

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 19 July 2026

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Man jailed for six years for abusing a woman

A man has been jailed for six years for engaging in controlling or coercive behaviour, rape and criminal damage.

Connor Dunkley, from Fern Hill, Benllech, Tyn Y Gongl appeared at Chester Crown Court on 10 July to be sentenced after being found guilty of the offences at an earlier hearing. The 31-year-old targeted his victim in Cheshire while they were in a relationship. He abused and belittled her throughout the course of the relationship. He was physically and verbally abusive towards her and damaged her property. He continually told her she wasn't good enough or attractive enough for him, and forced her to have sex. He took her money, leaving her without, and isolated her from friends and family due to his jealousy.



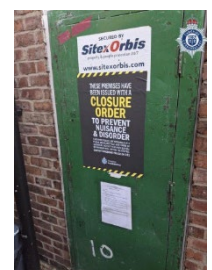
DC Ashley Frowe said: *"Dunkley's behaviour towards this woman was vile, unforgivable and callous. The sentence reflects the seriousness of his crimes and that behaving in this way will not be tolerated. I'd urge anyone in a similar position to contact us, or a support agency, to help them break free. Don't suffer in silence."*

For information on getting the support go to [support organisations](#). Call 101 to report a crime, but if you are in immediate danger, call 999.

Closure order secured against drug dealing hub on Warrington street

Officers have secured a three-month closure order against an address in Warrington that caused considerable disruption for its neighbours.

Local Beat officers in Warrington were granted the three-month order against the property on Broadbent Avenue at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 15 July. The officers were successful in securing the order against the property after obtaining a substantial amount of evidence of drug dealing and usage had been taking place there. Officers had also regularly responded to reports of anti-social behaviour at the address and also located several outstanding and wanted criminals at the property on more than one occasion.



These incidents caused a considerable amount of disruption to the lives of the residents in the immediate vicinity of the address, who feared repercussions from the occupant if they reached out to police to make a complaint. However, after working alongside local Beat Management officers, residents felt confident enough to give evidence of the poor behaviour that was then submitted

before the courts. The closure will last for three months and, during that period, the occupant will need to find alternative accommodation. Anyone who enters the property during this period could face a hefty fine or even a prison sentence.

Police Constable Andrew Schofield, of Warrington Local Policing Unit's Neighbourhood Team, said: *"We heard the needs of the residents on Broadbent Avenue and how their lives were routinely affected by the poor behaviour exhibited by that of their neighbour. I hope that now this closure order is in place, they can rest that little bit easier without fear of any repercussions. I would like to thank the local Beat Manager for the area and their team, who worked alongside the residents of Broadbent Avenue and helped them build the confidence they needed to submit the formal reports to us that were vital in securing this closure order and getting this hub for illegal activity shut down. This is what neighbourhood policing is all about and should any residents be living in a similar situation, with a property in their community causing them anxiety or fear through unacceptable behaviour, I would strongly urge you to get in touch with your own local Beat team. We will do all we can to get you and your neighbours the justice, and peace of mind, that you deserve."*

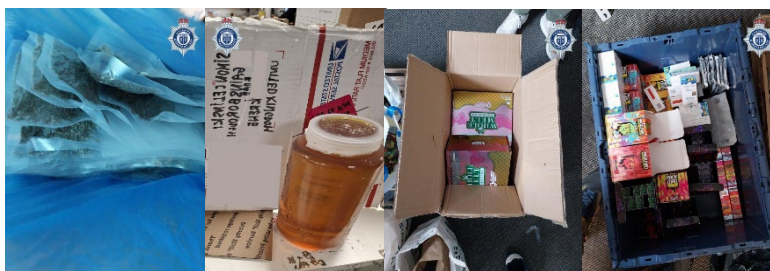
Crewe man jailed following £27,000 international cannabis operation

A man from Crewe, who ran a cannabis distribution operation from his bedroom, has been jailed for over three years.

Syzmon Celinski appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 13 July, where he was handed a 40-month prison sentence. 30-year-old Celinski, of Gainsborough Road Crewe, had been given the sentence after he had pleaded guilty to three counts of possession with intent to supply class B drugs (cannabis and cannabinoid receptor agonists), two counts of being concerned in the fraudulent evasion of a prohibition on the importation of a class B drug (cannabis) and being concerned in the supply of class B drugs.



On Tuesday 18 November 2025, Border Force officers at Coventry International Airport intercepted a parcel from the United States of America marked to be delivered to an address in Crewe. Upon opening the parcel, Border Force colleagues found a 1L cannister containing cannabis extract liquid. Following the discovery, Cheshire Police were subsequently contacted.



On 27 April 2026, officers from Crewe's proactive team attended the address displayed on the parcel to speak to its intended recipient, Syzmon Celenski. Celenski was in the address at the time and showed officers to his bedroom. Inside the officers were shown what was, in effect, a commercial-level distribution centre; with approximately 100 packets of cannabis edibles, 230 packets of cannabis dust, liquid, resin and vapes found inside. The value of the items found was approximately £27,100. Officers also found chemical equipment designed to create further edible cannabis gummies and several label printers for postage.

During a search of the room, officers found ready-to-send packages marked for addresses within the UK, but also found parcels bound for international customers in Spain and Poland. As a result of the discovery, Celinski was arrested and taken into custody. When given the opportunity to explain his actions during interview, Celinski declined to comment. Despite this, he would plead guilty to the charges on 27 May 2026.

Detective Sergeant Kevin Williams, of Crewe Proactive CID, said: *"It was clear from the offset that our officers were dealing with a professional operation that was importing and exporting considerable amounts of illegal produce on a local, regional and international scale. With that in mind, I am glad that, with the assistance of our colleagues from Border Force, Mr Celinski's criminal enterprise has now been permanently shut down and a key player in the local drug trade removed. The importation of illegal goods, which have often been bought for heavily discounted prices from abroad, funds organised crime in your area, which is why it is so important that if you have any concerns about the sale of drugs in your community, you report it to police so that we can take robust action. Anyone with any concerns about illegal or suspicious activity in their area can contact Cheshire Police via the website, or can speak to a local neighbourhood officer."*

Northwich man banned from shops across the town

A prolific offender from Northwich has been banned from entering shops across the town for five years.

Matthew Hodson appeared at Chester Magistrates Court on Tuesday 14 July where he was sentenced to 12 weeks in prison, suspended one year. He was also handed a five-year Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) which prevents him from entering a number of shops across Northwich. The 39-year-old, now of the Mulberry Centre, Chester, had previously pleaded guilty to a number of offences including theft, section 39 assault and multiple counts of breaching police bail.



Under the terms of the CBO, Hodson is excluded from entering the area highlighted in the exclusion map (except when attending an appointment), and banned from entering the following stores:

- Tesco, Manchester Road
- Home Bargains, Witton Street
- Farmfoods, Chesterway
- Boots, Witton Street
- Sainsburys, Venables Road,
- Asda, Barons Quay



In addition, he is also banned from concealing any items upon his person, or in backpacks, or carrier bags when in any retail store in Cheshire. He is also prohibited from sitting on the floor at the entrance or exit to any retail stores in Cheshire. Failure to adhere to the order could result in Hodson being issued with a fine or even imprisonment.

Inspector Paul Heatley, of Northwich Local Policing unit, said: *"Hodson is well known to the team here at Northwich for a variety of offences, including shoplifting and assault, and despite multiple*

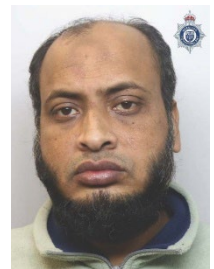
interventions to curb his behaviour he continues to offend. Therefore, we have been left with no option but to apply for this order, which provides us with a number of additional powers to tackle his behaviour. I hope this will provide reassurance to local businesses, demonstrating that we are committed to doing all we can to tackle shoplifting across Northwich."

Anyone who encounters Hodson breaching the restrictions of his order is urged to contact Cheshire Police via cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/ or call 101, to report it.

Convicted rapist extradited to UK to serve prison sentence

A man who fled the country after being convicted of rape, child neglect, and controlling and coercive behaviour has been extradited back to the UK to serve his prison sentence.

Faisal Ahmed, of West Street, Buckingham, was sentenced in his absence to eight years' imprisonment at Chester Crown Court on Monday 19 January. The 34-year-old had earlier been found guilty of two counts of rape, engaging in controlling and coercive behaviour, and child neglect following a nine-day trial in September 2025. In November 2023, Cheshire Police were called to an address in Crewe, where the victim reported that Ahmed had assaulted and raped her multiple times over several months. During this period, he also assaulted the victim's young child.



Officers quickly arrested and interviewed Ahmed in connection with the offences, and he was subsequently charged. However, he failed to appear in court on the final day of the trial, and a warrant was issued for his arrest. Following an international appeal to locate him, detectives linked Ahmed to an address in France. With the assistance of; CPS, Interpol, the National Crime Agency (NCA), the French Judiciary and specifically the Paris Judicial Police Directorate, Ahmed was successfully located and arrested on 28 April 2026. Ahmed has now been returned to the UK to serve his custodial sentence.

<https://youtu.be/9fIIYAe0Rm8>

Detective Constable Amy Pegnam, of Cheshire Constabulary's Force Intelligence Bureau, said: *"Firstly, I would like to thank our colleagues in France, Interpol and the NCA. This is an excellent example of partnership working to ensure offenders are brought to justice. I would also like to extend my thanks to the media for covering the sentencing, held in Ahmed's absence, and for their support in publicising our appeal to locate him. Thanks to this collective effort, we were able to locate a dangerous individual and bring him back to the UK to face justice for his crimes.*

"Ahmed attempted to evade the consequences of his actions, he believed he could escape and continue his life while the victim lived in fear, but he was mistaken. Cheshire Constabulary is committed to ensuring that those who pose a threat to women and children are held accountable, and Ahmed was no exception. I would also like to commend the victim for her strength and bravery throughout this investigation. I hope this outcome provides her with some reassurance and enables her to begin moving forward, knowing Ahmed is now behind bars where he belongs."

Family of woman who died following Chester collision pay tribute

The family of a woman who died following a collision in Chester have paid tribute to her.

At 11.33pm on Friday 10 July, police were called to reports of a serious collision in Parkgate Road, Chester, at the junction with Welsh Road. The collision involved two vehicles, a grey Cupra Born and a black Kia Sportage. Sadly, a passenger in the Kia, 70-year-old Carol Tinsley from Liverpool, suffered serious injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the Kia, along with a further two passengers, suffered serious injuries and were taken to hospital. A fourth passenger suffered minor injuries. The driver of the Cupra was uninjured. No arrests have been made and enquiries remain ongoing.

Carol's family said: *"Our family has been shattered and ripped apart with the loss of our beautiful, selfless, amazing Carol, and we were all blessed to be a part of her life. We are all truly heartbroken and ask for privacy at this very sad time."*

You can report information in relation to the collision to Cheshire Police by calling 101 or visiting our website, quoting IML-2370499.



Cheshire Constabulary listed as one of the top performing forces in the country

Cheshire has been placed in the top performing group of forces in a new report published by HMICFRS today (Thursday 16 July).

Cheshire was placed in Level One – which indicates that no further action or intervention is required from the performance system at this time.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"I'm proud that we have been assigned to Level One, reaffirming the excellent service we are delivering to the public of Cheshire. This follows our recent end of year figures where we were ranked top in the country for crime outcome rates and we had the highest charge/summons outcome rate in the UK for overall crime, demonstrating our commitment to bringing offenders to justice and protecting vulnerable people."*

"Cheshire is also the best performing force for tackling violence offences, stalking and harassment, sexual offences and burglary and has some of the highest charge rates in the country for vehicle crime and shoplifting. This is on top of last year's HMICFRS inspection, where we were the only Force to be graded as 'outstanding' in managing offenders and suspects, and one of only two forces to be graded as 'outstanding' for protecting vulnerable people. These results are outstanding and reflect the hard work that officers and staff across the county deliver day in, day out to ensure that we continue to provide the best service possible, supporting the people who need our help and to lock up those that cause misery and suffering."

The Policing Performance System has replaced the HMICFRS ['Scan' and 'Engage' monitoring process](#). In the new system, every police force in England and Wales has been assigned a level from Level One to Level Four (Special Measures). The levels were assigned at a new Policing Performance Monitoring Group (PPMG), which was chaired by His Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI) Michelle Skeer. In deciding which level to assign a force to, HMICFRS considered range of factors inspection findings, analysis of performance data and information from partner agencies.

Cheshire Police conduct First Live Facial Recognition Deployment Under Operation Vigilant

Cheshire Police has successfully completed the first of four planned Live Facial Recognition (LFR) deployments as part of Operation Vigilant, supporting efforts to protect vulnerable people, prevent crime and enhance public safety across the county.

The operation took place on Saturday 11 July in Chester city centre, and was supported by neighbourhood officers, the Sexual Offender Management Unit (SOMU), Project Servator officers, and Greater Manchester Police LFR operators. The city experienced significant footfall throughout the day, providing an opportunity to utilise LFR technology to support policing objectives, identify individuals wanted for serious offences and safeguard those at risk.

In addition to operational activity, officers engaged with members of the public to explain how Live Facial Recognition technology works, the safeguards in place to protect privacy and how images are processed and managed. Visitors were also invited to view the technology in operation and speak directly with officers about the deployment. The deployment delivered a number of positive outcomes, including three Community Resolutions for Class A drug possession offences and the seizure of an illegally used e-bike. There were also no reports of anti-social behaviour within the deployment area.

Officers supporting the operation also safeguarded a vulnerable woman after identifying behaviour that raised concerns for her welfare. Thanks to the officers involved, the woman was safely reunited with her friends. Although no arrest was made, the incident highlights the preventative and safeguarding-focused approach of Operation Vigilant.



The deployment demonstrated how Live Facial Recognition technology can support visible policing, proactive safeguarding and community safety. A further deployment is planned later this month and is expected to be the first in the UK to use authorised watchlist images from neighbouring police forces, strengthening cross-border collaboration and enhancing the ability to identify wanted individuals across force boundaries.

Detective Chief Inspector Robert Pritchard said: *"Our aim under Operation Vigilant is to protect vulnerable people, safeguard those at risk and bring offenders to justice. The use of Live Facial Recognition technology strengthens our ability to achieve those objectives and helps us prevent harm before it occurs. This deployment forms part of our ongoing commitment to tackling violence against women and girls and ensuring our communities remain safe places to live, work and visit. The positive outcomes from this operation demonstrate the value of combining innovative technology with visible policing and proactive safeguarding. We are committed to using technology responsibly, proportionately and transparently to help keep people safe. As we continue to develop our Live Facial Recognition capability and work with partners across the region, we will be even better equipped to identify offenders, protect vulnerable people and prevent crime."*

Two men charged with drugs offences following warrant in Ellesmere Port

Detectives investigating the supply of illegal drugs in Ellesmere Port have charged two men following a warrant in the town.

On Thursday 9 July, detectives from Ellesmere Port Proactive CID executed a warrant at an address on Flint Court. Six people were arrested at the address, and officers also recovered a quantity of illegal drugs. Five e-bikes and two e-scooters were also seized during the raid.



Following questioning, Anthony Goss, 19, of Princes Road, Ellesmere Port, and Carter Johnson, 20, also of Princes Road, Ellesmere Port, have both been charged with being concerned in the supply of Ketamine and Cannabis between 7 June 2026 and 9 July 2026. The four remaining suspects have been released on police bail pending further enquiries.

Man and woman sentenced for drugs offences in Crewe

Two individuals have been sentenced for drugs offences in the Crewe area.

The pair appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 3 July 2026. Joshua Fletcher, 31, of Earle Street, Crewe, was sentenced to five years and seven months (five years and 219 days) after pleading guilty to being concerned in the supply of cocaine, ecstasy, cannabis and ketamine. Meanwhile, Georgina Tomkinson, 30, of Davenham Crescent, Crewe, was sentenced to 25 months suspended for two years after pleading guilty to possession with intent to supply cocaine and cannabis.



Cheshire Police commenced an investigation into the supply of class A and B drugs in the Crewe area following intelligence that Fletcher was involved in selling cocaine, ketamine, ecstasy and cannabis between February and June 2025. In February 2025, a Snapchat account appearing to belong to Fletcher was used to advertise drugs for sale, however at the time Fletcher was in prison. Fletcher was released from prison on 14 March 2025 and just one day later, another Snapchat account was identified as belonging to him. He even posted a picture of himself as well as his prison release papers. Further accounts were identified which showed evidence of drugs supply, including posting price lists for cocaine.

In June 2025, a warrant was executed at Fletcher's home address. A mobile phone was seized which suggested evidence of the supply of drugs. Intelligence linked Fletcher to Tomkinson, and her address was also searched in November 2025. Cannabis and white powder were seized, as well as various mobile phones and a paper list of names and numbers. Messages on the phones suggested involvement with the supply of drugs. Both individuals were subsequently charged.

DS Williams said: *"Fletcher clearly didn't learn his lesson, posting about his release from prison on social media along with clear evidence of selling drugs. But he's now behind bars after a short spell back in the community. Both him and Tomkinson underestimated the lengths our officers go to in order to identify individuals intent on blighting our streets with illegal drugs and making sure they are brought before the courts. Anyone with information about drug-related activity in their area should contact Cheshire Police by calling 101 or reporting through our website."*

England fans in USA leading by example.

Police chief praises fans in Miami and urges fans in the UK to follow their lead as arrests back home top 100.

The UK policing lead for football, Chief Constable Mark Roberts, has once again praised England fans for their behaviour in America. Whilst ticket sales suggested 10,000 England fans made the trip to Miami, there were clearly many times more than that in the stadium, where they witnessed England beat Norway by 2 goals to 1.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"The behaviour of the England fans in the US and Mexico has been outstanding throughout this tournament, and Saturday night was no different. The atmosphere during the game was passionate but friendly, with no animosity between fans at the end of the match.*

"It's a real shame that the same cannot be said about the behaviour of fans back home here in the UK. Over Saturday evening, into the early hours of Sunday morning we had over 500 incidents reported, with more than 100 arrests across the country. The vast majority of these incidents have been alcohol-related and along with the extended licensing hours, we have seen an increase in calls to premises with big screens that are attracting large numbers of fans. This behaviour really is disappointing. Domestically this tournament is the worst one we have seen for number of incidents and arrests. If we can have 40,000 fans together in Miami with no trouble, then why can't fans follow their exemplary behaviour and do the same back home?"

"England are in the semi-finals of the world cup, the sun is shining and this should be a time for celebration and getting behind the team, not getting involved in fights and causing trouble for UK Policing which is already facing significant demand. So, ahead of Wednesday's game I would urge fans back home to follow those leading by example in the US – enjoy the game and atmosphere, go out and have fun but do so without causing problems for yourselves and others."

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal for information following suspicious activity in Northwich

Officers in Northwich are appealing for information following reports of suspicious activity.

At 2.08pm on Friday 10 July, police received reports of suspicious behaviour near to Northwich Rowing Club. The caller reported a man was stood at the barrier to the footpath by the river on the Hunts Lock side. He appeared to be carrying out a sexual act, before riding away from the area on a bike. The man is described as white, aged in his 30s, around 5' 10" tall, with short/medium length dark wavy hair, of a large build, and was wearing navy shorts, a black t-shirt and carrying a black backpack. His bike was described as a black Carrera bike with green on it.

PC Jack Pilkington said: *"Enquiries have been ongoing since this incident was reported to us and we are now appealing for information from the public to aid our investigation. We would like to ask anyone who witnessed what happened or saw anyone matching the description of this man in the*

area to get in touch with us. You can report information to us by calling 101 or visiting cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML-2370028."

Appeal for witnesses following fatal collision in Chester

Officers are appealing for witnesses and anyone with dashcam footage to come forward following a fatal collision in Chester.

At 11.33pm on Friday 10 July, police were called to reports of a serious collision in Parkgate Road, Chester, at the junction with Welsh Road. The collision involved two vehicles, a grey Cupra Born and a black Kia Sportage. Sadly, a passenger in the Kia, a 70-year-old woman, suffered serious injuries was pronounced dead at the scene. Her next of kin are being supported by specialist officers at this time. The driver of the Kia, along with a further two passengers, suffered serious injuries and were taken to hospital. A fourth passenger suffered minor injuries. The driver of the Cupra was uninjured.

Inspector Andrew Dennison said: *"Enquiries remain ongoing to establish the full circumstances, and no arrests have been made in relation to the incident. We are appealing for anyone who witnessed what happened or has any dashcam footage which may aid our investigation to get in touch with us. Our thoughts remain with the family and friends of the woman who has sadly died."*

You can report information to Cheshire Police by calling 101 or visiting our website, quoting IML-2370499.

Police appeal for help in tracing wanted man

Police are appealing for help in tracing a wanted man.

Peter Poole is wanted on recall to prison. He is described as 6'3" tall, of medium build, balding, and has blue eyes. The 45-year-old is known to have links to Runcorn, Widnes, Wrexham and the wider North Wales area. Anyone who sees Poole is urged not to approach him and call 999 immediately.

Information on his whereabouts can be reported to Cheshire Police on 101 or [via the website](#) quoting 26000344996. Information can also be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



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Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

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Constabulary



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