme. (If you are the coordinator or administrator for a number of schemes, please note that registration is presently designed for single street-level schemes – we are in the process of building multi-scheme administration tools which will be available for free in the near future.)

What else is new?

As well as the [Your local area](#) feature for finding out about your local area and schemes, we've simplified our website into fewer sections to make it easier to find your way around.

[Safety Advice](#)

We have a dedicated section with advice on making us safer in our neighbourhoods, our homes, and when out and about.

[Get Involved](#)

This section is our call to action and is all about different ways people can get involved. From taking more active roles like becoming a coordinator and setting up a scheme, down to the easy option of just registering to follow what's going on in your area, there are now more ways than ever to get involved.

[Our Work](#)

This section is full of information about our work at a national level and in the different regions across England and Wales. This is also the section where you will find news, events, links and resources specific to [your region](#).

[Resource Centre](#)

There are lots of useful tools in our new resource centre, from our [toolkits](#) through to [case studies](#). One new feature we're particularly excited to tell you about is the [publicity materials](#) section, where registered coordinators can create their own customised letters, posters, newsletters and much more, all in our new branding.

[News and Events](#)

There is a new single place for us to share news and events and keep informed. At the moment, if you want to post any news or events in this section please email your item to enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk and head your email 'News (or Event) for website'.

What's next?

We are working with Regional Representatives to roll out training for regional volunteer webmasters to manage the website for your region.

Contact us

In line with the new website we are also changing our email addresses. Please note that existing email addresses will still be in use and there will be no need to resend messages if sent to the @nationalnhw.org address. However, please update your address book with the following:

Enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk – Enquiry Line 0116 229 3118

James.Maddan@ourwatch.org.uk – Chairman

Lynn.Farrar@ourwatch.org.uk – Vice-Chair

Kate.Daisley@ourwatch.org.uk – Operations Director

Sundeep.Gill@ourwatch.org.uk – Development Manager

Catherine.Dunn@ourwatch.org.uk – Information and Database Officer

You can also follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/N_Watch and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ourwatch.