

**To be a member of a police registered, active Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**

you must have exchanged your contact details with at least two other residents in your road, one of whom will be the police registered NW Coordinator.

All immediate neighbours should be encouraged to join for the scheme to be effective.

**Neighbourhood Watch Lighting Column Signs and Window Stickers**

You may live in a road where there are existing Neighbourhood Watch signs or window stickers. You are not a scheme member unless you have exchange contact information with the police registered coordinator.

**To ask about joining, or starting a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:-**

Visit the Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch website: [www.cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk)

E-mail your details to:  
[cheshirewatch@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cheshirewatch@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)

Or speak to your local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO).



**Coordinators should be:-**

Honest and have integrity.

Willing to give time and energy in supporting other neighbours.

Non-prejudicial and non-political.

Able to get on well with local residents, other coordinators and agencies.

Respect the privacy of others and keep information confidential.



**'an independent, community-led, initiative'**

**Neighbourhood Watch in Cheshire**

To start your Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, a resident will need to volunteer to become the coordinator (community volunteer).

The coordinator acts as a key point of contact for the police and scheme members, guiding the group. You do not need any qualifications and it need not involve too much time but it is important to be clear about what is involved.

Being a coordinator is a position of trust.

The CNWA and Cheshire Police hold a register of approved coordinators and act as the 'custodians' of Watch Schemes.

Neighbourhood Watch is also supported by the National Police Chiefs' Council, National Fire Chiefs' Council and Local Government Association.

## Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

exist so that neighbours can come together to make their community safer. Supported by the police and other agencies, they strive to:-



### Starting a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

A new community volunteer (coordinator) should first ask neighbours if they are willing to support them to start a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Then contact the police who will assist and help them to register.

Schemes will have different local concerns and vary in size and methods of communication.

### Coordinators should be prepared to:-

- **Contact** every individual household in their chosen scheme area to invite them to become members.
- **Act as a special point of contact** to receive and cascade information between scheme members, other local coordinators, your Police Community Support Officer and other agencies.  
Scan information sources to share the most appropriate local community safety information with scheme members e.g. Alert e-mail updates, police Twitter feeds, websites.  
Sign-post members with community safety issues to appropriate agencies.  
Encourage the reporting of suspicious/criminal incidents to the police.
- **Promote personal** responsibility for community safety by encouraging members to improve home and personal safety e.g. supply Home Watch window decals, crime reduction information, property marking, immobilise registration.
- **Promote neighbourliness** by encouraging members to share crime reduction information and keep an eye on each other's homes/possessions, giving special consideration to vulnerable neighbours.



## Cheshire Police Alert

[www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk](http://www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk)

Coordinators will be asked to register their details in the Alert secure database. Following police confirmation they will start to receive e-mail updates from the following Alert information providers:-

- Police
- Neighbourhood Watch Network

Coordinators can log into their account to add or amend their details and add other information providers e.g.:-

- Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner
- Fire Service
- Local council (if available)

### Members can now choose how they wish to receive information:-

- Direct e-mail from Cheshire Police Alert message system (self-registration).
- Read local police Twitter feeds.
- Leave it to their coordinator to scan incoming messages and other sources of information, circulating only what is necessary (e-mail, hard copy, personal visit, etc).

...neighbours can **come together** to make their community **safer**.