

Reading Safe Space opens



On the subject of looking after your health, earlier this month we [opened the new Reading Safe Space](#), allowing residents and visitors to access medical assistance and on the spot help from a permanent place in the town centre at St Mary's Church House on Chain Street, next to Bill's restaurant.

It is the new permanent home of First Stop, providing a vital service to those enjoying the town centre on Friday and Saturday nights, administering first aid supported by paramedics from the South Central Ambulance Service to take the pressure off Royal Berkshire Hospital's busy Emergency Department by reducing the number of visits required.

The Safe Space is also the home of Reading's Street Pastors, a team of volunteers who patrol the town centre on Friday and Saturday nights to care for, listen to and help people who are out for the evening.

Reading Safe Space will also deliver a range of community safety related services including crime prevention advice and training, and resources and support for victims of crime. The space will be multi-functional, so it can be used for both night-time safety services and day-time training and events.