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NEWS

COMMUNITY BUSINESS OPINION NOSTALGIA SPORT

suffer from serious crime

Children's charity launches national toy bank appeal

A Peterborough-based charity that supports children whose lives have been torn apart by serious crime is appealing to families to donate any new, unwanted or duplicate toys they received for Christmas for families who are struggling this year.

Embrace Child Victims Of Crime (Embrace CVOC) will be launching a new national tov bank to help families whose children have been affected by serious crimes such as domestic abuse, physical or sexual abuse, neglect or homicide.

The toy bank, which will go live once there has been a bulk donation of toys, will work in the similar way to a food bank where nominated families referred to the charity will be able to go on-line and allow their children to a choose a

toy or game for free.

The charity is reaching out to families in Peterborough and surrounding areas to ask them if they would donate any new, unopened toys, that are unwanted or duplicates, to help other families in need. Anne Campbell, chief ex-

ecutive of Embrace CVOC, said: "Many families are overwhelmed by the sheer volume of toys their children receive from Santa at Christmas and sometimes, although gifts are gratefully received, the child may already have something similar or not be interested in

a particular toy. "Sadly, the children we work with often have very few toys to play with, particularly those who have had to leave their homes because of the crimes that have happened to

"Now we are in lockdown

again, when many people are reaching out to help others, we are asking if any families have unwanted, unopened, new toys, games or books that they would be willing to donate to please send them to our head office for our new toy bank venture.

Charity chief executive Anne Campbell

"Once up and running children who have been referred to us, who have often suffered unimaginable trauma, will be able to choose a toy themselves and donators will know they are giving to a child who really appreciates their generosity.

Gifts can be sent to Em brace Child Victims of Crime, Copse Court, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SF. If you have any questions about do nating toys or Embrace CVOC you can email info@embracecvoc.org.uk or call 0345

Dear Santa success

The Peterborough Telegraph teamed up with Peterborough-based charity Embrace Child Victims of Crime (Embrace CVOC) to support its Dear Santa 2020 campaign to provide gifts of choice for children who have suffered through serious crime.

with some of the toys for the toy bank

People in Peterborough and across the UK dug deep in their pockets to purchase over £12,000 worth of presents for vulnerable

Local businesses and corporate sponsors also contributed almost £8,000 to the appeal meaning the charity reached its £20,000 target and has been able to provide presents for 1,115



All of those gifts were available to buy through Embrace CVOC's website and then the charity arranged for them to be wrapped and sent to the children who wished for them.

Charity facts

Embrace CVOC is the only charity in the UK which works solely with children who have been harmed by serious crime. Since its launch In 1993 it has helped thousands of children across the UK who have suffered violent, physical or sexual abuse or neglect or who have lost a close family member to homicide. It operates in all part of the UK. the Channel Islands and Isle of Man and delivers a range of support ncluding access to therapy, practical support and emotiona support and uplifting experiences for children and their families. To find out more about Embrace CVOC visit www.embracecvoc.



abutment this has proved in-

sufficient. As a result, further

steps must be taken to pre-

vent any possible instances of

Cambridgeshire police has

said it is "fully supportive" of

the plans which would "sup-

port community safety and re-

duce vulnerability to crime".

trespass at Crescent Bridge."

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Roads

Work to start on bridge safety

"The design of the bridge

is such that its low parapet

height and exposed metallic

structure make it easy for the

public to climb up onto the

bridge and its arches.

Works to prevent trespass at tributed to several factors. Crescent Bridge in Peterborough are due to begin next

Network Rail has been given the go-ahead by the city council to extend and replace the existing mesh parapet with steel panels and extend it across the full length of the city centre bridge.

several years which can be at-

Explaining why the new measures are needed, Network Rail previously said: "Unfortunately, instances of trespass, vandalism and suivent unauthorised access to

"Given that the bridge crosses a very busy electrified railway these occurrences pose a great threat to safety and the resultant delays are hugely disruptive for pedestrians, road and rail users.

the bridge by installing mesh

naranet extensions at each

Network Rail has now "Whilst Network Rail has already attempted to pre-

confirmed that the work is planned to begin at the end of February and will be completed in mid-March.

A spokesperson said: "To allow the work to take place safely there will be some full Call your friendly Classified team today to hear about our multimedia advertising solutions.

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ed planning permission from the city council to build two blocks of flats, one of which would front The Pavilions in

There will be 24 parking spaces at the site, with vehicles accessing the develop-A planning statement sub-

ments to be built close to a

care home in Peterborough

Housing association Ac-

cent Housing has been grant-

ment via Alma Road. mitted to the council stated that the site was originally "to

Alma Road, Millfield.

urgent need to provide new affordable housing in Peterborough which is currently not being met. In this context, the ability to deliver 12 high quality affordable homes in a sustainable location is in the public interest. "The proposal comprises

the scheme.' an attractive development

the character of the local area and adjacent developments. will protect the residential amenity of neighbouring occupants and will provide a high standard of accommodation for future residents of

no objections to the plans.

cide have become more prevalent on the bridge over the last

The council said there were