



# Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

## SHROPSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

NORTH SHROPSHIRE SECTION

Date February  
2019

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](http://www.police.uk), where you can search for your area and view the different incidents that have taken place over a particular period.

### Ten Golden Rules to Help Avoid Scams

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Over the next few months we will be doing several articles covering various types of crime common across the area. The sad reality is that everyone can fall foul of the scammers but the vulnerable are often those that are targeted. Scammers do their homework:

They know that the elderly and the vulnerable are less likely to be computer Savvy and more trusting of corporate type companies with fancy logos.

- They know that those struggling will be more likely to believe in get rich quick schemes.
- They know that those who are lonely will go for dating schemes.
- They know that those looking for a bargain, whether a product or a holiday will be taken in by "A good Deal"
- They know people are likely to believe them if they say they are from a respectable authority such as the HMRC.
- They know people can be easily intimidated if they say there is a risk to their safety.

### **Scams do not discriminate,**

The scammers target people of all ages, all backgrounds, all levels of income and can have a devastating on the lives of those that are affected.

They feel no remorse by wiping out an elderly persons live saving.

They have no regard to destroying the fragile confidence of the vulnerable and are happy to take your very last penny from you.

## 10 Golden Rules To Help Fight The Scammers

1. Be Suspicious of all "Too good to be true" offers and deals. There are no guaranteed get-rich-quick schemes.
2. Do not agree to offers or deals immediately. Insist on time to obtain independent/legal advice before making a decision.
3. Do not hand over money or sign anything until you have checked the credentials of the company or the individual.
4. Never send money to anyone you do not know or trust, whether in the UK or abroad. Or use methods of payment that you are not comfortable with.
5. Never give banking or personal details to anyone you do not know or trust. This information is valuable so make sure you protect it. **A BANK OR HMRC WILL NEVER ASK YOU OVER THE PHONE OR BY EMAIL TO DIVULGE PIN NUMBERS OR PERSONAL BANK DETAILS.**
6. Always log on to a website directly rather than clicking on links provided by an email.
7. Do not rely solely on glowing testimonials: find solid independent evidence of a company's success.
8. Always get independent/legal advice if an offer involves money time or commitment.
9. If you spot a scam or have been scammed, report it and get help. Contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or online at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) Contact the police if the suspect is known or still in the area.
10. Do not be embarrassed to report a scam. Because the scammers are cunning and clever there is no shame in being deceived. By reporting you will make it more difficult for them to deceive others.

**Remember the Golden Rule.**

**If in Doubt, KEEP THEM OUT**

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### Police urge motorists to 'Slow Down'

The campaign was run from 14<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> January, to encourage motorists to think about their speed and to remind drivers to always travel within the speed limit. It is estimated that across Europe speeding contributes to as many as one third of all collisions that result in fatality and is the most important contributory factor to road deaths. Speeding, as well as inappropriate speed can have a devastating impact on the safety of road users, increasing the risk of a collision and the severity of the consequences.

Over the past 3 years in West Mercia 123 people have been killed and 929 seriously injured in collisions where speeding or use of inappropriate speed has been recorded as a contributory factor. Throughout the campaign the Safer Roads Partnership, police officers, PCSO's, special constables and community speed watch volunteers will be out and about in local communities taking part in a mixture of enforcement and educational initiatives.

Roads Policing Inspector Adrian Davis for West Mercia Police comments: "Supporting this national campaign with local activities and increased enforcement is an important way of raising the issue and highlighting the dangers of speeding. There are many local residents in our region whose quality of life is affected by people speeding through their community and families across West Mercia that unfortunately know far too well the devastating consequences that speeding and collisions can lead to. We'd like to take the opportunity during this campaign to remind people of the consequences of speeding. Apart from the obvious consequences if you are involved in a collision, if prosecuted for speeding, the minimum penalty is a £100 fine and 3 penalty points. You could be disqualified from driving if you build up 12 or more penalty points within a period of 3 years".

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## **Safer Neighbourhood Team Community Message - Outbuilding security and reporting anti-social behaviour.**

### **Advice for outbuilding security and reporting anti-social behaviour.**

Spring will soon be with us and we will see the days getting longer. Traditionally the Police see an increase in reports of burglaries from sheds and outbuildings at this time of year, with power tools, garden tools, bicycles and other items being stolen.

Here are a few tips to help you secure your property; Gates, fences and walls should be kept in good repair to stop intruders getting in. Grow prickly plants close to vulnerable areas such as windows, fences, boundary walls and drainpipes. Don't leave expensive equipment like garden tools, mowers, mountain bikes and power tools in the shed if you have a more secure area in which to store them.

Depending on the value of the items you are protecting, you could consider lighting and CCTV, or even a burglar alarm. There is plenty of advice on our website, and also on the internet.

If you have nowhere else to store valuable equipment, take measures to secure your shed. Don't leave ladders and tools lying around in your garden - these could be used to break into your home. Mark your garden tools and equipment with your postcode. If the thief tries your back gate or shed and can't get in quickly, they may move on to easier pickings elsewhere.

You can download the west Mercia Police 'Nip Garden Crime in the Bud' leaflet from our website, [https://www.westmercia.police.uk/media/2106/Garden-Crime-leaflet/pdf/Garden\\_Crime\\_leaflet-cropped.pdf](https://www.westmercia.police.uk/media/2106/Garden-Crime-leaflet/pdf/Garden_Crime_leaflet-cropped.pdf) , which is packed with more detailed practical advice on how to boost your outdoor security and protect your valuables.

Ant-social behaviour can see an increase as the days become longer; if you become a victim of anti social behaviour please ring 101 with the details of the problem. We may not always be able to send officers to speak to you as there may be other incidents occurring that take priority. But if you don't make the report, the Officers in the Safer Neighbourhood Team won't know the anti-social behaviour has taken place and can't try and tackle the problem by targeting any areas affected.

If you are a Twitter user, why not follow your Safer Neighbourhood Team [www.twitter.com/SouthShropCops](http://www.twitter.com/SouthShropCops) , you can find out a lot more about the team.

You can also keep up to date with issues in the local area by checking our Safer Neighbourhood Team media pages. West Mercia Police offer a Community Message Service that provides email alerts regarding crime, anti-social behaviour and community information. You can sign up to this service at this link <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/cms>

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### **Mobile phone stolen in robberies, Market Drayton**

Police are investigating two robberies a week apart in the same vicinity of Market Drayton. Investigations are in the early stages and it is too soon to say whether the robberies may be linked.

#### Incident 0713s of 140119

The first robbery is believed to have taken place on Monday 14 January 2019 at approximately 21:40 hours on Shropshire Street, where it meets Shrewsbury Road, Market Drayton. It is believed that a female who was walking alone was pushed from behind and had her mobile phone stolen. The phone was later recovered near by. The woman suffered grazes to her knees and arm but although shaken did not require hospital treatment.

#### Incident 0510s of 201119

The second robbery is believed to have taken place a week later at 16:30 hours on Monday 21 January 2019 when a male was walking along Shrewsbury Road, near to Shropshire Street, Market Drayton. It is believed he was approached from behind and struck to the side of the head before having his mobile phone stolen from his hand. He suffered a slight bump to the head and did not require hospital treatment. The offender is described as a white male, 5 foot 10 tall, wearing a black tracksuit top, black baseball cap and black bottoms with white stripes down the leg.

Any witnesses to either incident are please asked to contact 101 quoting the appropriate incident number above or asking for PC 20357 Nick Peacock on ext 66697.

[https://www.westmercia.police.uk/media/18963/Community-information-Noth-Shropshire-1/doc/North\\_Shropshire\\_NHW\\_February\\_2019\\_Newsletter.doc](https://www.westmercia.police.uk/media/18963/Community-information-Noth-Shropshire-1/doc/North_Shropshire_NHW_February_2019_Newsletter.doc)