

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 12 July 2026

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

UPDATE | Eight men charged in relation to car and key burglaries in Cheshire and Greater Manchester

Detectives from Cheshire police have charged eight men in connection to a series of car and key burglaries across Cheshire and Greater Manchester.

On Thursday 9 July, more than 100 officers from Cheshire Police and Greater Manchester Police executed nine warrants at homes across Wythenshawe leading to the arrest of seven men. An eighth suspect was arrested at 9.45pm on Wednesday 8 July following a pursuit in Salford. Following questioning, all eight men have now been charged with conspire to commit a burglary dwelling with intent to steal (01/04/2026 - 10/07/2026) and conspire to steal motor vehicles (01/04/2026 - 10/07/2026). Below are the details of the eight defendants –

- Shaun Parry (34) of Lyndene Road, Wythenshawe
- Gary Stanway (34) of Tuffley Road, Wythenshawe
- Damien Carter (26) of Robinswood Road, Wythenshawe
- Delton Timothy (21) of No Fixed Abode
- Alan McCabe (25) of Marlston Avenue, Salford
- Niall Ritchie (21) of Plowden Road, Wythenshawe
- Jordan Davies (32) of Moor Lane, Wythenshawe
- Lewis Deakin (22) of Overdale Road, Wythenshawe

The charges relate to an investigation into over 20 burglaries of homes across Cheshire and Greater Manchester between April 2026 and June 2026. These include addresses in Macclesfield, Trafford, Stockport and Wythenshawe. All eight men have been remanded in custody and are set to appear at Chester Magistrates Court on Saturday 11 July,

Cheshire Constabulary to deploy Live Facial Recognition technology in Chester city centre

Cheshire Constabulary will be deploying Live Facial Recognition (LFR) technology in Chester city centre on Saturday 11 July.

As Chester city centre prepares to welcome an increased numbers of visitors for Chester Races, the deployment will support officers in identifying individuals who are wanted by police, outstanding suspects, and those who pose a risk of harm to the public. LFR allows officers to be alerted in real time if a person on a specific, pre-approved watchlist passes through the area being scanned, allowing them to take appropriate action where necessary.

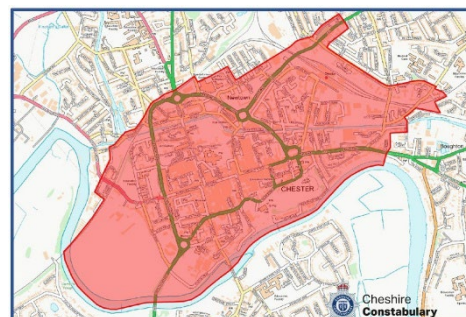
During the deployment, officers will be available to speak with members of the public, local businesses, and community groups to explain the technology, listen to concerns, and offer reassurance about the safeguards in place. Strict privacy, data protection, and human rights

safeguards are in place for every LFR deployment. Only images of individuals on a pre-approved watchlist are used by the system, and any biometric data of passers-by who do not match a person on that list is automatically and immediately deleted. Officers reviewing any potential matches must also confirm the identity before any action is taken. Cheshire Police will be clearly signposting the use of the technology throughout the city centre, including visible signs around the area and information shared online.

As well as the LFR deployment, a dispersal order will be in place from 12pm on Friday 10 July until 12pm on Sunday 12 July 2026. The dispersal order will allow officers to ban anyone from the area for up to 48 hours to prevent disorder. The area covered by the order is highlighted in the attached map. The map is provided to anyone issued with a direction to leave.

Chief Inspector Darren Griffiths, the force lead for Facial Recognition, said: *"This latest deployment will help ensure that visitors to Chester on Saturday, along with local residents and businesses, can go about their day safely. Live Facial Recognition is a valuable tool that helps us keep people safe, particularly during large-scale events such as Chester Races, when we expect increased footfall in the city centre. The technology also helps us ensure that everyone can enjoy all that Chester has to offer safely. Alongside officers on the ground, LFR gives us an additional capability to identify individuals who may pose a risk to others and allows us to take appropriate action where necessary."*

Inspector James Wilson said: *"This weekend it will be incredibly busy in Chester, paired with the hot weather, and while we hope everyone enjoys their time here, we hope they do so safely and look out for each other. As well as an increased police presence, there will be a dispersal order in place which serves as an additional tactical option that allows us to directly combat anti-social behaviour head on, before it escalates."*



Members of the public can find more information about Live Facial Recognition [on the Constabulary's website](#), including details on how the technology works and the safeguards that govern its use. Anyone with information about anti-social behaviour in their area is urged to contact Cheshire Police via the Cheshire Police website or call 101.

Four arrested following immigration deployments in Runcorn

Officers have arrested four illegal workers following two deployments in Runcorn.

On Friday 19 June and Saturday 4 July, Foreign National Offender officers working under Operation Lockstream, with the assistance of colleagues from Home Office Immigration, conducted visits to two nail salons in the Church Street areas of Runcorn. On the first visit, they found a 22-year-old man and a 46-year-old man had entered the UK illegally and a 31-year-old man was found to have overstayed, having entered the country as a seasonal worker in 2022. The men, all of Vietnamese nationality, were all arrested and later bailed with conditions of not returning to work.

However, conducting a follow-up visit at the same premises just under two weeks later, officers found the same 31-year-old and 46-year-old man who had been arrested during the first visit were working in the salon again. They were arrested on suspicion of breach of bail. A 22-year-old woman,

also of Vietnamese nationality, who had entered the UK illegally and had no right to legal employment was also found and promptly arrested.

Chief Inspector Joe McNally, of Runcorn Local Policing Unit, said: *"Our officers work hard to root out the organised criminals who are operating on our high streets and in our communities and they regularly conduct routine checks to ensure vulnerable people are not being exploited. We know that many extremely vulnerable people come to the UK in the pursuit of a better life, however, we have seen in several instances in Cheshire alone that these people are instead being criminally exploited.*

"The criminal exploitation of vulnerable people is an extremely serious matter, and we continually work with our partner organisations, such as the Home Office and Immigration Enforcement, in tackling the issue within our communities and providing any victims we identify with the correct support they need. This operation shows our relentless approach to tackling this issue. We will not cease in our efforts to ensure of the most vulnerable people in our communities are protected and let it also act as a warning to those who are considering taking part in this type of activity: you will be found and you will face justice."

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/>.

Northwich man charged with breaching a Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

A man from Northwich has been charged with breaching his Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

Stephen Bushell was arrested on Wednesday 8 July, following allegations that he had been inappropriately engaging with a teenager. The 58-year-old of School Lane, Lostock Gralam has since been charged with five counts of breaching a Sexual Harm Prevention Order, one count of sexual assault and one count of stalking. Bushell appeared at Chester Magistrates Court on Friday 10 July where he was remanded in custody. He is next set to appear at Crewe Magistrates Court on Wednesday 15 July.

Man jailed for stealing cigarettes from shops across three counties

A man from Birmingham has been jailed following an investigation by Congleton Local Police Unit into the theft of more than £11,000 worth of cigarettes and tobacco from shops across three counties.

Michael Mongan, of no fixed address appeared at Chester Crown Court on 3 July to be sentenced after pleading guilty to five counts of theft from a shop. A further charge of theft was to remain on file. Mongan was sentenced to 29 months in jail for stealing £11,086.60 of goods including tobacco and alcohol from shops in Middlewich, Knutsford, Wrexham, Ely, Audlem, and Sandbach.



On 7 February he stole tobacco and cigarettes from the One Stop Shop on High Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire worth £2,581.95. Then on 19 February the 27-year-old went into the Overton convenience store in Salop Road, Wrexham and stole cigarettes to the value of £3,913.86. He was identified as the culprit through facial recognition. On Wednesday 25 February he entered to Co-Op

store in Audlem and stole £3,173.40. The same day he targeted the Co-Op on Parkgate Lane, Knutsford where he took £1,438.24 worth of cigarettes and tobacco.

Then on 26 February he stole £1,819.50 worth of cigarettes and tobacco from Morrisons Daily Store on Poplar Drive, Middlewich, and on 7 March stole £741.60 of cigarettes, tobacco and alcohol from the Co-Op on Middlewich Road, Sandbach.

PC James Rowley said: *"Following extensive CCTV enquiries and cross border enquiries, we were able to identify Mongan as one of two males who had targeted the shops in a month-long spree. Now he is paying the price for his actions and will spend the foreseeable future behind bars. Mongan initially entered a not-guilty plea, eventually changing this due to our commitment to strengthen the case and bring him to justice."*

Football fans encouraged to celebrate responsibly for England's World Cup quarter final's match against Norway

The World Cup 2026 is in full-swing and the majority of Cheshire fans we're happy to say have been enjoying the tournament safely and responsibly - we want that to continue as we enter the quarter finals on what is expected to be an incredibly hot Saturday evening.

The evening matches have seen fans celebrating late into the night which is why Cheshire Police has been working closely with licensed premises and partners to help ensure people can enjoy the tournament safely during these busy periods. While the vast majority of fans have celebrated without issue, heightened emotions combined with alcohol consumption can increase the risk of disorder. Supporters are therefore encouraged to look out for one another, avoid confrontation, and walk away from any situations that could escalate.

Chief Superintendent Gareth Wrigley, who has been overseeing Cheshire Police's operation for the World Cup, said: *"So far, the World Cup has been a great opportunity for people to come together and enjoy the atmosphere, and the vast majority of fans are doing exactly that. However, a small minority can spoil things for others, particularly where alcohol and heightened emotions are involved – and especially as the stakes get higher. So, you will continue to see extra officers out and about across the county - we are there to support communities and ensure everyone can enjoy the tournament safely, not to spoil the fun. And remember to make sure you get home safely - don't be tempted to drink or drug drive. Anyone found to be over the legal limit or under the influence of drugs will face significant consequences. Don't make this Saturday night one you want to forget."*

Man charged with exposure in Middlewich

At around 11am on Wednesday 8 July, police were called to reports that an unknown man had indecently exposed himself on Sycamore Drive, Middlewich.

Officers swiftly attended and arrested a man following a search of the area. James Scott, of Greaves Lane East, Threapwood, Malpas, has since been charged with exposure. The 32-year-old has been remanded in custody to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court today, Thursday 9 July.

Eight men arrested following car and key burglaries in Cheshire and Greater Manchester

Officers investigating a series of car thefts across Cheshire and Greater Manchester have arrested eight men following dawn raids.

Earlier today, Thursday 9 July, more than 100 officers from Cheshire Police and Greater Manchester Police executed nine warrants at homes across Wythenshawe.

An eighth suspect, a 25-year-old man from Salford, was arrested at 9.45pm on Wednesday 8 July following a pursuit in Salford, he is also being held on suspicion of conspiracy to commit burglary and conspiracy to steal motor vehicles. The arrests relate to an investigation into over 20 burglaries of homes across Cheshire and Greater Manchester between May 2026 and June 2026. These include addresses in Macclesfield, Trafford, Stockport and Wythenshawe.



Detective Sergeant Laura Fox, of Macclesfield Proactive CID, said: *"Today's raids were carried out alongside Greater Manchester Police as part of our continued mission to bring those involved in organised crime to justice. They followed extensive enquiries regarding a number of burglary and car theft incidents across homes in Cheshire and Greater Manchester. Macclesfield Proactive CID have worked alongside colleagues in Greater Manchester to collate evidence, and our extensive work has now led to the arrest of eight men. I hope that this operation reassures communities that we are committed to doing all we can to tackle this type of criminality. I also hope that they act as a warning to any other offenders who are considering targeting Cheshire."*

The warrants were conducted by detectives from Macclesfield in partnership with colleagues at Greater Manchester Police.

Detective Sergeant Kevin Martinelli from Greater Manchester Police's Neighbourhood Crime Team said: *"Today's joint operation has resulted in eight men arrested and in our custody for their roles in an organised crime group who specifically targeted high-value vehicles. It is believed the offenders entered properties via different methods, including open windows or doors, snapping locked rear doors and ripping keys and alarm boxes off the wall. These warrants are part of our ongoing efforts to protect local people. We appreciate the community's support and cooperation as we carry out operations like these. Results such as these are not possible without the information and intelligence we receive from the public."*

All eight men remain in police custody at this time where they are being questioned by officers.

Man charged with stalking woman in Warrington

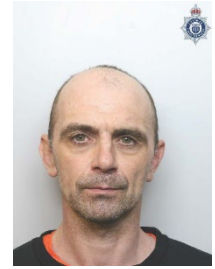
Officers investigating reports of stalking in the Warrington area have charged a man in relation to the offences.

Ross Spencer-Hawkes has been charged with stalking without fear/alarm/distress. The 51-year-old, of Runcorn, will appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Monday 13 July. The charge relates to reports of stalking in the Warrington area in February 2026.

Man jailed for dealing drugs in Warrington

A man has been jailed for dealing cocaine and cannabis in Warrington.

Dean Hearne from Whitecross Road in Warrington appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on 6 July to be sentenced after pleading guilty to being concerned in the supply or Class A drugs and being concerned in the supply of Class B drugs at an earlier hearing. The 41-year-old was sentenced to three years and four months in prison.



On Wednesday 19 November 2025 a warrant was conducted at an address in Copper Avenue in Warrington. Officers found drugs and paraphernalia which through DNA tests was linked to Hearne's own DNA. He was then arrested on Tuesday 21 April 2026 and on interview admitted to the offences, and that he'd been storing the drugs at the address - in return, the occupant received cannabis from him.

DC Kelsie Sherratt said: *"Hearne's thought he was being clever, but it doesn't matter where you hide your drugs, we'll find them. I hope this goes as a warning for others."*

Warrington man jailed following car theft criminal damage

A man from Warrington who stole a car with a vulnerable woman inside has been jailed for over two years and banned from driving.

Daniel Riley, of Ulverston Avenue, Warrington, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Monday 6 July, where he was jailed for 26 months. The sentencing comes after he pleaded guilty to aggravated vehicle taking, dangerous driving, threats to kill, criminal damage, possession of class B drugs and assaulting an emergency worker. As well as a custodial sentence, the 39-year-old was also handed a two-year driving ban and must complete an extended driving test before he is allowed back on the roads.



The case against Riley began shortly before 11pm on Sunday 26 July 2025, when officers were called to reports of a disturbance in the Densham Avenue area of Warrington. Upon arrival, the attending officers found Riley and another man stood outside of the address. Riley told one of the officers that he had missed the disturbance that had taken place and that there was no need for their attendance. The other man told one of the officers that someone had come to his home and had driven off in his car, a Citroen C2, with a woman inside.

Luckily both had been returned to the scene, but the man refused to name who had taken the car. Officers remained on the scene to conduct urgent enquires, later uncovering that it was, in fact, Riley who taken the vehicle with the woman inside. They were told that during the drive, in which the C2 exceeded speeds of 70mph in residential areas, Riley asked the woman if she wanted to die, saying he would "kill them both now". The speed and manner of Riley's driving left the woman fearing for her safety. Based on the information provided to them, officers promptly arrested the 39-year-old.

Upon being escorted to a police van, Riley made constant denials of having any involvement in the incident, stating that he had had a drink and he would not have gotten behind the wheel. At this point he was searched, with officers finding a quantity of cannabis on his person. Riley refused to

be searched any further and became angry, threatening to harm the arresting officers and even tried to bite one of them. However, the three officers in attendance eventually neutralised the situation, calming Riley down and safely placing him in the police van. In custody, Riley answered no comment to the majority of questions put to him but did admit to being in possession of cannabis and resisting arrest.

Sergeant Michael Hayes, of the Northern Area Investigation Team, said: *"It was abundantly clear to the officers attending this incident that Riley's intimidating presence at the scene left both of the victims involved feeling unable to fully disclose what had happened to them that evening. Sensing this urgency of the situation, they remained calm and were able to work with both victims, who were understandably shaken up following their ordeal, and were able to attain statements from them that were vital in Riley's arrest and his subsequent conviction. I would like to thank them for the utmost professionalism they displayed throughout."*

"As for Riley, he will be spending the next two years behind bars as a direct consequence of his actions. Not only did he endanger the life of the victim in the car at the time of the incident, but himself and other road users and pedestrians - it is a miracle that no one was harmed during his reckless rampage. As a further precaution, he will be made the subject of a two-year driving ban that will come into force upon his release from prison and will be the subject of an extended driving test before he is allowed to get back behind the wheel of a car."

Police and Fire remind residents of the dangers of open water swimming ahead of latest heatwave

Ahead of the latest heatwave residents across Cheshire are being warned about the dangers of open water swimming.

Over recent weeks the UK has seen a number of record-breaking temperatures, and the trend looks set to continue over the next few weeks. During the hot weather some people, especially young people, are often tempted to cool off in open bodies of water. While open water swimming is popular, it is advisable that this is done with organised groups who have the necessary knowledge and expertise to keep you safe.

Superintendent Andy Blizard, from Cheshire Police, said: *"While it may seem tempting to take a dip in open water during the hot weather, it's essential that people are aware of the potential deadly consequences. Going into water can not only endanger your own life but the lives of others around you if they jump in to rescue you. We don't want to discourage people from enjoying themselves near water, but it's important to remember that the surface can be misleading. Strong undercurrents, sudden drops in temperature, debris and even disease can all be hidden just a few feet below. Cold water shock can affect even the strongest swimmers, and these unseen hazards can quickly turn a quick dip into a dangerous situation. Sadly, we have already seen one death in open water here in Cheshire this year, along with many others across the UK, and while the full circumstances of these incidents are still to be established, we don't want to see any more. The message to our communities is a clear one: don't be tempted to put your life at risk by cooling off in open water."*

Station Manager Ryan Swindells, from Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: *“Sadly, we’ve already seen a number of water-related tragedies across the country this summer. If you’re looking to cool down, we would always encourage people to choose supervised locations rather than taking risks in open water. If you see someone struggling, shout to them, reach out with a stick or pole, and throw them something that floats. Never enter the water yourself to attempt a rescue - call 999 immediately. We want everyone to enjoy the warm weather, but please look out for one another so that everyone gets home safely.”*

Key safety advice:

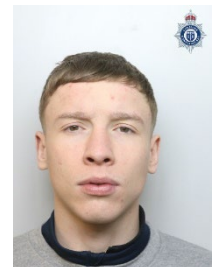
- Under the surface can tell a different story: strong undercurrents, cold temperatures, debris, and disease can be hidden just a few feet below the surface. Cold water shock can affect even the strongest swimmers
- Alcohol and drugs do not mix with swimming - stay away from water if you are under the influence.
- Swimming in designated, supervised areas. Avoid swimming in unsupervised open water.
- Never swim alone, particularly in unsupervised areas like quarries, canals, or ponds.
- Never leave children unsupervised near any body of water.
- Follow the Water Safety Code: Stop and Think, Stay Together, Call 999 and Float to Live
- Follow Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service’s Advice: Shout, Reach, Throw, Don’t Go

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service offer free water safety education and the free RNLI Waterside Responder Scheme for businesses near water. Visit their website to learn more. For more information and water safety advice, please visit the [Cheshire Fire website](#).

Rochdale man jailed for Warrington car and key burglary

A man from Rochdale has been jailed for his part in a car and key burglary that occurred in Warrington.

Adam Lamb, of Devonshire Road, Rochdale, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 3 July, where he was jailed for 30 months. The sentencing comes after Lamb, 23, pleaded guilty to the burglary of a dwelling and taking a vehicle without the owner’s consent.



The case began in the early hours of 6 February when, at around 1.20am, Lamb and another man forced entry into an address in the Dam Lane area of Warrington and stole a set of car keys for a BMW. The men then entered the BMW and proceeded to drive it away from the address, forcibly moving another car with it to get off the drive as they did so. However, as they made their escape, the occupant and owner of the vehicle came to their window and successfully captured the theft taking place on their phone. The victim subsequently contacted Cheshire Police and, along with providing officers with the footage of the vehicle being stolen, informed them that the BMW was fitted with a tracking device and it was now travelling in the direction of Bolton in Greater Manchester. Cheshire Police then notified colleagues from Greater Manchester Police (GMP) of the burglary and requested assistance in locating the BMW.

An officer from GMP would later locate the stolen vehicle parked in an alleyway, with two men wearing balaclavas stood around it. Upon being spotted by the officer, the men got back into the

vehicle and fled from the scene. Following a short pursuit, in which the vehicle was exhibited travelling at over 100mph in a 30mph zone, the BMW collided with a parked car and a wall. The men fled from the vehicle and made off on foot, with them both being caught and arrested a short time later. Lamb was found in possession of a quantity of cash and the keys to both the BMW and the house it was taken from.

In interview with officers at Runcorn custody, Lamb told them he was not involved in the theft and just so happened to be in the vehicle at the time of the offence, and he had been picked up by another driver. However, a phone belonging to Lamb that he had dropped following the decampment had been located by officers. Phone data revealed that the device had taken an identical journey to that of the BMW - connecting Lamb to the theft. Further to this, Crime Scene Investigation officers also successfully identified a footwear mark left in the kitchen on Dam Lane that provided a positive match for the shoe Lamb was wearing at the time of the burglary.

Detective Constable Rebecca Jubb, of CID Proactive North, said: *"Burglary is a deeply personal crime and can leave victims feeling unsafe and insecure in their own homes, which is why, when burglars do strike, officers do all they can to achieve justice for victims. In 2025, the force climbed four places and ranked seventh in the country for achieving charges and summons for burglary offenders, meaning we are getting justice for more victims than ever. Despite claiming he had no involvement in the crime, the overwhelming amount of evidence that our officers secured left Adam Lamb with no choice but to plead guilty. It took officers just 35 minutes from the moment the burglary took place to both suspects being tracked down and brought into police custody. This is a great example of cross-border forces coming together with a common goal in mind, and I would like our colleagues from Greater Manchester Police for their assistance."*

Tribute issued following fatal collision near Northwich

The family of an 18-year-old man who died following a collision near Northwich have paid tribute to him.

George Gaffney was the front seat passenger in a grey Vauxhall Corsa which collided with a tree on Holmes Chapel Road in Allstock at around 9.40pm on Sunday 5 July. Tragically the teenager from Northwich was pronounced dead at the scene.

Following his death, George's family said: *"It is with great difficulty and sadness that we say goodbye to our fantastic son George. George was a well-loved member of the Northwich community; he had recently completed his A levels at Sir John Deanes college and was excited to embark on a new career in business finance. During his short life he touched so many lives with his personality and charm, and he will be greatly remembered by all those who knew him."*



Enquiries in relation to the collision are ongoing and anyone with any information or video footage which may aid the investigation is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101 or [via our website](#) quoting IML-2366497.

Eight closure orders granted for shops across Cheshire in multi-agency action

A total of eight shops have been closed down across Cheshire to tackle anti-social behaviour and the sale of illicit cigarettes and vapes.

Between Monday 29 June and Friday 3 July, various applications for closures orders were made for premises in Crewe, Nantwich, Warrington and Macclesfield. The shops in Crewe and Nantwich included:

Top Gee, Nantwich
Road, Crewe

Bob Shop, Nantwich
Road, Crewe

Liam Grocery Store,
Nantwich Road,
Crewe

Friendly Mart, High
Street, Nantwich



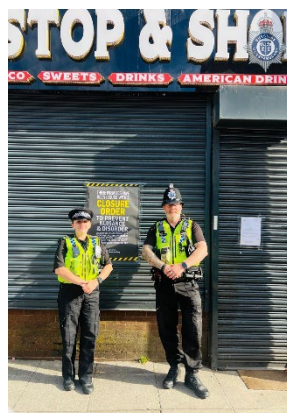
Closures orders for the four establishments were granted for a period of three months, thanks to work by the Eastern Problem Solving Team, assisted by the Crewe Beat Team and Cheshire East Trading Standards. There was evidence of anti-social behaviour and failure to adhere to age limit restrictions when selling items.

A total of three shops in Warrington were shut down, including:

Mr Blue, Sankey Street,
Warrington

Stop and Shop, Sankey
Street, Warrington

Mini Shop, Buttermarket
Street, Warrington



These are now closed for three months due to repeated failure on joint police, Trading Standards and Immigration compliance visits, as well as being a cause of anti-social behaviour in the town centre.

Large quantities of illicit cigarettes, tobacco and vape products were also seized during the closures by officers, assisted by Warrington Trading Standards and Immigration.

In Macclesfield, the following shop was closed for a period of three months:



This was a joint effort between the Eastern PVP (Protecting Vulnerable People) Exploitation Team, Macclesfield South Beat Team, and Cheshire East Trading Standards. The closure was granted due to underage vape sales, illicit tobacco sales and anti-social behaviour.

Chief Superintendent Saf Ali, Cheshire Police, said: *“This is a great example of the action we will take on retailers who repeatedly offend, and I hope this sends a clear message that illegal tobacco and vape products have no place in Cheshire’s shops. Working alongside our partners, we gathered evidence against these premises and the closure orders are now in place for three months after being granted by the courts. We will continue to tackle anti-social behaviour and the supply of illicit products to keep residents across Cheshire safe.”*

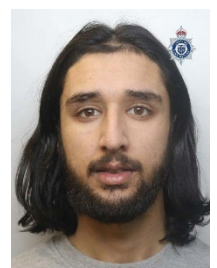
Councillor Dawn Clark, Cheshire East Council Cabinet Member for Finance, Legal and Enforcement, said: *“These raids and closure orders send out a clear message that we are an enforcing council and we will continue to tackle head on the scourge of illicit tobacco and vapes – as well as underage tobacco sales – working effectively with our partners. Anti-social and unlawful outlets in Cheshire East should know that we will not stand by and watch while they act illegally. The sale of Illicit tobacco and vapes has proven links to organised crime and the sale of these products is known to contribute to human trafficking and other criminality. Illicit tobacco also undermines efforts of our health teams and NHS partners to reduce the number of people smoking and encourages children to take up smoking, which negatively impacts their long-term health. I would urge people to report the sale of illegal tobacco and single-use vapes in Cheshire East by calling the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 2231133 or start a Live Chat on our website.”*

Councillor John Kerr-Brown, Warrington Borough Council Cabinet Member for Housing Services and Licensing, said: *“The sale of illicit tobacco and vape products puts people’s health at risk and makes these products more accessible to children and young people. Working closely with Cheshire Police, Trading Standards and other partner agencies, we are committed to making Warrington town centre a safe and welcoming place for residents, visitors and businesses. We will continue to take robust action against those who break the law and contribute to anti-social behaviour in our borough.”*

Manchester man jailed for dealing drugs at Cheshire music festival

A man from Manchester who travelled to a music festival in Cheshire loaded with drugs to sell to festival goers has been jailed.

Imaad Choudry appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 26 June where he was jailed for 32 months. The 23-year-old of Turnberry Road, Heald Green, Cheadle, had



earlier pleaded guilty to two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine and MDMA).

The court heard how on Sunday 24 August 2025, Choudry attempted to enter the Creamfields Festival in Daresbury when a drugs dog indicated that he was in possession of illegal drugs. He was taken to a private area by security where he openly admitted that he had hidden a quantity of cocaine and MDMA in his anus. A total of 14 bags of cocaine and nine MDMA tablets were recovered in total, with an estimated street value of between £640 and £800. Choudry was subsequently arrested and charged with two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs.

Following the sentencing, Police Constable Lisa Green said: *"Choudry thought that he could outsmart officers by hiding his illegal drugs in his anus, however he seriously underestimated the capabilities of our four-legged colleagues who took just seconds to sniff him out." "As a result of his actions, he's now facing a significant prison sentence meaning that he won't be able to attend this year's festival. While we know that Chowdry, along with dozens of other previous offenders, won't be attending this year's festival, make no mistake the team here at Cheshire Police will be out in force, and anyone found with illegal drugs will be held accountable."*

Man found guilty of rape and attempted rape

A man has been convicted of raping and attempting to rape a woman in Congleton.

Lee Reszka, of Longridge, Knutsford, was found guilty of rape and attempted rape on Friday 3 July following a five-day trial at Liverpool Crown Court. The 35-year-old has been remanded into custody and will appear back at court on Monday 10 August for sentencing.



In November 2023, Reszka had attended the victim's address on the pretence he was looking for a mutual acquaintance, knowing full well they were not present. While at the address, the victim allowed Reszka to use the toilet, however instead of leaving afterwards, he approached her and attempted to rape her. The victim managed to get away from him, but he then orally raped her before leaving the address. She then disclosed what had happened to friends and it was reported to police. A piece of clothing worn by the victim was forensically tested and DNA found on it provided a match to Reszka. The victim also had injuries consistent with the offences.

DC Neilson-Bird said: *"Reszka made the conscious decision that day to attack the victim, knowing that she was alone. He used force to get what he wanted, ignoring her attempts to fight him off. Throughout the investigation Reszka maintained his lies and tried to mislead the police, changing his account as more evidence emerged. He continued to try and portray the victim as a liar who had fabricated the incident, putting her through the stress of a trial. But the jury has seen him for what he is and convicted him of his crimes. We would like to highlight the courage of the victim in this case for speaking about what happened to her, and we hope that Reszka's conviction will help to bring her some closure."*

"Anyone who has been a victim of a sexual offence can contact Cheshire Police on 101 or report through the Cheshire Police website."

Man jailed for rape and sexual abuse

A man who raped a teenager and sexually assaulted two girls dating back to the 1990s has been jailed for 15 years.

David Trigg, of Whitchurch, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 26 June 2026 where he was handed the 15-year sentence following a trial. The 60-year-old had been found guilty of one count of rape of a female under 16, seven counts of indecent assault on a girl under 14, and one count of sexual assault. The offences took place in the Malpas area of Cheshire.



One of the complainants in this case contacted police in 2022 to report that Trigg had raped her in the late 1990s. An investigation was subsequently launched and a further two complainants came forward. They both reported they had been sexually assaulted by Trigg between the late 1990s and the early 2000s. Following extensive enquiries into the reports, Trigg was charged and although he denied the offences, he was found guilty following a trial in April 2026. On top of his custodial sentence, Trigg must sign the Sex Offender Register indefinitely and is subject to a Sexual Harm Prevention Order and a 14-year Restraining Order against all three of the complainants.

DC Kelly Connolley, the investigating officer, said: *"Firstly, I would like to recognise the bravery of the three complainants in reporting what happened to them. This has been a lengthy investigation from reporting the offences to obtaining a conviction. The offences date back almost 30 years, and these women have had to carry this on their shoulders for all that time, knowing that their abuser had never faced justice for his vile actions. But now he has a long spell of custody ahead of him, and I hope this brings some closure to the complainants. I also hope this case demonstrates that you can come forward and report incidents of this nature to police, no matter how long ago the offence took place."*

Please call 101 or visit the Cheshire Police website and report information online.

The complainants were supported throughout the investigation and during the court process by an ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) from RASASC (Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre). Support can be found at www.rasasc.co.uk or call 0330 363 0063.

Man charged with drugs offences following warrant in Widnes

A man has been charged with drug supply offences following a warrant in Widnes.

Grant Wilcock was arrested on Wednesday 1 July in the Afton area of Widnes. Wilcock, of Afton, Widnes, has since been charged with being concerned in the supply of cocaine, being concerned in the supply of cannabis and concealing/removing criminal property. The 34-year-old appeared at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Saturday 4 July, where he was remanded in custody to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Monday 3 August. The charges follow a warrant that was conducted in the Afton area of Warrington on Wednesday 1 July.

Man jailed for sexual communication with a child

A man caught red-handed by two women pretending to be a 14-year-old girl online has been jailed.

Mohammed Osman of no fixed address appeared at Chester Crown Court on 29 June to be sentenced after pleading guilty to being an adult attempting to engage in sexual communication with a child, causing or inciting a girl 13 to 15 to engage in sexual activity, and attempting to cause a child aged 13 to 15 to watch or look at an image of sexual activity at an earlier hearing. The 37-year-old was sentenced to 27 months in prison and handed a 10-year Sexual Harm Prevention Order.



Between 15 February and 17 March 2026 Osman thought he was communicating with a teenager called Olivia, who told him she was 14. Despite this admission, he continued to try to engage in sexual communication with her and sent over inappropriate images and several videos of himself, as well as asking for her to send him inappropriate images.

DC Anna Lightfoot said: *"The 'decoy' made it quite clear she was under the age of consent, but he continued to ask her about her sexual preferences and to send over naked images while sending shocking images of himself. Even though the people at the other end of the computer screen were adults - he did not know that and continued with his sickening and predatory behaviour, clearly under the impression he was genuinely talking to a 14-year-old girl. I hope this sentencing goes as a warning to others who think it is okay to prey on young girls for their own sexual gratification – you never know who you're talking to online."*

Two people charged in connection to historic post box thefts

Officers investigating the thefts of historic post boxes have charged two people.

Carl Newman, 33 and Georga Bailey, 26, were arrested in 2025. The pair have since been charged with three counts of theft by finding. The pair have now been conditionally bailed to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on Friday 28 August. The charges relate to the thefts of three King George Royal Mail post boxes in the Malpas area of Cheshire and Powys area of Wales.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal for information following Northwich and Congleton robberies

As part of an investigation into a series of robberies in the Northwich and Congleton areas, officers have now released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to.

Over the past few weeks, officers in Northwich and Congleton have received multiple reports of distraction robberies. In each incident, it was reported that a man had approached elderly women and asked them for directions. He is then reported to hug them in thanks, removing their jewellery whilst doing so, and then leaving the scene. One of the most recent incidents took place on Wednesday 17 June in Asda Barons Quay car park, Northwich. The man is believed to be of middle eastern descent and aged between 20 and 30 years



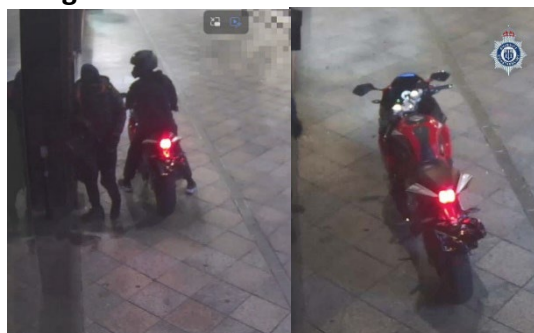
old. Officers have now released an image of a man they would like to speak to, as they believe he holds vital information in relation to these incidents.

Detective Constable Jodie Chaloner, of CID Reactive West, said: *"These are frightening incidents that are happening to vulnerable people, with the victims left shaken and without their valuables. Residents who witness any suspicious behaviour or have any concerns are asked to contact police or report it directly to a local officer. Anyone with any information in relation to the incidents in Northwich or Congleton, or recognises the man pictured, is asked to contact Cheshire Police using 101 or via the website, quoting incident reference number 26000482369. I would also encourage the man pictured to please come forward, as we believe he holds vital information."*

UPDATE | CCTV images released following burglary at Warrington bank

Detectives investigating a burglary at a bank in Warrington have now released a number of CCTV images from the incident.

At 3.25am on Monday 6 July, police were called to reports of an alarm activation at Lloyds bank on Horsemarket Street, Warrington. Officers attended and on arrival they found two unknown men had forced



entry into the premises an estimated £500 worth of cash. The men, who were both wearing balaclavas, are reported to have fled the scene on a red motorbike, travelling towards Winwick Street, travelling towards the Halliwell Jones Stadium. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are keen to hear from anyone with any information which may aid the investigation.

Detective Constable Vicky Hancox, of Warrington Proactive CID, said: *"Enquiries in relation to this incident are ongoing and we're committed to doing all we can to trace the people responsible. As part of our investigation, we're keen to hear from anyone who was in the area and believes they may have witnessed the incident. The same goes for anyone with any video footage of suspects arriving at or fleeing the scene on the red motorcycle."*

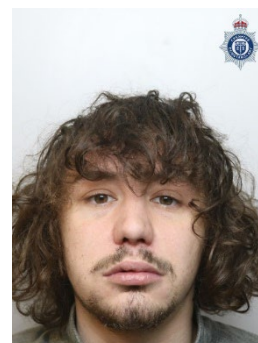
Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire police on 101, or via the [website](#), quoting IML-2366619.

Appeal to trace wanted man from Warrington

Officers in Warrington are appealing for information to trace a wanted man.

Paul Nuttall is wanted in connection to burglary and criminal damage offences. The 25-year-old is described as white, with long brown hair and brown eyes.

Nuttall is from Warrington but also has links to the Liverpool area of Merseyside. Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire Police via 101, or via the website, quoting incident reference number 26000421648.



Appeal for information following fatal collision near Northwich.

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a fatal collision in Allostock, near Northwich.

At around 9.40pm on Sunday 5 July, police were called to reports of a collision on Holmes Chapel Road, in Allostock. Officers attended and found a grey Vauxhall Corsa had collided with a tree. Sadly, the front seat passenger, an 18-year-old man from Northwich, sustained critical injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene. His family have been informed and they are being supported by specialist officers. The driver of the car, an 18-year-old man from Davenham, also sustained serious injuries. He was taken to the Royal Stoke Hospital where his condition is currently described as critical. A rear seat passenger, a 17-year-old boy from Northwich, was also injured. He was taken to hospital where his condition is described as stable.

Detective Sergeant Iain Condliffe, of the Serious Collision Investigation Unit, said: *"This was a tragic incident and as we work to establish the exact circumstances of what happened, we are appealing for anyone who witnessed the incident to get in touch with us. The same goes for anyone who may happen to have any dashcam footage or any further information which could aid our enquiries. You can contact Cheshire Police by calling 101 or reporting information online at www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us quoting IML-2366497."*

CCTV image released following assault in Widnes

Officers investigating an assault in Widnes have released a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to in relation to the incident.

At 11.37pm on Friday 5 June, police received reports of an assault inside a pub in Lunts Heath Road, Widnes. During the incident, two staff members were assaulted.

PC O'Brien said: *"We have been conducting enquiries since the incident was reported and thankfully the victims have suffered no lasting injuries. We have now released a CCTV image of someone we would like to speak to. If anyone recognises the man pictured, please get in touch with us. The same goes for any witnesses or those with any further information. We would also appeal directly to the man pictured to contact us. Please call 101 or visit the Cheshire Police website, quoting IML-2344570."*



Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

c/o Corporate Communications | Cheshire Constabulary | Clemonds Hey | Oakmere Road | Winsford | Cheshire | CW7 2UA

Email: cheshirenw@outlook.com

Website: <https://www.cheshirenw.org>

Facebook page: facebook.com/cheshirenwa



In partnership with



Cheshire
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Scan to visit website



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