

26<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As you may be aware, in the last few months, there has been numerous reports and cases of vandalism to buses in Millbrook, Redbridge and Lordshill. These incidents caused considerable disruption to those using the bus services for work and medical appointments, especially the elderly and key workers in the area, and also put the drivers of the vehicles at risk.

The good news is that since April 2021 there have been no reported incidents, and this is testament to the hard work and support you have all provided to help us resolve the problem. I would like to express a big thank you on behalf of the Police, City Red and Blue Star Bus operators for your help in tackling the recent spate of vandalism to buses in the area,

It's important that we continue to deter these incidents from happening again. We believe these catapults were being ordered online. Young people have been stopped in the area with these items, which have been seized and robust action has been taken. We would like to ask parents to either monitor purchases that are being made and stop them where possible, or if they are being ordered on behalf of their children, to please refrain.

As we approach the summer holidays, there is a risk of incidents repeating.

If anyone has any information or thinks they may know someone who is involved in these incidents, please call 101 or alternatively people can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Incidents or information can also be reported online at the Hampshire Constabulary website, at <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/>

We appreciate your continued help in solving this complex issue and thank you for all of the support provided up until now and into the summer.

Yours sincerely,



Jason Murphy  
Stronger Communities Manager