



WE DON'T BUY CRIME - SMARTWATER INITIATIVE

Saturday 31st August Leighton Village Hall 10am or

Tuesday 3rd September Eaton Constantine Village Hall 7pm

All residents are invited to attend a presentation from West Mercia Police and Smart Water Ltd about a crime prevention initiative which is supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion.

The scheme provides local Councils with a grant to partially fund the purchase and distribution of SmartWater property marking kits along with prominent signage advertising the widespread use of the kits in a particular area.

SmartWater kits are manufactured by a Telford company and each kit contains a unique combination of rare earth metals that can be analysed and identified to trace the legal owner of the marked equipment. This enables the police to identify the true owner of items that they believe to be stolen and to use this information to prosecute thieves.

The PCC grant scheme requires that SmartWater kits are used in at least 70% of the homes in an area which is the level of saturation found to successfully deter crimes such as burglary. The remaining cost (75% of the cost of the kits) is borne by the Parish Council if residents agree. It is hoped that the majority of the cost will be funded through local fundraising.

The Parish Council is really keen to take up this initiative. It is a really positive scheme which has been shown to reduce crime by a large percentage in any area where it has been introduced. Rural crime is currently rising at its fastest ever rate and we need to try our best to reduce the risk of becoming a victim. It is hoped that there will be a strong take-up of the kits and that anybody already using SmartWater also lets us know that their property is covered as this increases the saturation level of the scheme.

If you can't attend the meeting but are interested in taking part in the project please contact the Parish Council by the end of September 2019 by contacting the parish clerk, Lorna Pardoe at lecparrishcouncil@gmail.com Tel 01743 718695) or contact any local parish councillor (see website for details).

