



Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

SHROPSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

SHREWSBURY SECTION

Date July 2018

Please can we all remember that we live in a very low crime area, however, you may wish to view details of offences that have occurred in your areas. These figures are available on the new website www.police.uk, where you can search for your area and view the different incidents that have taken place over a particular period.

Concerns raised regarding Anti Social Behaviour in Annscroft

Representatives from agencies within the Team Shrewsbury Partnership have received reports of Anti-Social Behaviour or crime that may be occurring around the bus stop in Annscroft on the corner of Meadowbrook Cottages

If you are affected by Anti-Social Behaviour in this area please report any concerns to your Safer Neighbourhood Officers:

PC Cookson - 07814042410

PCSO Bradley - 07870218574

Or the Anti-Social behaviour reporting line on 0345 678 9020

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Security of Rural Shops

In recent months there has been an increase in burglary offences committed at small retail premises that are located in rural villages. Offences occur usually between 02:00 and 04:00hrs and the target of these

burglaries are stand alone ATM machines which are attacked with high powered cutting equipment. I offer the below general advice to ensure that your premises are protected.

- 1) All external doors should be secured with mortise locks. Remember that fire doors can have additional locks fitted to them when the premises are closed.]
- 2) A monitored intruder alarm should be installed and each entry exit door should have sensors fitted.
- 3) Premises can further be protected by fogging devices which makes it very difficult for offenders to see.
- 4) There are forensic spray systems that also give added protection and these include Smartwater and Selecta DNA.
- 5) Ensure that any CCTV recording equipment is kept in a secure location. Offenders will search for and remove equipment during a burglary.
- 6) Dont be affraid to challenge the owner of an ATM to install further security which could include a dye or glue if attacked.

It is highly likely that offenders will visit a store prior to committing a burglary. They may well use mobile phones to record the location of any ATM or when an ATM is filled. Please report any suspicious activity by phoning 101.

Finally as a timely reminder you may wish to review your intruder alarm call out procedure. No one should attend the premises alone especially in the middle of the night. If you have any concerns when attending the premises then please contact the police immediately via 999.

Improving Road Safety across West Mercia

With Government pledging extra funding for various road safety initiatives yesterday there is clear recognition of the importance of road safety not just nationally but locally.

Along with £100 million being invested to improve some of the most dangerous stretches of A roads (including an investment of nearly £4,000,000 in Shropshire) West Mercia Police are pleased to see the development of the next generation of mobile breathalyser equipment. The requirement for new improved technology to combat the issue of drink driving is something that we have demanded for several years and is essential if officers are to be equipped to tackle offences in a more efficient manner.

This news is timely on the day that motorists across West Mercia are being reminded of the dangers of driving under the influence of drink or drugs this summer.

With the World Cup now underway West Mercia Police are launching a publicity and enforcement campaign to raise awareness of the issues around drink and drug driving. The topic is being highlighted across social media and local radio advertising will be taking place across the region. Increased enforcement activity from police officers across West Mercia will also be in place.

There is no foolproof way of calculating how much you can drink and remain under the limit, or knowing how much an individual person can drink and still drive safely. Importantly, it is hard to calculate how long alcohol may stay in your body if you are driving the morning after so the safest option if you are driving is to drink no alcohol at all. Pedestrians are also being encouraged to stay safe during the summer and to plan safe routes home and to drink responsibly.

Figures indicate that, over the past 3 years 17 people were killed and 104 seriously injured in West Mercia following collisions where drink or drugs were recorded as a contributory factor.

The campaign supports the month long drink drive campaign (starting 14th June) by the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC). Enforcing the drink and drug drive law is a 24/7 commitment for West Mercia Police and to reflect this police officers will be enforcing at all times of the day and night.

Superintendent Paul Moxley comments: "Catching those who take drugs or drink and then drive is a year round commitment for West Mercia Police and it is encouraging to see road safety being financially supported at a National level. Over time this will ensure our officers and staff are as well-equipped as they can be to help make our roads as safe as possible for all who use them".

Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia Police to consult with local communities about Local Policing.

Local Communities are to be asked for their views on Local Policing.

Communities across West Mercia are being asked for their views on local policing, as part of a new project from the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion.

A survey has been circulated to every town and parish council across the West Mercia area. Councils have been asked their thoughts on a range of subjects, including the visibility of local policing, relationships with officers and local crime priorities.

John Campion said: "I promised I would engage with our local communities and give them a strong voice on the issues that matter most to them. This project is one of the ways I am delivering on that promise. Our town and parish councils are acutely aware of the issues that matter most to their local communities and I am keen to hear their collective and individual thoughts on local policing and crime. Their feedback will help inform priorities for myself as well as our police force. It will also help identify where and how local police relationships are working well, or if they can be improved".

The survey will be open for three months to allow every council a full opportunity to take part, the survey is open until the 6th of July 2018.

Postal versions will be available on request. Councils are asked to contact the PCC if that is the case.

Man arrested following disorder incident in Shrewsbury

A man has been arrested following a disorder incident in Shrewsbury.

Police were called to Meadow Farm Drive shortly after 7pm on Friday (22 June).

On attendance a man in his 20s was located with stab wounds. He was taken to hospital by ambulance but has since been discharged and his injuries are not currently believed to be life threatening. A number of scene guards are in place and will remain while officers carry out further enquiries.

A 22-year-old man from Shrewsbury has been arrested in connection with the incident. He remains in police custody at this time.

Inspector Dafydd Jones said: "There was an incident of disorder and it will have undoubtedly been shocking for anyone who witnessed it. Fortunately, nobody was more seriously injured. We will be carrying out a number of enquiries as part of the investigation and would ask anyone with information to contact police."

"Anyone who was in the area at the time or who can help with enquiries should call 101 quoting incident 671S of 22 June. Alternatively, information can be provided anonymously to the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Banking Protocol prevents £654,556 of fraud across West Mercia

A scheme aimed at identifying and protecting potential fraud victims when they visit a bank or building society branch has helped to prevent £654,556 worth of fraud across the West Mercia policing area.

Since the Banking Protocol was introduced by West Mercia Police in September 2017, a total of 115 emergency calls have been placed and responded to through the scheme across the alliance. Developed as a partnership between the finance industry, police and Trading Standards, the Banking Protocol enables bank

branch staff to contact police if they suspect a customer is in the process of being scammed, with an immediate priority response to the branch. Branch staff, call handlers, police and trading standards officers in each area have all been trained in the Banking Protocol and the steps that need to be taken when a customer is at risk.

Across the country the Banking Protocol has now led to a total of 197 arrests and prevented almost £25m in fraud, while 3,682 emergency calls have now been placed and responded to through the scheme. As well as stopping frauds taking place, the scheme ensures a consistent response to potential victims and gives them extra support to prevent them becoming a victim in the future. UK Finance has led the development and implementation of the Banking Protocol, with support from the National Trading Standards Scam team and the Joint Fraud Taskforce.

Detective Inspector Emma Wright from the West Mercia Police Economic Crime Unit said: "West Mercia Police is committed to tackling fraud and protecting people from harm, especially the most vulnerable in our society. We are pleased to report that since the launch of the Banking Protocol eight months ago, a number of incidents have been responded to by police. This has prevented significant amounts of money being obtained by the fraudsters, who, in many cases, had been trying to take it from elderly or vulnerable people."

"In addition, a number of investigations are ongoing to catch those responsible for the offences."

Katy Worobec, Managing Director of Economic Crime at UK Finance, commented: "Fraud can have a devastating impact on victims and is often targeted at the most vulnerable people in society, which is why we must work together to prevent it.

"The Banking Protocol shows how close cooperation between the industry and law enforcement can help to protect victims and crack down on fraudsters. This kind of joined-up approach is crucial to stay one step ahead and ensure that unscrupulous scammers preying on customers are brought to justice."