

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 27th October 2024

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Cheshire Police were out in force to support the national Safer Business Week

Local Policing Units across the county were out in force between 14 and 20 October to support national Safer Business Week.

The nationwide week of action aimed to crack down on anti-social behaviour in shops as well as tackling some of the most prolific shoplifting offenders. They targeted key retail sites, smaller businesses and industrial estates with initiatives designed to protect property and businesses across the county - including the ShopKind campaign which aims to prevent and challenge violence and abuse against shop workers. Engagement events were held across the force area with advice given to local businesses and customers.



In Ellesmere Port officers from the local Beat Team attended Cheshire Oaks for the day, deploying the Manchester National Anti-Violence Bee Monument which is currently touring the UK providing education and engagement. Officers engaged in this operation provided education to customers and retailers that sell knives.

LPU's carried out plain clothed patrols in town centres and shopping centres and officers made 18 arrests for various offences including shoplifting, being wanted or breaching orders. The arrests included:

- A man in Chester arrested by officers from the Problem Solving Team for being in breach of bail conditions that had been imposed following his previous charge with retail theft offences. He was charged and remanded into custody and subsequently given a twelve-week custodial sentence.
- In Macclesfield, a prolific offender was arrested for a shoplifting offence that took place a few days earlier. He was already subject to a Criminal Behaviour Order excluding him from numerous businesses owing to his offending and an extension of this order to include his latest offending location will now be sought.
- In Congleton a man was arrested and charged with five shoplifting offences over the weekend and has appeared in court where he was bailed pending a future trial. Conditions excluding him from several Congleton businesses were imposed.
- Officers from the Chester Beat Team arrested a man who had been seen on Local Authority CCTV stealing from Tesco. He was later charged and remanded. Officers from the Problem Solving Team made another arrest, deployed in plain clothes they witnessed a man acting suspiciously inside Tesco before running out of the store. The officers pursued and detained him, and following a search, found him to be in possession of stolen alcohol. He was arrested and later charged. A third man was also dealt with by police having been detained by store security in respect of another theft and was given a Community Resolution at the scene.

- In Ellesmere Port officers responded to a report of a detained shoplifter. Attending officers took the male into custody where it was quickly determined that he was responsible for another theft some days earlier. He was charged with both thefts and remanded in custody.
- In Crewe another man was arrested for theft after officers were approached by security staff from Asda who identified an aggressive prolific shoplifter. He was arrested and subsequently charged
- In Warrington officers responded to a report of a man stealing vouchers from ASDA in Birchwood. He made off from the scene but was found by officers a short time later and following a S.1 PACE search was found in possession of the stolen items and was arrested. He was also found to be wanted on an outstanding Failure to Appear Warrant and was arrested and remanded.
- In Widnes a woman who had been wanted for a theft offence since September was arrested and subsequently charged and bailed to appear in court at a later date.
- In Chester officers responded to a woman having been detained near to B&Q. Upon their arrival they were informed that the suspect was responsible for the theft of power tools the previous day and had returned today and taken a Hoover. She was arrested and found to also be wanted on an outstanding Failure to Appear Warrant. She was charged and remanded.

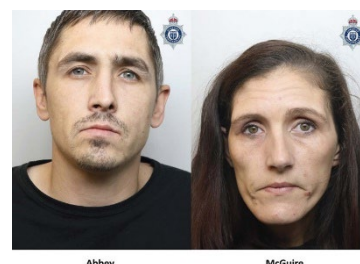
Insp Scott Fletcher said: *"It was great to see the LPU's out in force making arrests, giving advice on crime prevention, and engaging with the public – all in the name of Safer Business Week. This week has also highlighted some great results that were a direct result of the hard work our officers put in when it comes to tackling shoplifting and bringing the most prolific offenders in the county to justice. By forming close links and working alongside the local businesses and retailers, and our own partner organisations, we can better protect commercial properties, safeguard their staff and customers and prevent any future offending."*

Warrington couple jailed for county lines drug dealing

A couple have been jailed after they admitted dealing class A drugs in Warrington.

Stephanie McGuire and Michael Abbey, of Secker Avenue, Warrington, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 25 October having previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply Class A drugs (heroin and cocaine).

McGuire, aged 36, was jailed for 40 months and 39-year-old Abbey was sentenced to 33 months.



The investigation against the pair began in January after officers discovered that the Manc J county lines team was operating in Warrington. The gang was sending out flare messages on a daily basis offering the sale of heroin and crack cocaine. Following telecoms enquiries, officers identified that Abbey and McGuire were the controllers of the line. A warrant was subsequently executed at their home on Secker Avenue on Wednesday 21 March where officers recovered four mobile phones along with a diary containing contact details. During analysis of the phones, officers discovered messages which proved both Abbey and McGuire had been dealing drugs.

Following the sentencing, DI Rob Balfour of Cheshire Constabulary's County Lines Team, said: *"I welcome the sentences handed to Abbey and McGuire and I hope that their conviction sends out a warning to other dealers planning to target the Warrington area. Illegal drugs can have a devastating impact, not only to drug users, but also the community around them. Here in Warrington, we are doing all we can to stop drug activity on our streets to make the town a safer place to live and visit, while also making it extremely difficult for these gangs to operate. We will always act on any information about drug activity provided to us and would urge anyone who believes this activity is happening near to them to get in touch."*

You can report suspected drug dealing to Cheshire Constabulary directly by calling 101 or giving the details online via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>. Alternatively, information can also be given anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

Thief jailed after stealing more than £23,000 worth of items from spa and gym lockers

A prolific thief who stole more than £23,000 worth of valuable items from victims' lockers as they used leisure facilities, and then defrauded them out of over £18,000, has been jailed.

Nicholas Hughes, of Guilsborough Road, Binley, Coventry, appeared at Birmingham Crown Court on Thursday 24 October where he was sentenced to three-and-a-half years in prison. The 51-year-old had previously pleaded guilty to 14 counts of theft and 12 counts of fraud covering Cheshire and various other counties between February 2023 and June 2024, specifically targeting victims using luxury spa and gym facilities.



The incidents took place at the following locations:

- Mere Golf Club, Knutsford - 22 February 2023
- Ribby Hall Village Hotel, Preston - 24 April 2023 (X3)
- Municipal Hotel, Liverpool - 28 July 2023
- Nuffield Health, Chichester – 11 September 2023
- Goodwood Hotel, Chichester – 24 November 2023
- Shrigley Hall, Macclesfield – 8 February 2024 (X2)
- China Fleet, Plymouth – 13 May 2024
- Brandshatch Place Hotel, Kent – 10 June 2024
- Craxton Wood Hotel and Spa, Chester – 13 June 2024
- Municipal Hotel, Liverpool – 22 June 2024
- Mottram Hall, Wilmslow – 28 June 2024

Operation Artefact was commenced by Ellesmere Port Proactive Team in June 2024 after receiving reports of a high value theft from Craxton Wood Hotel and Spa in Chester. Along with a watch, the victim's bank cards and driving licence had been stolen from his locker, with the cards subsequently being used in several fraudulent transactions in Ellesmere Port.

A detailed investigation was then commenced by officers who quickly identified Hughes as a suspect. Subsequent checks on Hughes identified that he was wanted for similar offences in several different counties throughout the UK. Hughes, who has numerous previous convictions for similar offences, was targeting spa and leisure facilities around the country, breaking into his victims' lockers whilst they were using the facilities. He stole high value items and sentimental jewellery from the lockers, including watches, car keys, cash, and bank cards. In many cases, he then went on to use stolen bank cards for fraudulent transactions, making purchases at a variety of locations, including betting shops and supermarkets.

Cheshire Police officers commenced a manhunt for Hughes, and he was subsequently located and arrested at Bath Train Station on 10 July 2024. At the time of his arrest, Hughes was in possession of two of the victims' driving licences, plus clothing which he was wearing at several of the offence locations. He was ultimately charged with several high value theft and fraud offences. The total value of items stolen was £23,495. The total value of the fraudulent transactions was £18,012.

Following the sentencing, DC Mike Rogers said: *"Hughes is a prolific offender and is now rightly behind bars for his appalling behaviour. He deliberately chose to target luxury facilities, accessing the changing rooms and stealing from people's lockers as they were exercising in the gym or enjoying the spa. His brazen efforts saw him steal from locations across the country, using the exact same method. He even stole from three*

different lockers in the same hotel changing room in one day. The items he stole were high value and some of the jewellery was also incredibly sentimental to the victims and unfortunately can never be replaced. Bringing Hughes to justice was a fantastic team effort from Ellesmere Port Proactive CID. A large amount of work went into the investigation, allowing officers to finally put a stop to his offending in July by arresting him in Bath. I hope this serves as a reminder of our commitment to making Cheshire a hostile environment for criminals – you will be caught, and we will bring you to justice.”

Man from Wales pleads guilty to supplying drugs at Cheshire music festival

A man from Wales has admitted supplying class A drugs at a music festival in Cheshire.

Liam George appeared at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 24 October where he pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply Class A and B drugs. The 27-year-old, of Twynygarraig, Treharris, Merthyr Tydfil, has been remanded in custody and is set to be sentenced at Chester on Monday 9 December 2024.

The court heard how at around 7.45pm on Friday 26 August 2022 George came to the attention of police after a positive indication by a drugs dog. He was taken to a private search area by officers who noted that his pupils were enlarged, and he was extremely agitated. When questioned, George admitted that he had a condom filled with illegal drugs hidden in his anus, he then attempted to remove the package, causing the condom to snap. Despite the package snapping, officers were able to recover several snap bags containing cocaine and ketamine.

George was arrested at the scene on suspicion of drug dealing. During questioning he answered no comment to all the questions put to him by officers. Despite his silence, he was later charged with possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine) and possession with intent to supply class B drugs (ketamine).

Following his sentencing, PC Neil Fleming, who led the investigation, said: *“I welcome the sentence handed to George and I hope that it acts as a warning to others who are thinking about bringing illegal drugs to Cheshire. Every year before the festival we work hard to ensure that all attendees are fully aware of the consequences they face if they bring illegal drugs onto the site. They are also given ample opportunities to dispose of the drugs in surrender bins before going through the search process. Yet despite all the warnings, George still came thinking that he would be able to make a quick buck selling illegal drugs. As a result he’s now facing a custodial sentence.”*

Man jailed for sexually abusing young children

A man from Manchester has been jailed for sexually abusing children following an investigation by Cheshire Police.

Thomas Hall of Rolling Street, Salford, appeared at Manchester Crown Court on Thursday 24 October where he was sentenced to 11 years in prison, plus three years on extended licence. The 34-year-old had previously pleaded guilty to four counts of engaging in sexual communications with a child and four counts of causing a child to engage in sexual activity. Hall also admitted four counts of making indecent images of a child and facilitating the commission of a child sex offence.



The case against Hall began in November 2020 when officers from Cheshire Police received reports that a 12-year-old girl from York was engaging in sexual communications with a man in east Cheshire via WhatsApp. Telecoms enquiries were undertaken which linked Hall to the offences. A warrant was subsequently conducted at his former home in Cheshire and Hall was arrested; a number of mobile phones and other electronic devices were also seized from the address.

During subsequent analysis of the devices, officers recovered more than 30 indecent images of children, along with 30 indecent videos. They also found seven extreme pornographic images/videos and one bestiality video. Analysis also revealed that Hall had been communicating with children using a number of pseudonyms, including a woman called 'Alex' and a teenage boy called 'Jack'. During the communications, he exploited his victims, telling them fake stories in order to persuade them to send him incident images. He also agreed to meet some of the children for sex, even offering to pay them money if they could find him a younger child for him to sleep with. Thankfully, after gathering a catalogue of evidence, officers from Cheshire Police were able to bring his offending to a stop and Hall was charged with multiple offences.

Following his sentencing, DC Peter Taylor, who led the investigation, said: *"Hall is a predator, he is manipulative, and used his age and experience to prey on young girls purely to satisfy his own twisted sexual desires. He has shown no regard for his victims and no remorse for his actions. His offending only came to an end when he was arrested by our officers. While none of the victims will ever be able to forget what happened to them, I hope that Hall's conviction and the sentence handed to him will provide them with some closure."*

In addition to the custodial sentence Hall was ordered to sign the sexual offenders' register and comply with a sexual harm prevention order for life.

DC Peter Taylor added; *"Sexual abuse can happen anywhere at any time and the impact can be lifechanging. Therefore, it's vital that parents and guardians engage with their children to warn them of the dangers of communicating with people via social media. It's also important to check that they are using those applications safely and to keep an eye out for any warning signs of sexual exploitation."*

"I hope that Hall's convictions and sentencing encourages anyone who has been subjected to similar offending to report it to the police. They should feel confident that they will receive the help and support they need from our specialist officers and other support agencies we work alongside. All victims will be treated with the dignity and respect they deserve, and any allegations will be taken extremely seriously and thoroughly investigated, with the wishes and the needs of the victim as our main priority."

For advice on identifying signs of sexual exploitation visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/child-sexual-exploitation/>. To report a sexual offence call Cheshire Constabulary on 101. Information can also be given online at <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Man charged following Warrington drugs raid

Detectives have charged a man with drugs offences following a warrant in Warrington.

On Tuesday 22 October, officers conducted a raid at an address on Farrell Street, Warrington. A number of items were recovered from the property and a man was arrested on suspicion of drugs offences. Dale Morris has since been charged with being concerned in the supply of cocaine. The 28-year-old, of Ulverston Avenue, has been remanded in custody to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Wednesday 20 November.

Cheshire Constabulary welcomes new volunteer police officers to the Force.

A software performance tester, interpreter and secondary school teacher were just some of the latest recruits to join Cheshire's Special Constabulary.

Twelve Special Constables were joined by family and friends at an official attestation ceremony, held at Cheshire Constabulary's Headquarters last week. Before stepping out to patrol the county, the new recruits swore an oath to uphold the law and sign a Memorandum of Appointment - witnessed by a magistrate. They

were all congratulated by Chief Constable Mark Roberts, Special Constabulary Chief Officer Leon Boland and Special Superintendent Matt Andrew, who all attended the event.



As a volunteer police officer, Special Constables have the same powers in law as every other police officer, they wear the same uniform, carry the same equipment and work alongside regular officers. A Special Constable in Cheshire is someone who is valued, supported and integrated into the wider policing family. They will learn new skills, see new things and make tangible differences to the lives of the public they serve.

Chief Officer of the Special Constabulary Leon Boland said: *"Volunteer police officers play a very valuable role in supporting the work of Cheshire Constabulary and the service we provide to local people. Their roles include providing high visibility patrols and helping to police major incidents and events, a much-welcomed resilience to frontline policing. Being a Special is a very rewarding, fulfilling, and interesting role where no two duties are the same. Every Special Constable's presence offers essential and much valued support to the regular officers. It is important to remember however, that Specials exist, not as a substitute for the regular police, but as an important complement to the existing force and to the local community. Special Constables come from all walks of life. And we are always on the lookout for committed individuals who are keen to experience the world of policing while supporting their local community. If you believe becoming a volunteer police officer is something you would enjoy, our recruitment window is currently open for you to apply."*

To [apply to become a volunteer police officer with Cheshire Constabulary visit our recruitment page](#).

Campaign launched to support victims and survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation (CSAE)

Cheshire Constabulary is supporting a new national campaign that focuses on encouraging victims and survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation to reach out for support.

The campaign, 'When You Are Ready', has been fully informed and developed by those with lived experience from start to finish. It hopes to make victims and survivors feel seen and heard, to know they're not alone and encourage them to tell a friend, contact a support organisation and feel empowered to take that step, whenever they're ready to do so. The Constabulary will be supporting the campaign – launched by the national Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Taskforce – with a week-long operation - where officers will be targeting anyone who causes harm to children across Cheshire.

Detective Chief Superintendent Gareth Lee, Head of Protecting Vulnerable People for Cheshire Constabulary, said: *"The protection of children is an absolute priority for us as a Force and we want to make sure that those who would do harm to children know that we won't let it go and we will take action in Cheshire. This operation and the launch of the national campaign will shine a light on this activity, but it's very much our business as usual the whole year round. If you've been abused or exploited as a child, please report it to us, when you are ready. We understand. We believe. We care."*

The 'When You Are Ready' campaign centres on a hard hitting three-minute film which features the voices of victims and survivors who have experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation – this includes both contact

and online offences. The film does not discuss the abuse experienced but details the experience each victim and survivor had in making the hard decision to disclose their abuse to a loved one, support organisation and/or the police, and the impact it had on their life thereafter. It's hoped that the film resonates with further victims and survivors highlighting that they are not alone, and this is happening to other people, like them, who are living and thriving.

The campaign also aims to encourage further victims and survivors to reach out for support if that's the right thing to do for them - whether it's telling a friend or contacting a support organisation. If someone is ready to take the next step in disclosing their experience, the film signposts victims and survivors to the bespoke campaign website directing them to a range of services and support organisations, as well as includes details on how to report to the police.

NPCC's lead for Child Protection and Abuse and Investigation, ACC Becky Riggs, said: *"We want victims and survivors to feel positive and hopeful after seeing this campaign. From our work with victims and survivors, we understand it can take many years to process the abuse or exploitation that they experienced. For some, it may even take years just to acknowledge that what they experienced was, in fact, abuse, and not the loving or caring actions of someone they could trust. We also understand, from extensive research undertaken, that 'justice' for victims and survivors doesn't necessarily mean a criminal justice outcome and simply telling someone can be enough. However, if victims do take the hugely difficult decision to disclose their abuse, they should be reassured that there are organisations who can provide help and support, whenever they are ready."*

To watch the film, visit: [When You Are Ready](#)

Three men jailed following a series of vehicle thefts in Cheshire and Merseyside

Three men who stole cars from homes in Cheshire and Merseyside have been jailed.

Michael Farrell, Sean Fagan, and Robert Lee, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 18 October, where they were sentenced after pleading guilty to conspiring to steal motor vehicles and handling stolen goods. Farrell, 35, of HMP Altcourse, was sentenced to 63 months for conspiracy to steal motor vehicles, possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine), and dangerous driving. Fagan, 31, of HMP Liverpool, was sentenced to 27 months for conspiracy to steal motor vehicles. Lee, 19, of HMP Altcourse, was sentenced to 6 months for handling stolen goods.

		
Robert Lee	Michael Farrell	Sean Fagan

The court heard how Widnes Proactive Policing Team launched Operation Jungles following reports of over 40 keyless car thefts in Cheshire and Merseyside between 18 October 2023 and 13 February 2024. Officers established that the men were using cloned keyless fobs in order to enter victims' cars and steal them. The men would generally target Ford and Land Rover models. Following a robust investigation and a significant amount of evidence gathered, Farrell, Fagan, and Lee were identified as the culprits.

On Tuesday 20 February, officers conducted warrants at four addresses in Widnes, Runcorn, and Halewood, with support from Merseyside Police. Farrell, Fagan, and Lee were arrested and six stolen cars, as well as car parts, were seized during the warrants. As a result of the evidence gathered, all three men were subsequently charged a short time later.

Following his sentencing, DC Robert McLoughlin said: *"Throughout this investigation it was clear these men held no considerations for the law or the families they were stealing from. They targeted houses in the early hours whilst the occupants were asleep, with no regard as to how this would impact the victims. This was an extremely lengthy and complex investigation, with our officers working tirelessly to ensure Farrell, Fagan, and Lee face the justice they deserve."*

"Thankfully due to the extensive work undertaken by Widnes Proactive team, and the mountain of evidence gathered – a number of stolen vehicles have been located, and Farrell, Fagan, and Lee are all behind bars facing the consequences of their actions. I hope the conclusion of Operation Jungles serves as a reminder that we will continue to relentlessly pursue those involved in organised crime and bring them to justice. I also hope that this case acts as a warning to others who are looking to come to Cheshire to commit crime."

Man jailed for drugs supply offences in Runcorn

A man who was responsible for supplying cocaine in Runcorn has been jailed.

Adam Kelly appeared at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 10 October. The 30-year-old, of Caithness Court, Runcorn, was sentenced to four years for being concerned in the supply of class A drugs – cocaine.



The case came to the attention of Cheshire Police as a result of intelligence received. Kelly was identified as a suspect who was running a drugs line based in the Runcorn area. Throughout the course of the investigation, it was evidenced that drugs had been posted through letterboxes, exchanged hand to hand behind pubs or in alleyways, or users would attend the suspect's address where the drugs were left in the bin or even on top of a car tyre.

On Wednesday 21 August 2024, Cheshire Police executed a warrant at Kelly's home address in Runcorn. Kelly was not present, but several items were seized, including cash, and drugs paraphernalia. Kelly was subsequently arrested later that day by officers in Runcorn Old Town. He was later charged with being concerned in the supply of cocaine and pleaded guilty.

Following the sentencing, PC Corcoran said: *"I welcome the custodial sentence handed to Kelly. Not only is he now facing the consequences of his criminal activities, but we have stopped a quantity of illegal drugs getting into the streets of Runcorn. I hope this serves as a warning to those who choose to conduct this type of behaviour. You will be caught, and you will be prosecuted."*

Man arrested for misusing 999 system

A man from Merseyside has been arrested for misuse of 999 system after calling police over 20 times.

At around 12.08am this morning (Tuesday 22 October), Cheshire Police call handlers received a call from a 32-year-old man, claiming he was fearing for his safety whilst at work and wanting officers to attend to take him home. The caller refused to disclose why he felt unsafe and began being obstructive. As there was no sign of an emergency, no policing response was required and the call subsequently ended.

However, whilst on the phone, the man informed the call handler that he would continue to call. Over the course of the morning, he proceeded to call Cheshire Police a further three times. The man continued to dial

999, being connected to Merseyside Police and making the same request. Again, there was no emergency and no policing presence required, and after a total of six calls, his number was blocked.

Cheshire Police officers later attended the location from where the calls were being made from, at a warehouse on Orion Boulevard, Great Sankey, and located the man. His phone was searched, with call log data revealing that he had made 26 emergency calls starting at 11pm the previous evening and he was subsequently arrested on suspicion of misuse of the 999 system. He remains in custody at this time.

CI Daniel Reynolds, of the Constabulary's Force Control Centre, said: *"Our call handlers are here to play a vital role in the receipt of emergency calls from the public needing our help; by making repeat calls to 999 it takes our call handlers' attention away from genuine emergencies and people in need. Be under no illusion, the misuse of 999 and hoax calls are a criminal offence and if found guilty, you could face up to six months imprisonment or a £5,000 fine."*

Prolific sex offender jailed for possession of indecent images of children

A prolific sex offender who was found with indecent images of children on their device has been jailed.

Thomas Quinn, who now identifies as Chloee-May Danvers, appeared at Chester Crown Court today, Monday 21 October where they were sentenced to 40 months in prison. The 25-year-old had previously pleaded guilty to two counts of making indecent images of children, distributing indecent images of children, attempting sexual communication with a child, breaching a Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO), attempting to breach a Sexual Harm Prevention Order, and failing to comply with the requirements of the sex offenders register.



The case against Danvers began on Monday 15 July, when officers from the Sex Offenders Management Unit attended Danvers' home address on Housman Close, Chester, as part of the routine checks made to monitor registered sex offenders. During the visit, officers found two category A indecent images of children in a deleted folder stored on Danvers' mobile phone. Danvers also admitted to resetting their laptop which goes against the conditions of the SHPO. They were arrested and subsequently charged with making indecent images of children and breaching their SHPO. Danvers was released on conditional bail ahead of their court appearance, however just three weeks later, Cheshire Police received information that Danvers was continuing to offend.

On Monday 5 August, officers reattended Danvers' address, and arrested them on suspicion of sexual communication with a child. Officers also seized Danvers' mobile phone that had messages which show Danvers attempting to sexually communicate with a 9-year-old girl. Two unregistered social media accounts - unknown to police - were also found on Danvers' phone, evidencing further breaches of their SHPO. Danvers would exchange indecent images of children with other users via these unregistered social media accounts, some of which recovered were of category A and category B.

When interviewed, Danvers answered "no comment" to all questions, but was later charged with the offences. Upon appearing at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 13 August, Danvers was left with no choice but to plead guilty.

Following the sentencing, DC Stephen Park said: *"Danvers is a prolific sex offender and an incredibly dangerous individual, and I welcome the sentence handed to them today. They were left with no choice but to plead guilty after a catalogue of evidence was gathered against them - including evidence of indecent material involving young children being discovered on their device. Even after their initial arrest and charge, Danvers continued to offend, accessing illicit materials, and attempting to sexually communicate with children, despite being on conditional bail. It is important to note that these crimes are not victimless, and I*

hope the result today shows we remain steadfast in pursuing and bringing to justice those who engage in online child sexual exploitation and play a part in the sexual abuse of children in Cheshire and beyond."

To report a sexual offence call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or [visit the website](#). Information can also be passed on anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

Man jailed after abandoning child following Crewe collision

A man who abandoned a 12-year-old child following a collision near Crewe has been jailed.

Kieran Bennion appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 21 October where he was sentenced to 15 months in prison. The 32-year-old of McNeill Avenue, Crewe, had earlier pleaded guilty to three counts of assault, child neglect, driving without a licence, drink driving and assaulting a police officer.



The court heard how in the early hours of Friday 16 August 2024, Bennion had been drinking heavily which resulted in an altercation with his former partner. When the victim threatened to phone the police, Bennion snatched her phone smashed it on his knee. He then left the address in Smallwood near Sandbach in a red Vauxhall Corsa, taking with him a 12-year-old child.

Bennion then drove dangerously on a number of roads towards Crewe, narrowly avoiding other vehicles, before crashing into a bush on Clay Lane, Haslington. The child attempted to get out of the car but was told to get back in the vehicle by Bennion, who then drove to Asda in Crewe town centre, where he dumped the child at 4.30am, before driving off. Thankfully, the child was able to contact a friend who came to collect them. Bennion was subsequently arrested in relation to the incident and made a full admission to all of the offences during questioning.

Following his sentencing Inspector Matt Chapman, of Congleton Area Investigation Team, said: *"Bennion's behaviour was totally unacceptable, and I welcome the sentence that has been handed to him. Not only was he unlicensed and uninsured, he was also heavily intoxicated, yet he chose to get behind the wheel and drive halfway across Crewe with a child in his car. Not only did he put the child's life at risk, but he also posed a risk to the lives of other members of the public who were out in East Cheshire that night."*

Man sentenced for operating HGV whilst intoxicated

A man from Runcorn has been jailed for 12 weeks after operating a HGV whilst under the influence of alcohol.

Sergejus Indrisiunas appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court on Thursday 17 October, where he was sentenced to 12 weeks imprisonment after pleading guilty to drink driving. The court heard that on Wednesday 16 October, police in Runcorn received a report that a HGV driver had arrived to collect stock at an industrial site in Runcorn whilst intoxicated. Officers attended the scene on Hardwick Road, Runcorn, and stopped a Scania articulated lorry that was being driven by Indrisiunas, and conducted a roadside breath test. The 57-year-old provided a positive result and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of drink driving.

In custody, Indrisiunas took a second test which revealed he was over three times above the legal limit of alcohol - with the reading showing he had 120 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath. Indrisiunas was subsequently charged and remanded in custody before he was put before Chester Magistrates' Court on Thursday 17 October and sentenced to 12 weeks in prison. He was also disqualified from driving for three years and ordered to pay a £154 surcharge.

Following sentencing, PC Nathan Holland of Runcorn Response said: *"I dread to think what could have happened if we had not have stopped Indrisiunas and he had continued driving on the road with other motorists whilst behind the wheel of such a large vehicle. Drink driving is one of the fatal five offences, meaning it is a leading contributor to death and serious injury on the roads in England and Wales. Cheshire police will not tolerate anyone driving on the roads whilst over the specified limit of drink or drugs, least of all those who are supposed to be professional drivers in large articulated lorries such as Indrisiunas'."*



Anyone who gets behind the wheel of a vehicle should familiarise themselves with the 'Fatal Five' offences, in order to minimise the risk of any accidents occurring on the county's roads. Investigations into collisions show that some of the incidents could have been prevented and that there are five main contributory factors that cause serious road traffic collisions, they are:

- Careless driving
- Drink and drug driving
- Not wearing a seatbelt
- Using a mobile phone
- Speeding

Road users who commit one of the Fatal Five offences are far more likely to be involved in a fatal collision than those who do not. If you have any information in relation to drink driving or dangerous driving of any kind, please contact us via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us or call 101. Information can also be passed on anonymously via CrimeStoppers.

Constabulary highlights Modern Day Slavery during anti-slavery week

To mark Anti-Slavery Week, Cheshire Constabulary is taking the opportunity to highlight Modern Day Slavery and how to spot the signs.

More than 49.6 million people in the world today, and an estimated 136,000 people in the UK, are trapped in conditions of modern slavery. The Constabulary's Protecting Vulnerable People teams across the county are dedicated to identifying, safeguarding and supporting victims of forced labour, domestic servitude and sexual exploitation and in taking robust action against offenders. They work closely with partners including local authorities, recruitment agencies, employers and private landlords to identify, prevent, disrupt and stop modern day slavery and help the vulnerable victims.

DI Dave Jarvis from the Eastern Protecting Vulnerable People Exploitation team, said: *"It's a sad fact of life that modern slavery is happening today, in our communities, often hidden away behind closed doors. Modern slavery destroys lives. It stems from serious and organised crime and targets some of the most vulnerable people in our society, who are coerced into a range of exploitation, including trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Many are tricked into coming to the UK with a promise of a good job and a better life. Instead, they are made to live a life of abuse, working in terrible conditions with very little reward. These offences represent a grave abuse of human rights and basic dignity - we are determined to eradicate modern slavery and bring to justice those who so cruelly exploit vulnerable people."*

Victims of modern slavery are often hidden in plain sight. You may see victims working in your community without realising that they are being coerced to do so by organised criminals. To look out for potential victims, it is important to recognise the signs and behaviours associated with this type of crime. Here are some of the common signs that may indicate that someone could be a victim of modern day slavery:

- Appearance: Victims may show signs of physical or psychological abuse, look malnourished or unkempt or appear withdrawn.

- Isolation: Victims may rarely be allowed to travel on their own, seem under the control/influence of others, rarely interact or appear unfamiliar with their neighbourhood or where they work.
- Poor living conditions: Victims may be living in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation, and may be working at the same address.
- Few or no personal effects: Victims may have no identification documents, have few personal possessions and wear the same clothes day in, day out. The clothes they do wear may not be suitable for their work.
- Unusual travel times: They may be dropped off/collected for work on a regular basis, either very early in the morning or late at night.
- Reluctant to seek help: Victims may avoid eye contact, appear frightened or hesitant to talk to strangers and fear law enforcers for many reasons, such as not knowing who to trust or where to get help and fear of deportation.

Information from the community, no matter how small, plays a vital part in tackling modern slavery. If you see something suspicious call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 via the [website](#) or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. For more information about modern day slavery visit [here](#).

UPDATE - Wanted man from Alderley Edge arrested and charged

A wanted man from Alderley Edge has now been arrested and charged with multiple offences.

Jack Watkin, of Wilmslow Road, Alderley Edge, was arrested on Friday 18 October at Macclesfield train station. The 25-year-old has since been charged with nine counts of fraud by false representation, possession of extreme pornography, making indecent images of children and possession of indecent images of children. Watkins appeared at Chester Magistrates Court on Saturday 19 October, where he was remanded in custody. He is next set to appear at Chester Crown Court on Monday 18 November 2024.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal for witnesses and footage following incident on M6

Officers are appealing for witnesses and dashcam footage following an incident on the M6.

At around 9.30pm on Friday 18 October, a traffic management crew was implementing a closure of lanes one and two on the M6 northbound between junction 18 and 19, around 1km before Knutsford Services. As one of the workers was closing the lanes, a white vehicle collided with one of the cones being placed onto the carriageway, which subsequently hit the worker. The worker suffered serious facial injuries as a result of the incident. The driver of the white vehicle, believed to be a 2012 Mercedes, failed to stop at the scene.

Officers are appealing to anyone who witnessed what happened or has dashcam footage of the incident to come forward.

PC Alex Whitehurst said: *"As part of our ongoing investigation, we would like to speak to anyone who witnessed this incident. We are also urging anyone who was driving along this stretch of motorway at around*

this time to check their dashcam footage for anything which may be relevant to our enquiries. You can report information to us via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us or call 101, quoting IML-1943184."

Police appeal for information following attempted robbery in Chester

Police investigating an attempted robbery near the Greyhound Retail Park are appealing for witnesses, information and video footage.

At around 5.15pm on Tuesday 22 October, a 54-year-old man was cycling along the Millennium Greenway near to Greyhound Retail Park in Chester on an electric bike. Whilst cycling, the man was knocked from his bike by three individuals on homemade electric bikes, who then attempted to steal it from him. A scuffle ensued, with the man eventually fending off the attackers, stopping them from taking his bike, with two passers-by intervening to help. The suspects are described as being around 15 to 17 years old and were wearing black balaclavas.

DC Luke Cassell, of CID Reactive West, said: *"This incident will have occurred at a busy time of day in a fairly busy location, so I am sure someone may have seen the incident occurring or something that did not look right leading up to or immediately after it took place. As part of our enquiries, we are asking anyone who may have seen anything suspicious, has any information relating to the incident or may have captured anything on dashcam footage to please get in touch."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](#) quoting IML-1946348. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Police appeal for help in tracing wanted Nantwich man

Police are appealing for help in tracing a man wanted for assaulting two women in Crewe.

Alex Fitzpatrick, 28, from Nantwich, is described as white, with blue eyes and brown hair. He is of slim build and 5ft 8ins tall. He has links to Nantwich, Widnes and Merseyside.

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](#) quoting IML 1837624. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Images released following altercation in Lymm

Officers have released images of a man they would like to speak to following an altercation in Lymm.



Shortly after 4.55pm on Monday 26 August, three youths were in Whitbarrow Road, Lymm, when they were approached by an adult male. There was then an altercation, in which the man threatened the youths. He then walked away from the scene. Officers have now released an image of a man they would like to speak to in relation to the incident as they believe he may hold vital information.

DC Rebecca Jubb said: *"Enquiries have been ongoing since the incident took place. We would now like to appeal to anyone who may recognise the man in these CCTV images to get in touch with us. We would also like to appeal directly to the man pictured to make contact."*

You can report information to Cheshire Police via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, or call 101, quoting 24000739639.

Police appeal for witnesses following indecent exposure in Handforth

Police are appealing for information following an indecent exposure in Handforth.

At around 5.45pm on Tuesday 8 October a man was seen exposing himself on a public footpath that runs from Dean Row Road adjacent to the Colshaw Farm estate. The suspect is described as white, in his mid-30's, with an oval face which was pock-marked, especially round the chin. He was wearing mid-blue denim jeans which were unclean and a navy-blue raincoat which was mid-bottom-length and had a hood with a capped peak at the front. The raincoat appeared grubby.

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](#) quoting IML 1936066. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Police appeal for witnesses following fatal Chester collision

Police are appealing for witnesses following a fatal collision in Chester.

At 5pm on Tuesday 22 October a Toyota Rav 4 was in collision with a Citroen C3 on the A56 Hoole Road at the junction with Mannings Lane South. Sadly, the driver of the Citroen, a 72-year-old man, died at the scene.

Sgt Jon Dixon said: *"It was very busy at the time of the collision so I'd appeal to anyone who saw the collision or captured it on dashcam to contact us to help us establish the circumstances."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](#) quoting IML 1945934.

Police investigating indecent exposure in Alsager appeal for witnesses

Police are appealing for information following an incident of indecent exposure in Alsager.

On Wednesday 16 October, Cheshire Police received reports of an incident in Brookhouse Road. A woman reported that at around 11am, she had been walking along Brookhouse Road in the direction of Cedar Avenue when she was stopped by a man in a vehicle who was asking for directions. As the woman approached the vehicle to help, the man exposed himself and the woman walked away.

The suspect is described as a white male, of an unknown age, with glasses, and was driving a grey/silver vehicle.

DC Lauren Constable said: *"Firstly, we would like to reassure the community that we take offences of this nature seriously and we are conducting a number of enquiries to identify the person responsible. We would like anyone who witnessed this incident or who saw a man driving a grey/silver vehicle acting suspiciously in the area to get in touch. Please can residents along Brookhouse Road, Station Road, Cedar Avenue, or any*

other neighbouring roads check any dashcam, CCTV, or video doorbell footage from the day of the incident for anything which may be relevant to our investigation.

"We would urge anyone who has been approached by this man to report it to Cheshire Police via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us or call 101, quoting IML-1941033. Please do not approach any vehicle if requested by someone that you do not know, and report any incidents or concerns to police."

Appeal for witnesses following burglary in Macclesfield

Officers investigating reports of a burglary in Macclesfield are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to come forward.

On Friday 4 October, police were called to reports of a burglary at an address in Chester Road. The incident is believed to have occurred at some time between 11am and 2pm that day. The caller reported a window had been smashed and access had been gained to the property. A quantity of high value jewellery was stolen. Officers are now appealing for anyone who witnessed what happened to come forward.

PC Bramwell said: *"This incident happened when people would have been out and about during the day, so we are looking to speak to any potential witnesses as part of our ongoing investigation. We would also like anyone who may have any further information about this incident or has any relevant footage to aid our enquiries to get in touch. You can report information online via cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, or call 101, quoting IML-1932721."*

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

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Scan to visit [website](https://www.cheshirenw.org)