

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

## Week ending 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Cheshire News & Appeals



## Latest Cheshire News

### Appeal for witnesses and information following incident in Congleton

Officers in Congleton are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with information to get in touch following reports of a sexual assault.

At around 4.10am on Saturday 7 December, police were called to reports that a 19-year-old woman had been sexually assaulted in the Canal Street/Canal Road area of Congleton. The incident is believed to have occurred at some time between 3.45am and around 4am on Saturday 7 December.

Officers are now asking anyone who may have been in the High Street, Canal Street and Canal Road area between 3.45am and 4.15am on Saturday 7 December and witnessed what happened or saw anything suspicious to get in touch.

DI Stephen Hill said: *"We are in the early stages of our investigation and are working tirelessly to identify the suspect. We understand this may cause some concern in the community and we have increased patrols in the area to provide reassurance. Officers are carrying out house-to-house enquiries and checking CCTV and video doorbell cameras to identify the suspect, and the victim is being supported by specialist officers. We would urge any witnesses or anyone who was in the area around the time of the incident and saw anything suspicious to get in touch with us."*

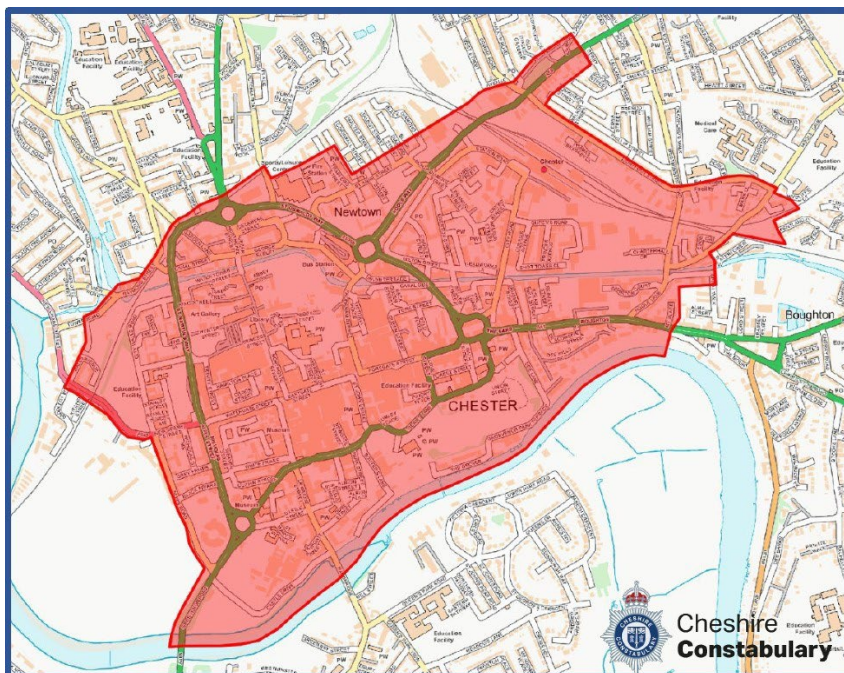
Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML-1978997.

### Dispersal order in place in Chester as increased footfall expected

There will be an increased police presence in Chester this weekend to help keep festive visitors and members of the public safe.

With an influx of visitors expected in the city centre to enjoy Christmas festivities, additional police patrols will be deployed. This will enable officers to deal with any crime and disorder which may arise. A dispersal order will also be in place from 4pm on Friday 6 December until 4pm on Sunday 8 December. The dispersal order will allow officers to ban anyone from the city for up to 48 hours to prevent disorder. It has been imposed under Section 34 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, making it an offence for anyone to return to a specific area for up to 48 hours. The area covered by the order is highlighted in the attached mapped area. The map is provided to anyone issued with a direction to leave.

Insp James Wilson said: *"This weekend we expect it will be incredibly busy in Chester, as it always is in the run-up to Christmas, especially as this is the first full weekend of December. We hope everyone enjoys their time here, whether they are enjoying day-time activities or the night-time economy, and we would urge people to do so safely. With this in mind, there will be a dispersal order in place. These orders are often issued at times of increased footfall, to serve as an additional tactical option that allows us to directly combat anti-social behaviour head on, before it escalates, and ensure everyone stays safe while out and about. While you might see an increased police presence over Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday, please continue to enjoy your time in Chester and explore the many festive sights that the city has to offer."*



Anyone with information about anti-social behaviour in their area is urged to contact Cheshire Police via the Cheshire Police website or call 101.

### **Two men arrested and cannabis farm uncovered following Crewe burglary**

Officers have arrested two men and discovered a cannabis farm following reports of a burglary in Crewe.

At around 1.15am on Friday 6 December police were called to reports of suspicious activity at an address on Edleston Road. The caller reported witnessing somebody climbing into the address through a rear window. Local officers, supported by the police helicopter, were also deployed to the scene and following a search of the area two men were located in a garden on Westminster Street. The 33-year-old from Burnley, and a second man who has refused to provide any details, were both arrested on suspicion of burglary. They remain in police custody at this time. Upon searching the address which had been burgled, officers discovered that it has been converted into a large cannabis farm containing more than 200 plants.

Following the arrests, Sgt Dave Wilkinson, who is leading the investigation, said: *"This is a fantastic result and I'd like to thank residents for the information they provided. Thanks to them not only have we arrested two men, but we've also removed a quantity of illegal drugs from the streets of Crewe. The address appears to have been converted into a professional cannabis farm, this wasn't simply just a few cannabis plants, the whole building had been fitted out with thousands of pounds worth of equipment to maximise the potential yield. Thankfully, we were able to seize all of these plants and all of them will be destroyed to prevent them from being sold on our streets. While the two men are now in custody, our investigations into the cannabis farm and the burglary remain ongoing, and I urge anyone with any information in relation to them to get in touch. The same goes for anyone with any video footage which may aid the investigations."*

Anyone with any information is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101, or at [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), quoting IML1978203.

### **Northwich man sentenced after admitting firearms and criminal damage offences**

A man from Northwich has been sentenced for firearms offences and criminal damage.

Robert McNally appeared at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 5 December to be sentenced after pleading guilty to possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence and criminal damage. The 43-year-old of Burgess Place in Northwich, was sentenced to a month in prison and was handed a deprivation order preventing him from owning a pistol, carbon dioxide canister and pellet ammunition.

At 2.08pm on Monday 8 July McNally called police telling them he was feeling violent after being discharged from hospital and had a gun. He also said he had ammunition. Response and firearms officers attended McNally's home on Burgess Place, Northwich, and a cordon was put in place while they tried to negotiate with him. McNally was extremely agitated and refused to comply with officers negotiating with him. Armed officers warned him of their presence, and he was instructed to come to the front door empty handed with his hands on his head.

Despite the warning, McNally then appeared in the back garden brandishing a silver pistol in his left hand. He pointed it upwards before throwing a large torch in the direction of two firearms officers who were at the rear of the property using a car as hard cover. The torch hit the police car causing minor damage. McNally then re-entered his address before coming back out and aiming the pistol at two firearms officers over the garden gate. One single shot was fired through the garden gate by one of the officers towards McNally which did not strike him.

The officers stationed at the front of the property, then entered the address and used distraction devices by throwing them into the sitting room. They then moved towards the kitchen door, but McNally tried to wedge it closed. A further distraction device was thrown through the glass in the kitchen door. Officers then entered the kitchen shouting warnings to McNally ordering him to stand still and put the gun on the floor.

McNally was crouched in the corner of the kitchen with the pistol in his right hand pointing it upwards. He then lowered his hand and put the gun on the floor. He was subsequently arrested. After his arrest, the weapon was found to be a gas-powered BB gun.

DC Sarah Ollier said: *"McNally put himself and the officers in a very dangerous position, causing officers enough concern that a shot had to be fired. Thankfully, officers were able to bring the incident to safe conclusion, meaning that nobody was injured, and McNally was successfully arrested. However, the outcome could have been far worse. I understand the concern among residents at the time of the incident that several shots had been fired, but it was actually the sound of the distraction devices that helped officers to get into the house and bring the incident to a safe conclusion for everyone."*

### **Detectives charge two men in connection with drug offences under Operation Venetic**

Two men have been charged in connection with the supply of class A and class B drugs.

On the morning of Tuesday 3 December, two men were arrested at addresses in Warrington as part of an investigation by officers from Cheshire Constabulary's Serious and Organised Crime Unit under Operation Venetic. Simon Johnson, 43, of Edward Gardens, Warrington, and Michael Sherwood, 53, of Vulcan Close, Warrington, have since been charged with conspiracy to supply class A drugs (cocaine), conspiracy to supply class B drugs, possession with intent to supply class B drugs (cannabis resin), and possession of criminal property. The pair were remanded in custody and are due to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on Thursday 5 December.

### **Man arrested in London following allegations of fraud**

Officers from Cheshire Police have arrested a man in London following allegations of fraud involving a campaign that was set up following the murder of WPC Yvonne Fletcher.

WPC Fletcher, 25, died in 1984 after she was shot while on duty outside the Libyan Embassy in London. Following her death an investigation was undertaken by the Met Police but to date nobody has been convicted of her murder. In July 2024, the Met Police received reports of financial irregularities regarding the campaign to bring to justice those responsible for the murder of WPC Fletcher. To ensure there was no conflict of interest, the case was passed to Cheshire Police who, on Wednesday 4 December, conducted a search warrant at an address in the Mill Hill area of London where they arrested a 69-year-old man. The man has been arrested on suspicion of fraud, he has since been released under investigation pending further enquiries.

DC Ed Currie, of the Cheshire Police Economic Crime Unit, said: *"We understand the concern that this arrest is likely to cause, and our colleagues from the Met Police are closely linked with the family of Yvonne who have been updated on today's developments. As part of ongoing enquiries, we're keen to hear from anyone who believes that they may, at any time, have donated to the campaign to bring about justice for WPC Yvonne Fletcher. This is not linked to Yvonne's family nor is it to be confused with the official Police Memorial Trust charity. Anyone who believes that they may have donated to the campaign to obtain justice for Yvonne is asked to visit the [Public Portal](#)."*

If your information is urgent please call Cheshire Police on 101 quoting Op Dielectric

### **Seven gang members handed Criminal Behaviour Orders in Runcorn**

Seven members of a Runcorn based Organised Crime Gang who were jailed for drug dealing in the town have now been handed Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs).

Six men and two women were convicted as part of Operation Winkled – an investigation launched by Cheshire Police into the large-scale supply of crack cocaine and heroin into the Murdishaw area of Runcorn over the course of 13 months. All eight appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 29 April for sentencing having previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply crack cocaine and heroin. Seven of those convicted appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 29 November where they were each handed a CBO.

The defendants are:

- Scott Doran, 36, of HMP Altcourse
- Darren Garbe, 24, of Fenton Green, Liverpool
- David Keegan, 53, of Nortonwood Lane, Runcorn
- Marcus Pike, 23, of HMP Altcourse
- Samantha Bushall, 37, of HMP Styal
- Stephen Redmond, 22, of Talisman Close, Runcorn
- Zachery Rizzotti, 22, of St Andrew Road, Liverpool

CBOs are preventative orders which are designed to stop persistent offenders committing further anti-social behaviour and criminal offences. Each of the defendants are now subject to strict 10-year Criminal Behaviour Orders which ban them from being in possession of more than one mobile phone and sim card and prevents them being in the company of a number of named individuals on the order within the County of Cheshire. Scott Doran and Darren Garbe were also given an additional condition as part of their CBOs which prohibits them from entering the Murdishaw area of Runcorn. If any of the defendants breach the conditions set out in their Criminal Behaviour Orders, they risk going to prison.



Following the result, DI Alison White said: *"Operation Winkled was launched as a result of the misery brought upon our town by Doran and his associates, whose offending has had a significant detrimental impact on members of the Runcorn community. Residents were made to feel unsafe in their homes and in their community due to this gang's drug related behaviour. The fear and intimidation made for a toxic environment for residents who were really suffering because of this."*



*"Since securing sentences for all those involved, our team have continued to work tirelessly over the past several months in order to compile enough evidence to ensure these criminals were brought before the courts and relieve residents of their toxic nightmare.*

*"No-one should be subjected to such behaviour, and we will use whatever powers we have at our disposal to ensure that Runcorn is a pleasant place to live, work and visit. I hope this reassures residents who may be going through the same issues that we are here to help you make your neighbourhood a happier and safer place. Please don't suffer in silence and get in touch."*

To help make Runcorn a safer place to live, spot the signs of county lines drug dealing and report it to Cheshire Police [via the website](#), call 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously 0800 555 111.

### **Warrington officers work with local partner organisations for youth safety operation**

Officers from Warrington's Neighbourhood Team have joined forces with local partners under Operation Stay Safe as part of efforts to keep young people safe across the town.



With the festive period in full swing and many young people soon to break up from school and college for the Christmas holidays, footfall is expected to increase across Warrington. In response to this, and community reports of anti-social behaviour from a small number of individuals seen in the town, residents can expect to see an increased policing presence across Warrington as part of intensified efforts to keep everyone who lives, works and visits safe.

On Friday 29 November, officers from Warrington Neighbourhood teams joined Warrington Youth Workers, Community Safety Teams, Social Workers, Warrington Youth Zone, Cheshire Fire & Rescue Services and the NHS representatives for an engagement activity focusing on the safety of young people in the wider community.

The teams visited several areas across the town where there have been previous reports of anti-social behaviour involving young people, engaging with over 100 young people; reminding them of the multiple organisations and services they can contact for help should they need it when out and about in Warrington.

Insp Chris Webster, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *"We are stepping up our efforts to keep Warrington's young people safe this festive period and, as part of our response from the local community relating to a small number of individuals who have been engaging in anti-social and gang-like behaviour, we are working with our partner organisations and services from across Warrington and will be out in force across our town visiting various areas where young people are known to congregate. Keeping Warrington and its residents safe from crime and disorder is part of the daily routine for our officers and engagement operations like this are to remind our young people that we as police are here to help and that there are several other services they can reach out to should they need it."*

To report any issues related to anti-social behaviour, violence or gang-related behaviour call Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or 999 in an emergency. Information can also be passed on anonymously to

Crimestoppers at 0800 555 111 or via <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously> Information can also be passed to the force online via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report>.

### **Man jailed for 16 years for sexual offences against young girl**

A man has been handed a 16-year prison sentence after subjecting a teenage girl to years of sexual abuse.

Martin Falconer, of Spennymoor Court, Runcorn, was jailed on Tuesday 26 November after being found guilty of five counts of sexual activity with a child under 16, attempted rape, sexual assault, and possession of indecent images of children. The 66-year-old came to the attention of Cheshire Police in 2019 when the victim in this case came forward to report Falconer had sexually abused her in the Runcorn area of Cheshire. This barrage of abuse occurred between 2016 and 2019, during which Falconer sexually assaulted and attempted to rape the victim. He also had indecent images of her in his possession on his laptop.



Following an investigation, Falconer was charged with the offences and later found guilty following a trial in June 2024. On top of his custodial sentence, Falconer will be subject to notification requirements, a restraining order and a Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

DS Lee Ellis said: *"Firstly, I would like to commend the bravery of the victim in this case, and I hope the conclusion of this lengthy investigation and subsequent court process will help to bring her some closure. Falconer was relentless in his abuse, targeting a young girl purely for his own twisted sexual gratification. Not only that, but he refused to take responsibility for his horrific actions, putting the victim through further distress. Thankfully, he will no longer be able to inflict this behaviour on anyone else and is behind bars for a considerable length of time. If anyone has been a victim of sexual offences, you can contact Cheshire Police on 101, or through our website."*

### **Man banned from Cheshire Oaks after officers secure Criminal Behaviour Order**

A man has been banned from entering Cheshire Oaks after officers secured a three-year Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO).

Jason Lee Evans, of no fixed abode, appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court on Thursday 28 November where he was handed the order following an application by Ellesmere Port Anti-Social Behaviour Unit. The CBO comes following partnership working between Cheshire Police, North Wales Police and Cheshire West and Chester Council, where Evans was identified as being responsible for numerous shoplifting offences across the force areas. The 33-year-old is banned from entering the Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet and Coliseum Shopping Park areas of Ellesmere Port.



On top of this, he must also comply with the following further conditions:

- He must leave any retail premises when asked to do so by staff or security.
- He is barred from entering any retail premises where he has been informed verbally or in writing by a member of staff or security that he has already been barred/excluded from.
- When entering any retail premises within Cheshire and North Wales, he is barred from placing any items within a carrier bag, rucksack or any other article capable of concealing items prior to payment being made, unless said item is in a basket or trolley under the control of the store.
- Evans is barred from entering any store that forms part of the Business Crime Reduction Partnership and displays their sticker indicating membership of the partnership.

PC Alex Johnson said: *"I am grateful that the courts have recognised the hard work of our officers, leading to Evans being issued with this Criminal Behaviour Order. I hope this can provide some reassurance to local*

*retailers and residents that we are doing all we can to deter criminality like this from occurring in our communities."*

If anyone does encounter Evans breaching the restrictions of his orders, please contact Cheshire Police via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/](https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/) or call 101. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

### **Figures show residents have high level of confidence in Cheshire Constabulary**

Recent figures show residents in Cheshire have a high level of confidence in the service Cheshire Constabulary provides.

The latest statistics from The Crime Survey for England and Wales – Perceptions of Police cover the year to June 2024 and highlight that Cheshire Constabulary ranks well above the national average. Of those who responded to the survey in Cheshire, 73.4% of people said they had overall confidence in policing, meaning Cheshire Constabulary was rated second across England and Wales, and above the national average of 65.3%. A total of 58.9% of people in Cheshire said police can be relied upon when needed. This was the second highest level in England and Wales and well above the national average of 50.4%.

The force was also ranked third for residents agreeing that police were doing a good/excellent job in their local area, with 58.7% of people agreeing with the statement. The national average was 48.3%. Another stand-out figure for Cheshire Constabulary was 84% of people in Cheshire believing that the police will treat them with respect. Again, this figure was above the national average of 79.8%.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *"These figures are testament to the hard work of our officers who build a strong relationship with the people we serve. Not only do our officers and staff work tirelessly to catch offenders and prevent criminal behaviour in our county, but they also offer public reassurance and advice to residents and businesses, and always strive to help people feel safe in their communities.*

*"Over the past few years, the force has undertaken incredibly difficult investigations into some horrendous crimes, ensuring those responsible were brought before the courts and dealt with accordingly. We have also undertaken a number of proactive operations, targeting those who bring harm to our communities. These have included Operation Crossbow, where we worked with neighbouring police forces as part of our efforts to disrupt those crossing the border to commit crime in Cheshire. These operations have been a huge success, with multiple arrests and items seized to make Cheshire a safer place for those who live and work here.*

*"This is just a snapshot of what officers and staff have dealt with day in and day out over the past 12 months and will continue to deal with as we enter the end of 2024 and into 2025. These latest figures will redouble our efforts to further enhance our relationship with the people of Cheshire."*

### **Cheshire Police urge the public to think before they act over the festive period**

Cheshire Police is urging the public to think before they act throughout the Christmas period, or face action from officers.

The warning comes as we enter the festive period, and our officers will be cracking down on perpetrators of anti-social behaviour, violence against women and girls, domestic abuse and drink and drug driving – particularly focussing on night-time economy hot spot areas with high impact policing activity. The Constabulary will also be launching a social media campaign which will give the public a sobering reminder that the consequences of their actions will affect not only their Christmas, but their loved ones too.

The campaign, which will be shared across the Forces social media platforms, will show the heart-wrenching consequences families face – through the eyes of a child - when their loved one is missing at Christmas time - all made worse knowing they were missing due to their own bad decisions. The takeaway message - think about the impact your actions have on those around you. It's not just your Christmas you would be ruining - it's theirs too'.

<https://youtu.be/qBLMVTERThI>

Lead for the Force's Christmas operation, CSupt Jon Betts, said: *"The festive period should be a time where people can celebrate with family and friends and have a great time, and we will not allow a small minority of people ruin it for everyone. We want people to see our campaign and think before they act. We hope the message hits home and they think about how their loved ones would feel if they weren't there over the festive period. If you behave safely and responsibly you can have a great Christmas. However, if you choose to make a silly decision and commit crime, then you will have no-one to blame but yourself."*

Throughout December, there will be extra measures put in place across Cheshire to help keep people safe. High visibility patrols will take place in targeted areas across the county with local officers doing all they can to ensure communities are free from criminal activity. There will also be specially trained officers deployed to identify and tackle predatory behaviours, driving under the influence of drink and drugs and stalking.

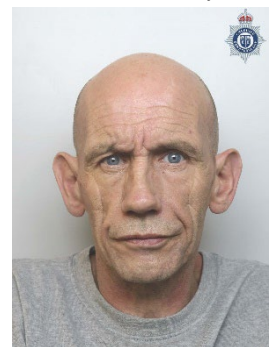
With support from specialist units within the Constabulary, officers will also be working hard to locate outstanding offenders and capture individuals wanted on recall to prison, 'fail to appear' warrants and any outstanding offences – making sure they are made to face the consequences of their actions.

CSupt Jon Betts, added: *"I want to reassure the public that our efforts to keeping the county safe continues and we will do all we can to prevent and disrupt crime occurring in Cheshire. Think before you act."*

### **Chester man given five-year Criminal Behaviour Order**

A man from Chester has been banned from areas of Blacon after neighbourhood officers secured a five-year a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO).

Brian Cooper appeared at Chester Magistrates Court on 27th November where he was handed the five-year order, due to his drug dealing and taking as well as the risk he poses to vulnerable residents. Under the terms of the CBO, which was successfully applied for by officers from the Chester Beat Team, the 54-year-old has been banned from the majority of the Blacon area. Cooper has also been banned from entering any housing association properties without written permission. If Cooper fails to comply with the CBO, he will be committing a criminal offence which may result in a recall to prison or fine.



PC Mat Beale, of Chester Local Policing Unit, said: *"This result shows the lengths that we will go to in stopping offenders such as Cooper causing disruption and harm across our city. Orders such as CBOs are one of many tools that allow officers to further protect communities from harm caused by offenders and we will continue to use them to protect our communities."*

Anyone who encounters Cooper breaching any of the above restrictions is urged to contact Cheshire Police [via the website](#) or call 101, to report it.

## **Latest Cheshire Appeals**

### **Police appeal for information following Congleton burglary**

Police are appealing for witnesses following a burglary in Congleton.

At 12.15pm on Tuesday 3 December two men wearing Hi-Viz vests over the top of their coats approached an address in Park Lane, removed a fence panel to gain access to the garden, and broke into the house. They took various items including expensive coats and watches. The two suspects may have parked a vehicle behind houses on the opposite side of the road which is accessible from Highcroft Avenue, as they were seen walking out of the ginnel (Park Bank) onto Highcroft and then crossing over Park Lane to get to the address.



PC Paul Fisher said: *"The property is near to the junction with Kennet Drive and it is a busy road so there may be dash cam footage or witnesses that may be useful for our investigation. If you saw anyone acting suspiciously in the area between 11.50am and 12.40pm on that day, or you were driving past and caught something on your dash cam, please contact us."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or [via the website](#) quoting IML 1976293. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

### **Appeal to trace wanted man from Nantwich**

Officers are appealing to the public for help in locating a wanted man from Nantwich.

Gregory Burgess is wanted in relation to a theft. The 42-year-old is described as white, around 6' tall, with brown hair and green eyes. He has links to the Crewe and Nantwich areas.

Anyone with any information as to Burgess' whereabouts should contact Cheshire Police [via the website](#), or call 101, quoting 24000946522.



### **Appeal for witnesses and footage following collision in Chester**

Officers are appealing for witnesses and footage following a collision in Chester.

On Monday 25 November, police received reports of a collision in Toll Bar Road, Great Boughton, Chester. The caller reported the collision occurred shortly before 5.30pm and involved a vehicle and a pedal cycle. The cyclist, a 14-year-old boy, suffered minor injuries, however the vehicle failed to stop at the scene. The vehicle involved is believed to be a black car.

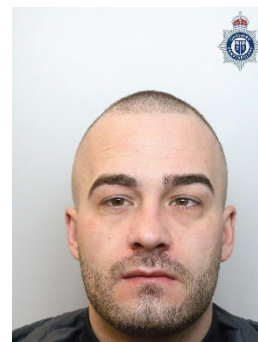
PC Lena Martin said: *"Enquiries are ongoing into the circumstances and we are now looking for anyone who witnessed what happened or may have dashcam footage of the incident to come forward to help us identify the vehicle involved. Anyone with information can contact Cheshire Police via [cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](#), or call 101, quoting IML-1970737."*

### **Police appeal for help in tracing wanted Crewe man**

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

Brandon Pogonowski, 28, is wanted in connection with an assault. He is described as being 5ft 11ins tall and of proportionate build with shaved brown hair and brown eyes. Pogonowski is believed to be in the Crewe area.

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or [via the website](#) quoting IML 1962991. Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



### **CCTV Image released following Northwich hate crime**

Police have released a CCTV image of a man they are looking to speak to following reports of racial abuse in Northwich town centre.

The victim reported that they were walking on Leicester Street at around 1.45pm on Friday 1 November when they were approached by an unknown man who was racially abusive towards them. As the victim attempted to walk away, the man continued to follow them as they walked towards Asda, repeatedly shouting racial abuse. Enquiries in relation to the incident have been ongoing and as part of the



investigation officers have now released a CCTV image of a man they are looking to speak to.

PC Alice Ewins, of Northwich Local Policing Unit, said: *"This was a deeply distressing incident for the victim and were committed to doing all we can to trace the person responsible. If you think you recognise the man in the image or know who he is please call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting incident reference number IML 1953295, give us the details via [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. I would also like to appeal directly to the man in the CCTV image to get in touch."*

### **CCTV image released following sexual assault in Macclesfield**

Officers investigating a sexual assault in Macclesfield have released an image of a man they would like to speak to.

At around 1.47am on Wednesday 23 October, police in Macclesfield responded to reports of a sexual assault that had occurred earlier in the evening. The caller reported that her friend, a 19-year-old woman, had been sexually assaulted between 12.43am and 12.46am in the Mill Street area of Macclesfield. Following enquiries, investigating officers have arrested and charged a 45-year-old man in connection to the incident.



Detectives have now released a CCTV image of a man they believe may have vital information that could aid them in their enquiries. He was seen walking on the opposite side of Mill Street to where the incident is alleged to have occurred at around the same time. He is also seen wearing a red/pink backpack and carrying a green carrier-style bag.

DC Sarah Sayer, of Macclesfield CID, said: *"Enquiries have been ongoing since the incident was reported and, as part of our investigation, a 45-year-old man from the Sale area of Greater Manchester has been charged. As we work to fully understand the circumstances surrounding this incident, we have now released an image of a man we would like to speak to as we believe may be a key witness in the case. If you believe you know the identity of this man, please contact us. We would like to also appeal directly to the man pictured to get in touch, you have done nothing wrong, we just need to speak to you."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting [24000901085](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us). Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

### **Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)**

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

Email: [cheshirenw@outlook.com](mailto:cheshirenw@outlook.com)

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

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw](https://facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw)



In partnership with



Cheshire  
Constabulary



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

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](http://www.cheshirenw.org)