

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 1 March 2026

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Telford man appears in court charged with romance fraud

A man from Telford has appeared in court charged with multiple counts of romance fraud.

Marc Cole-Jones, of Church Grove, Donnington, Telford, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 27 February charged with 25 counts of fraud by false representation. The 52-year-old, also known as Marc Cole, Marcus Cole-Jones and Marc Sands, pleaded not guilty to the charges and was released on conditional bail. A four-week trial has been scheduled at Chester Crown Court starting on Monday 28 June 2027. The charges follow a detailed investigation by detectives from the Economic Crime Unit at Cheshire Police. They relate to romance fraud allegations involving seven women from Cheshire, Lancashire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Manchester and the West Midlands, which are reported to have occurred between 2009 and 2024. The total value of the offences is £535,791.41.

Delivery driver jailed following sexual assault in Northwich

A delivery driver from Manchester has been found guilty of sexually assaulting a woman in Northwich.

Rana Jahangir was found guilty of one count of sexual assault following a trial at Chester Crown Court which concluded on Friday 27 February 2026. The 25-year-old of Collington Close, Manchester has been jailed for two years and four months.

He has also been ordered to sign the sex offenders register for ten years and handed a restraining order which prevents him from contacting the victim.

The court heard how on Tuesday 2 September 2025, Jahangir delivered food to an address on Shipbrook Road in Rudheath. After handing over the food, he went on to grab the woman from behind and started hugging and kissing her. The assault continued for over a minute, despite repeated requests for him to stop. The victim initially chose not to report the matter to police but instead made a complaint to the delivery company. However, after speaking to friends, she later contacted police on Wednesday 3 September and Jahangir was arrested. Following his arrests, Jahangir denied sexually assaulting the victim and claimed that it was consensual. However, unbeknown to him, part of the incident had been recorded on a mobile phone, and he was subsequently charged with one count of sexual assault.

Following the guilty verdict, Detective Constable Sarah Ollier, said: *“During questioning Jahangir denied sexually assaulting the victim, instead claiming that it was consensual. Even when we presented him with the mobile phone footage, he continued to deny the allegations, claiming that*



the victim had set him up. Thankfully, the jury saw through his lies, and he has been held accountable for his actions. I welcome the sentenced handed to Jahangir and I hope that it provides some reassurance to the victim. We will continue to do all we can to tackle any incident of violence against women and take all reports of such crimes extremely seriously and will investigate thoroughly to ensure those responsible are brought to justice.”

To report any sexual offence call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or visit

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report/rsa/alpha-v1/v1/rape-sexual-assault-other-sexual-offences> Information can also be passed anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

Closure order secured against Chester retailer

Officers in the city have secured a closure order for a business in Chester.

The order, granted on Wednesday 25 February, follows concerns raised about criminal activity taking place at the properties. To prevent any further offending, the closure order means that the properties on Frodsham Street, Chester, which consists of two adjoining shops, will remain shut for a period of three months. Anyone who enters either retailer while the order is in place could face a significant fine or even a prison sentence.



Chester LPU Commander, Chief Inspector Paul Fegan, said: *“I hope that closing down these stores provides reassurance to the community and visitors to the local area that we listen to their concerns and take swift action. I would like to thank the community for supporting us with information as part of this work - all information about criminal activity assists us. Anyone with concerns about suspicious or criminal behaviour in their area can report it to Cheshire Police via the Cheshire Police website or by calling 101.”*

Cannabis farm sniffed out in Ellesmere Port

A cannabis grow has been shut down by police in Ellesmere Port.

At 4.12pm on 24 February police were called to an address on Alexandra Street in Ellesmere Port following reports that the windows were being broken at a suspected cannabis farm. Officers entered the property with a drugs' dog which indicated that the cannabis was actually located next door. Officers then forced entry to the neighbouring property to find there were cannabis plants on every floor of the three-storey house. The electricity had also been tampered with. Once the property was made safe by electricity engineers the cannabis and growing equipment was seized. Enquiries are ongoing into identifying those responsible.



Detective Chief Inspector Ian Murray said: *“Although no one was present at the address, we have disrupted the illegal drug supply by removing the plants for destruction and we are continuing our*

enquiries into establishing who is responsible for the grow. Criminals will use any building they can find, whether empty or for rent, in order to grow cannabis. That's why we are urging people to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity. It's also vital landlords carry out regular checks to ensure their properties haven't been taken advantage of by these unscrupulous opportunists."

There are a number signs that could indicate that a property is being used as a cannabis farm, including:

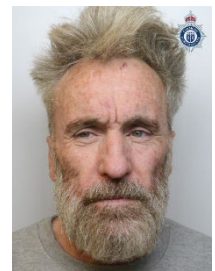
- A strong and sickly sweet smell
- Equipment to grow cannabis being taken into a property, such as lighting and ventilation equipment
- Constantly covered or blocked-off windows - cannabis farms often have constantly closed curtains, black-out blinds or foil coverings
- People coming and going at all hours or neighbours you never see
- Strong and constant lighting day and night
- High levels of heat and condensation - cannabis farms often give off heat and the windows stay misted up
- A constant buzz of ventilation - listen out for a whirring sound as the growers try to create an ideal climate for cannabis plants to grow.
- Lots of power cables - offenders often dig underground to lay cables that hook up to things like lamp posts so they do not have to pay for the enormous amounts of electricity they use.

To report a suspected cannabis farm or any other type of drug-related offence, call us 101, give the details via our website (www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Chester man sentenced for murder

A man has been sentenced after he was found guilty of murdering a woman at his home in Chester.

Tony Devenport appeared at Chester Crown Court today, Friday 27 February, where he was given a mandatory life sentence and a minimum term of 22-years to be served in prison before parole eligibility. The 57-year-old was found guilty of murdering his girlfriend following a 16-day trial at Chester Crown Court which concluded on Wednesday 25 February. At around 12.20pm on Sunday 20 July 2025, Cheshire Police were contacted by the father of the victim, who told police that he had found his daughter's lifeless body at Devenport's house on Canal Street. Within minutes, officers and paramedics were at the scene. There, they sadly found the victim, Stephanie Blundell, dead inside the address.

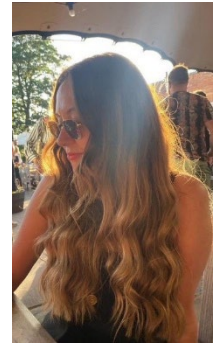


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She had visible injuries to her face, neck, and body. Devenport was subsequently arrested and taken into custody. During questioning, he denied being responsible for Stephanie's death. However, a post-mortem later confirmed that the injuries on Stephanie's body were a result of a sustained and violent assault. Devenport was charged with Stephanie's murder and an additional count of manslaughter. Despite his denial, the casefile of evidence stacked against him led a jury to find him guilty of murder.

Following the sentencing, Detective Inspector Andrea Price, of Cheshire Constabulary's Major Investigation Team, said: *"Stephanie was loved and cherished amongst family and friends, and although today marks the day her killer is brought to justice, I want Stephanie to be the one who we remember. Stephanie's family have shown remarkable strength throughout this investigation, and our thoughts remain with them as they navigate a future without her. No family should ever have to endure the devastation caused by such violence. While no sentence can ever bring Stephanie back, I hope today's result provides her loved ones with some comfort in knowing that Devenport has now been held accountable for what he has done. I would like to take this opportunity to urge other victims of domestic abuse to come forward and contact us. We take all reports extremely seriously and will use every resource available to us to protect victims and bring offenders to justice."*

Stephanie's family have paid the following tribute to her: *"We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the dedicated team at Chester Constabulary who led the investigation into Steph's death over the past seven months. The professionalism, diligence and compassion they demonstrated throughout has been remarkable. The thorough case they carefully put together ensured that justice could be served, and we are profoundly thankful for their unwavering commitment."*



"We would particularly like to thank our Family Liaison Officers Katie Ashcroft and Paul Davis, who have supported us since day one. They made a painful process much easier for us. They were with us every step of the way and truly went above and beyond for our family. Nothing was ever too much trouble, and we couldn't have got through these last few months without them. We are equally grateful to the exceptional legal team, led by Owen Edwards KC and supported by James Coutts and Josh Gorst. Their clarity, integrity and meticulous presentation of the evidence brought the case powerfully to life in the courtroom. They approached their work with fairness and precision, ensuring that the truth was heard."

"Our sincere thanks also extend to the many witnesses who gave evidence. The police officers, paramedics, pathologists, neuroscientists, Steph's friends and work colleagues, and members of the public who did not even know her. Their courage in coming forward and their compassion towards Steph have meant more to us than we can express. Their actions have been a powerful reminder of the goodness and humanity that still exists in the world. The collective efforts of everyone involved were reflected in the swift, unanimous verdict delivered on Wednesday. While no words can truly capture our thankfulness to those who helped secure justice, we are especially thankful to the jury for their decisive conclusion."

"Sitting through the trial over the past three and a half weeks has been one of the most painful experiences of our lives. We have heard distressing evidence and learned information that we were previously unaware of. It has been deeply difficult to process, particularly knowing that, had certain facts come to light sooner, Steph would still be with us today. Although we welcome the verdict, it does not ease our loss. It does not bring Steph back. The grief we carry is profound and will be with us forever. We now begin the long and painful process of learning how to live without her, and of finding a way to move forward while holding her memory close. Steph was, without question, one of the most radiant souls you could ever hope to meet. She was kind-hearted, quick-witted and effortlessly stylish. Her warmth and compassion have been evident throughout this trial and that brings us some comfort that her true loving nature has been seen by so many. We will cherish our memories of her forever and spend the rest of our lives honouring her memory in everything we do."

If you, or someone you know, is a victim of domestic abuse, please report it by calling 101 or [visit our website for reporting information and advice](#). In an emergency always call 999.

Second man charged in relation to high-value burglary series

A second man who was arrested in relation to a series of high value burglaries in Cheshire has now been charged.

Neil Brennan was arrested on Wednesday 25 February in Warrington in relation to a series of high value burglaries. Following questioning the 42-year-old of Folly Farm Close, Warrington, has now been charged with three counts of burglary with intent to steal. The charges against him relate to three burglaries in Warrington and Wilmslow which occurred between Friday 5 December 2025 and Monday 2 February 2026. He has been remanded in custody and will appear at Chester Magistrates Court later, Friday 27 February. Brennan is the second person to be charged in relation to the burglary series.

Gavin Phythian was charged with six counts of burglary on Thursday 26 February after being arrested on Tuesday 24 February following a police search in Warrington town centre. His charges relate to burglaries in Warrington, Wilmslow and Manchester which occurred between Thursday 13 November 2025 and Monday 2 February 2026. The 36-year-old of London Road, Sandbach, appeared at Chester Magistrates Court on Thursday 26 February where he was remanded in custody. He is next set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 26 March.

Harmony restored in residential property as drug dealing hub closed by officers

An address associated with a recently convicted drug dealer has been shut down by Macclesfield Neighbourhood officers under a closure order.

The closure of the address, which forms part of a wider residential property on Knutsford Walk, Macclesfield, was granted by Warrington Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 25 February 2026. The order was secured after officers presented the court with substantial evidence of anti-social behaviour and the dealing of Class A drugs - namely heroin and crack cocaine - at the property.



The court heard that in 2025, officers from Merseyside Police discovered mobile phone evidence linking the occupants to the sale of illegal drugs. It was also heard that one of the occupants had been dealing drugs from the address on behalf of a county lines gang. During searches, officers recovered a large quantity of cocaine and heroin, nearly £7,000 in cash, and several mobile phones.

As a result of the investigation, one of the property's occupants, a 37-year-old woman, was jailed for three years after pleading guilty to two counts of being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs (heroin and cocaine) and two counts of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs (heroin and cocaine). Following her arrest, the address continued to be used as a base for drug use, with high levels of foot traffic to and from the property at all hours. The second tenant, a 39-year-old man, was also observed dealing drugs, using a neighbour's balcony to exchange items with a constant flow of visitors on the ground floor.

Alongside drug-related activity, residents in the wider complex reported further incidents of criminal damage, anti-social behaviour, and threatening conduct - including an incident in which one of the occupants wrote derogatory phrases on a neighbour's door using makeup. As a result, the address has now been boarded up by officers for three months, with the remaining occupant required to find alternative accommodation. The closure order will remain in place for three months. During this period, nobody - including the tenants - is allowed to enter the premises. Anyone who does so will be committing a criminal offence and may be arrested or face a significant fine.

Police Sergeant Matthew Bassirat, of Macclesfield's Neighbourhood Team, said: *"The property and its occupants have been a persistent drain on police resources and a blight on the lives of residents for the best part of a decade. With that in mind, I am very pleased to see that this property - which has caused so much disruption - has now been closed down and will remain closed for the next three months. I hope that now one occupant is behind bars and the second has been ordered to leave the property for the foreseeable future, the residents in this complex can rest easier knowing their lives will no longer be affected by the actions of two individuals who simply do not know how to behave in a neighbourly manner. It was recently announced that Cheshire Constabulary has surpassed 100 years' worth of preventative orders being issued force-wide, and closure orders are just one of the ways Cheshire Police can take proactive action against those who cause fear, harm, and misery to residents."*

Wanted Warrington man arrested in Glasgow

Officers have located and arrested a wanted man in Glasgow and returned him to Cheshire.

Last September, officers in Warrington appealed for help from the public in locating Birchwood man Ryan Lake, who was wanted for failing to attend court in relation to a fraud case and for breaching bail. Despite extensive efforts to locate Lake, he remained at large and made active attempts to evade officers searching for him. Following a number of enquiries, officers from the Northern Problem-Solving Team - supported by colleagues from Police Scotland - established that Lake had fled Cheshire and was residing at an address in Glasgow. With this information, Warrington officers set off on the 200-plus-mile journey to Glasgow, where they arrested the 33-year-old in the city centre area.

Chief Inspector Rob McLoughlin said: *"Ryan Lake had been unlawfully at large since summer 2025, making conscious efforts to evade capture and remaining alert to previous manhunts for him. Despite his attempts to avoid us, we remained persistent in our search. Our officers travelled over 200 miles in the early hours of 24 February to arrest Lake at his new address in Glasgow - and they were not planning on leaving empty-handed - and before 8am, they had the man they needed ready to be returned to Cheshire. This result is a testament to the persistent investigative work of Warrington's Northern Problem-Solving Team and the cross-border collaboration with our colleagues in Police Scotland. I would like to thank them for their efforts. Their commitment to the investigation has led to a long-term outstanding criminal being brought back to the county to face justice for his actions."*

Chester man found guilty of murder

A man has been found guilty of murdering a woman at his home in Chester.



Tony Devenport, 57, was found guilty of murdering his girlfriend following a 16-day trial at Chester Crown Court which concluded today, Wednesday 25 February. At around 12.20pm on Sunday 20 July 2025, Cheshire Police were contacted by the father of the victim, who told police that he had found his daughter's lifeless body at Devenport's house on Canal Street. Within minutes, officers and paramedics were at the scene. There, they sadly found the victim, Stephanie Blundell, dead inside the address. She had visible injuries to her face, neck, and body. Devenport was subsequently arrested and taken into custody.

During questioning, he denied being responsible for Stephanie's death. However, a post-mortem later confirmed that the injuries on Stephanie's body were a result of a sustained and violent assault. Devenport was charged with Stephanie's murder and an additional count of manslaughter. Despite his denial, the casefile of evidence stacked against him led a jury to find him guilty of murder.

Following the verdict, Detective Inspector Andrea Price of Cheshire Constabulary's Major Investigation Team, said: *"Though I am pleased with today's outcome, there are sadly no winners in this case. Stephanie's family described her as a fun-loving, caring, beautiful girl, and my thoughts are with them today as they continue to come to terms with such a loss. No parent should ever have to go through the pain of losing a child, nor should they have to sit and relive that trauma by way of a trial.*

"Devenport was a coward, he has shown no remorse for his actions and throughout the investigation he has refused to admit what he did. Thankfully, the case presented in court against him was overwhelming and left the jury with no option but to find him guilty of murder. While nothing will ever bring Stephanie back, I do hope her family can find some comfort in knowing Devenport will now be held accountable for what he's done."

Devenport is due to be sentenced at Chester Crown Court on Friday 27 February.

DI Price added: *"Many victims of domestic abuse suffer in silence, isolated from those closest to them. If one thing can come from Stephanie's tragic death, it's encouraging other victims of domestic abuse to come forward and contact us. We treat all reports of domestic abuse extremely seriously and will use all the powers available to us to ensure that those responsible are held accountable."*

If you, or someone you know, are a victim of domestic abuse please report it by calling 101 or [visit the website](#). In an emergency always call 999.

Police warn Nissan Navara owners to be vigilant following thefts

Police are warning Nissan Navara owners in Cheshire to be vigilant following nine thefts in the past two months.

Since 1 January this year, six vehicles were stolen from Warrington, one from Chester and Crewe and two from Congleton. While officers are investigating the thefts they are urging owners of Navara's to take steps to secure their vehicles.

Chief Inspector Rob McLoughlin said: *"These are keyless thefts, so just making sure your doors are locked won't keep it secure. Putting your keys further away from where the vehicle is parked, or putting the keys in a faraday pouch will prevent thieves from gaining access to your vehicle. You could also think about getting a steering wheel lock. If you spot any suspicious behaviour, please report it to us and if you have a doorbell camera, make sure its charged and in working order so that any suspicious behaviour is captured to help us with our enquiries into finding those responsible."*

For more crime prevention tips go [here](#). Anyone with information on the thefts or suspicious activity should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](#). Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Man arrested following collaborative investigation to find missing teenager

An 18-year-old man has been arrested following a collaborative effort across multiple departments to locate a vulnerable teenager.

On Tuesday 24 February, officers in Widnes were notified by local child social care services to reports of a 16-year-old missing boy. An investigation was launched to locate the teenager and, after analysing images posted by the teenager online, it was quickly established that he had travelled to Manchester city centre area. Officers from Cheshire Police then made their way to Manchester and located the missing teenager at a property in the Deansgate area of the city centre, alongside another 16-year-old boy and an 18-year-old man. The 18-year-old man from Manchester, who admitted to officers that he was aware the 16-year-old was missing, was subsequently arrested on suspicion of keeping a child in care away without lawful authority. He was taken back to Cheshire by officers and remains in custody at this time. The missing child was placed under a Police Protection Order and has also been returned to Cheshire.

Chief Inspector Joe McNally said: *"We take the safeguarding and protection of vulnerable people very seriously, and today's result is the culmination of our officers and staff working collaboratively to identify the location of a child believed to be criminally exploited. It was this collaborative effort that allowed us to progress our enquiries quickly, enabling us to swiftly identify the city, then the street, the building, and ultimately the very room our officers found him in."*

Man charged with 39 offences related to online grooming

A 26-year-old man has been charged with 39 offences following an investigation by Cheshire Constabulary's Online Child Abuse Investigation Team.

Bilal Kazi, an Indian national, of HMP Birmingham and formerly of Chester, has been charged with multiple offences including making indecent images, blackmail, inciting a child to engage in sexual activity, and inciting a child to watch sexual activity. The charges relate to incidents that occurred between 2021 and 2023 and involve 71 girls under the age of 16 from across the UK. Kazi has been remanded and is due to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on Friday 13 March.

Man jailed for 10 years after being found guilty of rape

A man from Biddulph has been jailed for 10 years after being found guilty of raping a woman.

Ryan Bedson, from Shepherd Street, Biddulph appeared at Chester Crown Court on 23 February to be sentenced after being found guilty of three rapes following a trial in December 2025. The jury were undecided in relation to a second victim and those proceedings were stayed. The 31-year-old was jailed for 10 years. He was also ordered to sign the sex offenders register and given a restraining order to prevent him from contacting the victim. The victim had been in an abusive and controlling relationship with Bedson when he raped her on several occasions.



DC Rachel Lloyd said: *“This was a complicated investigation in which the suspect denied all allegations put to him. He never took ownership for what he had done. While the trial involved the rape of two women, he was found guilty of the rape of one. There was a hung jury in relation to the other. However, both victims showed tremendous bravery in coming forward and supporting a prosecution. I’d like to thank them for coming forward to help us put this man behind bars. It has been a tough journey for both, and they have come a long way. Sexual violence has such a profound impact on victims that they often no longer feel like the person they were before. They’ve had the courage and strength to rebuild their lives and I have every faith that both will succeed. “Victims should never feel ashamed to talk about what they have been subjected to. It is the perpetrator who should feel shame.*

“If you have been a victim of sexual assault or rape, don’t stay silent, please contact us. You will receive the help and support you need from our specialist officers, as well as from other support agencies we work alongside, and all victims of sexual offences also have the right to anonymity.”

£65k worth of cannabis seized during Runcorn immigration crime operation

Runcorn officers working under Operation Azalea, a proactive operation led by Beat Teams with support from community partners, have seized £65,000 worth of cannabis.

On Monday 23 February, officers from Runcorn Local Policing Unit’s Beat Team and the force’s Immigration and Foreign National Offender Teams, with support from colleagues at Home Office Immigration Enforcement, HMRC, the local authority’s trading standards, and Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, launched a coordinated strike on retailers suspected of selling illegal vapes and cigarettes



across Runcorn. The teams also focused on targeting those committing immigration offences through the exploitation of vulnerable people in modern-day slavery.

Following an 8am briefing from the local Beat Team at Runcorn Police Station, officers and partners rolled out across the town and visited three premises. A quantity of illicit vapes and cash was seized across the three addresses, and a 42-year-old man was arrested by immigration teams on suspicion of illegal working. He has since been released on bail. Along with searches of the retailers, officers also conducted a number of storage-unit searches within the town, uncovering six large vacuum-packed bags with an estimated street value of approximately £65,000. Also seized from the units was a crossbow and approximately £10,000 in cash. Following the discovery, a 22-year-old local man has been arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply Class B drugs.



Alongside this proactive work, during high-visibility and plain-clothed patrols across the town, officers engaged with members of the public regarding ongoing issues in their areas and conducted a number of school visits to provide safeguarding advice, particularly around the use of ketamine among young people.

Runcorn Neighbourhood Beat Sergeant Lawrence Winstanley said: *“Be under no illusion, the sale of illicit tobacco and illegal vapes is a very serious crime. These products have been smuggled into the UK by organised criminals looking to make quick money, which in turn affects our local law-abiding retailers, who follow the rules but cannot compete with the artificially low prices of illegal sellers. Not only this, but as these products are not properly regulated, no one knows for certain what they contain. We have found that illegally manufactured and imported products contain unknown, potentially harmful chemicals that can seriously damage the health of consumers. Those involved in illicit activities also often have links to trafficking, organised immigration crime, and modern slavery, which is why we are committed to running regular operations such as this, alongside our local community partners, to identify those involved. I hope that the results from today’s operation across Runcorn act both as reassurance to the community that we are doing all we can to tackle illegal activity, and as a warning to those involved to seriously consider their actions.”*

Cllr Andrea Wall, Halton Borough Council’s Executive Board member for Community Safety, added: *“This latest operation in Runcorn continues the Council’s ongoing work with the police and partner agencies, such as the HMRC, to protect the community from the impact of illegal tobacco and vapes. Since 2023 the Council has seized over £400,000 worth of illegal tobacco and £70,000 of illegal vapes. The Council’s Trading Standards team has already secured closure orders against two premises in Runcorn and four premises in Widnes involved in the sale of illegal tobacco and vape products. Monday’s operation builds upon that work and will continue to reinforce the message that illegal tobacco and vapes have no place on the high street in Halton. We will continue to take a tough stance to protect our community from the harm, which impacts genuine local businesses, and the health of our community. The continued efforts of the team are paying off in Runcorn – this is something we have focused on for some time, and yesterday’s operation was business as usual for the team.”*

Anyone with concerns about organised immigration crime can contact Cheshire Police via 101 or visit <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/> and speak with a member of their local PVP Exploitation Team.

Man charged with breaching a Sexual Harm Prevention Order in Warrington

Officers from Cheshire Constabulary's Sexual Offender Management Unit have charged a man in Warrington.

Thomas Finney was arrested on Monday 23 February and has since been charged with breaching a Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO). The 31-year-old of St Peters Way, Warrington, was remanded in custody and is due to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court today, Tuesday 24 February. The charges come after officers found a concealed device while carrying out routine checks as part of Operation Guardians, the force's ongoing operation focused on safeguarding children and vulnerable people across the county.

Man charged following incident in Macclesfield

Officers have charged a man with a number of offences following an incident in Macclesfield.

Jordan Wisedale, of Pembroke Road, Macclesfield was arrested at around 8.30pm on Friday 20 February. Wisedale, 29, has since been charged with criminal damage, assaulting a police officer and using threatening behaviour with intent to cause fear. He has since been remanded in custody to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 23 February. The charges related to an incident that occurred in the Pembroke Road area of Macclesfield.

Three arrested following deployment in Winsford

On Thursday 19 February, officers from Winsford, aided by colleagues from the Constabulary's Roads and Crime and Motorcycle Units, were deployed across the town as part of Operation Scrambler.

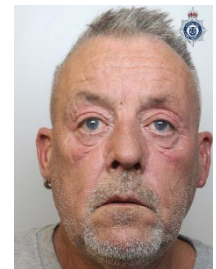
Running between 1pm and 4pm, and with support from the National Police Air Service, the deployment resulted in three people being arrested and five vehicles being seized. Whilst on deployment officers sighted a vehicle that was believed to have been driven on cloned registration plates. The vehicle in question, a Peugeot van, was subsequently traced to the Bowland Rise area of the town and a 28-year-old man and a 31-year-old woman were arrested on suspicion of theft of a motor vehicle. They have both since been released under investigation and the van has been seized by officers. A 32-year-old man from Crewe was also arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of drugs.

Inspector Paul Heatley, of Northwich Local Policing Unit, said: *“This collaborative effort has resulted in us removing a number of vehicles being driven both dangerously and anti-socially on Winsford’s roads. We have also recovered a vehicle that is believed to have been stolen and arrested a driver we found to be behind the wheel under the influence of drugs, which would have posed a risk not only to himself but to other road users and pedestrians. Today’s operation could not have been completed without the support of our colleagues from the Roads and Crime and Motorcycle Units, as well as NPAS, who were invaluable as our eyes in the sky.”*

Man pleads guilty to Warrington murder

A man has pleaded guilty to the murder of his former partner in Warrington.

Gavin Shaw appeared at Liverpool Crown Court today, Monday 23 February, where he pleaded guilty to the murder of Michele Kennedy. The 61-year-old man has been remanded in custody to be sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court on Thursday 2 April. The charges follow an incident shortly after 4pm on Monday 13 October 2025, when police received multiple reports of an incident at a residential address on Manchester Road in Woolston. Officers attended the scene and 55-year-old Michele was found with stab wounds outside the address. Michele was taken to Aintree Hospital by air ambulance; sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, she passed away on Saturday 18 October. Shaw was arrested at the scene of the incident and was subsequently charged with murder.



Following the guilty plea, Detective Inspector Eleanor Atkinson, who led the investigation said: *“This was an exceptionally traumatic incident for all those involved, especially Michele’s family, neighbours and the emergency services who tried to help her following the attack. While nothing can ever be done to bring her back, I do hope that the conclusion of this case will bring her family some closure. Our thoughts remain with Michele’s family and friends at this time, and we would like to thank them for their cooperation throughout our investigation.”*

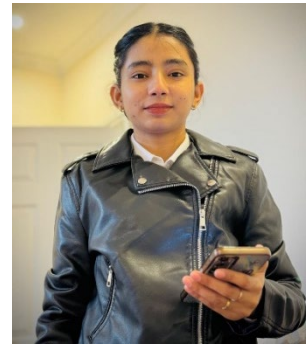
Following her death, Michele’s family issued the following tribute: *“Michele was a much-loved daughter, mother, sister, auntie and nana. She was a larger-than-life character who would leave a lasting impression on all that met her, who would help anyone, was beautiful, strong, fearless and one of a kind. The loss of her life has left a massive hole in our family, and we know that her friends and colleagues who were involved in her life will feel the same. We would like to offer our extended thanks to all the emergency services that attended the scene and any kind person that tried to help. We will miss her very much.”*



Family pay tribute to 24-year-old woman who died following fatal collision in Barton

The family of a 24-year-old woman who died following a collision in Barton have paid tribute to her.

Sukhanpreet Kaur, of Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, was a passenger in white Ford Transit van when the vehicle was involved in a collision on Barton Road, Barton. The incident occurred at around 5.50am on Saturday 14 February. Sadly, despite best efforts of those involved, Sukhanpreet was pronounced dead at the scene.



Her family are being supported by specialist officers and have paid the following tribute to her: *“Your love was the light that guided us, and your kindness left an imprint on every life you touched. Thank you for the memories that we will cherish forever. You are gone from our sight, but never from our hearts. It feels impossible to say goodbye to someone with so much life still left to live. Rest in peace. Thank you for the beautiful memories and the light you brought into our lives. You will be deeply missed.”*

A 27-year-old man and a 21-year-old man, both of Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, were arrested following the collision on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving. They have since been released on bail. Officers are continuing to appeal for anyone with information or dashcam footage from around the time of the collision to come forward. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision is urged to contact Cheshire Police via www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us or call 101 quoting IML-2270726.

Investigations launched following multiple reports of online racial abuse.

The UK Football Policing Unit (UKFPU) has launched a number of investigations following several reports of online racial abuse.

Over the past three days, the UKFPU have received four separate reports of online racial abuse against premier league footballers. As the law enforcement lead for online abuse connected to football, the UKFPU will be working closely with all the football clubs and their players to help identify the people responsible. The UKFPU has a team of Football Officers who work with all leagues, the unit also has a dedicated Senior Investigating Officer and a team of Digital Media Officers who are committed to investigating all reports of online football related racial abuse. Over recent months the UKFPU have seen a number of successful prosecutions for online racial abuse, which have resulted in significant football banning orders. However, we recognise that there is always more to do, and we will continue to work closely with Ofcom, English Football authorities, and social media platforms to tackle the issue.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts, head of the UKFPU, said: *“There is absolutely no place for racial abuse, either online or in person, and anyone who believes they can hide behind their keyboards should think again. The UKFPU condemns this abhorrent behaviour and we will ensure that, through our dedicated team of officers, we do everything possible to identify those responsible and bring them to justice.”*

Man arrested following burglary in Macclesfield

Officers from Cheshire Police have arrested a man following reports of a burglary in Macclesfield.

At around 1am today, Monday 23 February, police were called to reports that three unknown men had broken into an address on Steeple Street, Macclesfield, before fleeing the scene. Officers were at the scene within two minutes of receiving the call and quickly located a 24-year-old man in the area, who was later arrested in connection with the incident. He remains in custody at this time.

Inspector Richard Haque said: *"We understand the concern this incident has caused, and I hope that the swift arrest of one suspect in this case will provide some reassurance to local residents and the wider community. Its import to remember that incidents of this nature are rare in the Macclesfield area, and we are doing all we can to ensure that those responsible are held accountable for their actions. Anyone with information which may assist our investigation is urged to contact us."*

Enquiries to identify and locate the outstanding two suspects remain ongoing and anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police [via the website](#) or call 101 quoting IML-2276116.

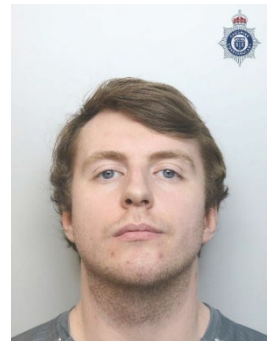
Latest Cheshire Appeals

Police continue to appeal to trace wanted man from Widnes

Police are appealing for help to locate a wanted man from Widnes.

Callum Taylor, 27, is wanted for failing to appear in court. He is described as white, around 6'2" tall and with mousey brown hair. Taylor is from Widnes and has links to Liverpool and Ellesmere Port.

Anyone with information as to his whereabouts is asked to contact us [via the website](#) or call 101 quoting IML-2276626.



Appeal for information and witnesses following serious collision in Crewe

Officers are appealing for information and witnesses following a serious collision in Crewe.

At around 12.51am on Sunday 22 February, officers in Crewe responded to reports of a road traffic incident on Manor Way. Officers attended the scene, officers found that the collision occurred between a pedal cyclist and a Volkswagen Crafter van. The cyclist, a 62-year-old local man sustained serious injuries and was subsequently taken to Leighton Hospital, where he remains at this time. His injuries are believed to be life threatening. As part of the enquiries into the incident, officers are now appealing to anyone with any information to come forward.

Police Sergeant Jon Dixon, of the Serious Collision Investigation Unit, said: *“Enquiries are currently underway to fully establish the circumstances of this incident and, as part of our investigation, we are now asking anyone who has any information or witnessed the incident itself to come forward. I would also like to appeal to any motorists who were in the area at the time around the time of the collision or may have captured anything they believe could help our investigation on dashcam to contact us. Anyone with any information, CCTV or dashcam footage is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the website, or on 101, quoting IML-2275539.”*

Information can also be passed on anonymously to Crimestoppers by contacting 0800 555 111.

Appeal for information following altercation in Macclesfield

Officers are appealing for witnesses to come forward following an altercation in Macclesfield.

At 4.25pm on Sunday 15 February, police were called to reports of an altercation in Mill Street, Macclesfield. It was reported that this was believed to involve two men and a woman at some time between 4pm and 4.25pm. Officers are appealing for anyone who witnessed this incident to get in touch with them as they continue their enquiries. A 50-year-old man has already been arrested on suspicion of common assault and released on bail.

PC Leigh-Birchall said: *“Enquiries are currently ongoing in relation to this incident, and we are now urging anyone who witnessed it to contact us. The same goes for anyone with CCTV or other footage of the incident. You can report information to Cheshire Police by calling 101 or visiting our website to report online, quoting 26000127661.”*

Appeal for information following serious collision in Sandbach

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a serious collision in Sandbach.

At 6.24am on Wednesday 25 February, police were called to a collision on Middlewich Road, Sandbach. Officers attended and found there had been a collision between a white Mercedes A200 and a black motorcycle near to the junction of Moorland Road. The rider of the bike, a 40-year-old man from Stoke-on-Trent, sustained serious injuries and was taken to the Royal Stoke Hospital; his condition is currently described as critical. The driver of the car was uninjured, and no arrests have been made.

Detective Sergeant Russell Sime, of the Serious Collision Investigation Unit, said: *“This was a serious collision and we are committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what took place. As part of our investigation we would like to hear from anyone who witnessed the incident or anyone with any video footage. Anyone with any information or video footage which may aid the investigation is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101, or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML-[2277530](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us).”*

Police release CCTV image following Warrington assaults

Police have released a CCTV image of a man they'd like to speak to following two assaults outside a Warrington pub.

At 11.46pm on Friday 13 February a doorman had ejected a man from the Porters Ale House on Buttermarket Street when he was assaulted. A woman who came to his aid was also assaulted before the suspect then left the area.

PC Graham Davies said: *"I would urge anyone who recognises this man to contact us so that we can progress our enquiries. I'd also urge anyone who witnessed the assault but has not spoken to police to contact us."*

Anyone with information should contact police on 101 or via the [website](#) quoting IML 2270645. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



CCTV Image released following altercation in Chester

Officers have released a CCTV image of a man they are looking to speak to following reports of an altercation in Chester City centre.

At around 2am on Thursday 12 February police were called to reports of an altercation at Craft and Company on Watergate Street. During the incident a man was hit in the face with a glass, causing cuts to his head and his scalp. Enquiries in relation to the incident have been ongoing and as part of the investigation officers have not release a CCTV image of a man they are keen to identify.



Police Constable Charlie Loach said: *"This was a serious incident in which an innocent man suffered significant injuries, and we're committed to doing all we can to trace the person responsible. We believe that the man in the CCTV image may have important information and are keen to identify him. If you think you recognise the man in the CCTV image or know who he is please call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML-2269544 or give us the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us>. I would also like to appeal directly to the man in the CCTV image to get in touch."*

Appeal for information following serious assault in Winsford

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a serious assault in Winsford.

Shortly before 7.30pm on Sunday 22 February, police were called to reports of an assault on Cedar Grove, Winsford. Officers attended the scene and found that there had been an altercation between two men. During the incident the victim, A 34-year-old local man, was hit with a hammer. Thankfully, he did not sustain any serious injuries. His mobile phone was also smashed with the hammer during the incident.

The suspect is described as a white man, around 5' 10" tall, of slim build with short black hair. He was wearing a full light grey Montirex tracksuit with a baseball cap. An unknown woman was also present at the time of the incident, she was described as around 5' 10" tall, with black hair. She was wearing a black coat and light coloured trousers. Following the incident the suspect fled the scene on foot towards Lodge Lane. A short time later a white SUV style vehicle was seen in the area and officers are keen to speak to the occupants.

Detective Sergeant Kate Palin, of Northwich CID, said: *"Enquiries in relation to this incident are ongoing and we're committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what took place. As part of our enquiries, we're keen to hear from anyone who witnessed the assault, or anyone with any information which may aid our investigation. We're also keen speak to the occupants of the white SUV. The same goes for anyone with any video footage of the incident, or footage of the white SUV which was seen in the area around the time of the incident. Anyone with any information is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101, or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML 2275997."*

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

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To find out further information about the Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association, to log into your account or for Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Literature please visit our website: www.cheshirenw.org