SNAP

Statistics for the first three months of the year show a drop-in activity overall. Highlighted incidences/actions as below:

1. Retail theft reported – included 1 incident at the Shell Garage (Fakenham) – 2 x bottles of champagne and 1 in Wells Post Office – a member of the public walked in, took a picture and then left without paying.

2. Domestic incidents – in particular sexual offences increased over the period. This is images of teenagers sending pictures to each other via text message.

3. While the community van has been out monitoring for speeding offences – the speed gun used by the beat manager was sent for re-calibration. This has taken 2 ½ months and has only just been returned so not speed monitoring was undertaken in the last period.

4. Arrests have been made over the burglaries reported in the last period

Policing priorities (now set at the district level) remain unchanged.

There was some discussion as to how the SNAP meeting could be utilized instead of simply reporting localized data.

It was suggested that it would be a good idea to use the meetings to get ideas for promoting information/preventative measures and raising awareness (including presentations) on specific issues (such as being scam aware). Suggestions for topics and requests can be emailed to the beat manager. Specific one-off presentations can also be given to Parish Councils at meetings on request.

Next meeting to be in June

Reports from Meetings:

Norfolk ALC

Nothing of real note to report back. The AGM which largely just confirmed much of the work that has been undertaken over the last six months. Considerable time was spent on the issue of devolution and the likely impact of this, but given there is no official government response, it was predominantly speculation on what was likely to happen.

It is not clear when we can expect minutes from the meeting.

CFR

Details of the callouts and training etc for Q1 can be found on the website. The next detailed report will be posted at the end of Q2. The end of the dedicated dispatcher scheme is a disappointment, given the benefits.

On a broader note – EEAST are moving forward in their plans to try and have every fire station across the area capable of responding to Cat 1 calls. There is also plans to try and get the CFR's to be used more for falls and Cat 2 calls. This will be particularly relevant for our CFR's who are 'falls' qualified and have a Raizer chair for lifting.

Efforts to get EEAST to cover the cost of the ongoing NMA costs continue (the NMA is the handset used to take calls and communicate with the 999 call Centre). The annual cost of the subscription plan for the NMA is £240. Given CFR's cannot effectively respond without this, Victoria Holliday is assisting in the campaign to try and get this cost covered by EEAST and not by the volunteer CFR's. A restriction in funding is currently being used as one of the reasons for the lack of commitment to this funding. Particularly disappointing given that CFR's are already covering emergency calls for the Ambulance service at essentially their own cost.

ICB/Dental

ICB: It is unclear at this time the likely impact of the budget cuts (savings) on the ICB and whether this will result in a merging of ICB's and the potential 'watering down' of the current semi-local approach. Of note in the last meeting were reports that the ICB does aim for patients to have an equitable experience across all access modes (phone, online, walking in). While many of our demographic do not have a preference for digital services, changes will be of benefit and include:

From 1st October 2025: Practices will be required to keep their online consultation tool open for the duration of core hours (8.00am-6.30pm) for non-urgent appointment requests, medication queries and admin requests

By no later than 1st October 2025: Practices will be required to ensure functionality is enabled which allows (i) read only access to patient care records by other NHS commissioned providers and providers of private healthcare for the purposes of direct patient care and (ii) community pharmacists to send consultation summaries into the GP practice workflow

The challenge for us all will be in assisting/ensuring that our residents can access service sin this way, but also, and perhaps more importantly, ensuring that our GP practices treat digital access with the same level of priority as they would a phone-call or walk-in

Given the ICB drive to cut spending/make savings – they were also asked to provide more detail on the more than £4 million spent each year on preventative health measures. A response has been made. The intention of the funds is to be spent on localized plans to reduce emergency and unplanned admissions to hospitals. Follow up questions will be asked since the data given for North Norfolk lacks any real detail and seems to focus on follow up with discharged patients – giving no actual detail on what is being provided and for whom.

Dental: Everyone will have seen the email from Cllr Holiday about the Cromer practice and its waiting list. The Wells dental practice now has more than 1,600 people on its waiting list for new NHS patients. It has submitted a planning application for an additional building to provide more facilities. Wells Town Council have supported the application, but there is no news as to when a formal NNDC decision can be expected, or when it would be open or in a position to provide more appointments