

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 29 June 2025

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Officers granted closure order for troubled property in Macclesfield

Officers have secured a closure order following reports of anti-social behaviour at an address in Macclesfield.

The address on Pembroke Road, Macclesfield, has been shut down by Neighbourhood officers following a number of reports of anti-social behaviour that caused suitable nuisance and disruption to the neighbouring residents. The occupant has since been ordered to leave the property and find alternative accommodation, with all windows and doors being secured for a period of three months. Anyone who enters the address during that time will be committing a criminal offence and could be faced with a fine or prison sentence.



PS Matthew Bassirat said: *"Closure orders are just one of the many tools police use to keep communities safe and free from crime and disruption. This three-month closure order, that will run from 25 June to 25 September 2025, will provide some well-needed respite for the residents from the issues arising from the address. I would urge anyone with concerns about anti-social behaviour or other criminality in their community to please contact local officers and we will do everything we can to address these issues and achieve justice."*

Anyone with concerns about anti-social behaviour in their area is asked to report it to Cheshire Police via the Cheshire Police website or call 101.

Teenager summonsed to court for driving offences in Tarporley

A teenage boy has been summonsed to court to be charged with a number of offences following an incident in Tarporley.

On Wednesday 28 May, police were called to reports of a vehicle travelling unsafely on Sandstone Lane, Tarporley. Following enquiries, a 15-year-old boy has been summonsed to court in relation to the incident. The boy, from the Tarporley area, has since been issued with a postal requisition ordering him to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on Wednesday 23 July. He will answer to charges of driving without insurance, driving without a licence, and driving without due care and attention.

Prolific burglar jailed following crime spree across Warrington and Widnes

A man from Warrington has been jailed for over two years after he admitted burgling a Mosque, a church and a foodbank.

David Roberts appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Thursday 26 June, where he was jailed for 26 months. The sentencing comes after the 43-year-old of HMP Altcourse, Liverpool admitted three counts of burglary with intent to steal and one count of criminal damage. The court was told that, across April 2025, Roberts broke into three properties across the Warrington and Widnes areas and stole a number of items.



Roberts first struck at around 1pm on Sunday 6 April 2025, when he entered the Mosque on Arpley Street, Warrington without good reason. Once inside the building he stole a Samsung mobile phone and a jacket. The incident was reported to police at Warrington Neighbourhood Policing Team who quickly identified Roberts as the offender after reviewing CCTV footage. Roberts was swiftly arrested and stated that he didn't recall the incident, but he admitted entering the Mosque as a trespasser with intent to steal. He was later charged with burglary before being released on bail.

Despite being on bail, Roberts went on to burgle two other premises. On Tuesday 29 April, Roberts forcibly gained entry into a foodbank on Lugsdale Road, Widnes, by smashing an exterior window. While forcing entry, Roberts had cut himself, resulting in a substantial amount of blood on the broken shards of glass and throughout the property. Despite this, he conducted an untidy search inside, taking a number of grocery items from a storeroom before leaving through the broken window. Again, the incident was captured on CCTV.

The following day, Roberts returned to Warrington where he forced his way into a locked rectory area of a church on Bewsey Street through a window. An alarm was triggered and officers from Warrington Police attended the scene, conducting a search of the rectory and the surrounding church grounds. Roberts was located, attempting to hide in a bathroom, and was swiftly arrested. Officers also found around £500 in cash that had been taken from an office in the building that had been hidden in a nearby rubbish bin. Further enquiries would show Roberts in the grounds of the church immediately prior to the alarm being activated.

In his interview with detectives, Roberts denied that he had forced entry into the rectory and claimed that he had been let in by a member of staff to use the bathroom. He could not account for how the money had been located in the nearby bin. Regarding the incident at the Widnes foodbank, he initially denied the offences but gave a full admission of burglary after he was shown the CCTV from the premises.

Following his sentencing, PS Graham Robinson said: *"David Roberts is prolific burglar who has taken from a several properties that are specifically designed to support and give into their local communities. Despite being under investigation for the burglary at the Mosque on Arpley Street, that he had targeted less than a year prior, he chose to force his way into two further addresses where he had no right to be and taking a number of items that did not belong to him. This case really does show the importance of installing both internal and external cameras to protect your homes from would-be thieves, as the CCTV in place at these three addresses were truly vital in us catching Roberts, bringing him to justice and putting him back behind bars – where he belongs."*

Man pleads guilty to supplying class A and B drugs in Widnes

A man has admitted selling class A and B drugs in the Widnes area.

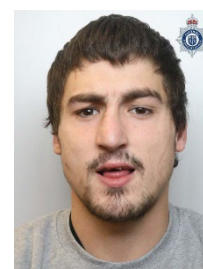
Robert Porter, of Bancroft Road, Widnes, appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court on Friday 20 June. The 34-year-old pleaded guilty to being concerned in the supply of cocaine and cannabis, plus possession with intent to supply cocaine. A warrant was executed on Thursday 19 June at Porter's address after officers identified him as being involved in the distribution of drugs. Officers from Widnes Proactive CID searched his address and recovered a quantity of cocaine, along with a mobile phone used by Porter to send 'flare' messages advertising the sale of drugs. They also seized drugs packaging and counterfeit bank notes. Porter was subsequently charged and appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court the following day. He has now been remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on Friday 1 August for sentencing.

PC Powell said: *"Porter has been left with no choice but to plead guilty to these offences thanks to the catalogue of evidence against him. Within the space of two days Porter had been arrested and officers had seized drugs, secured charges, and brought him before the courts. This should serve as a reminder of how seriously we take offences of this nature and it's just one of the many results which show we are committed to disrupting this illegal activity in Halton. We will always act on any information about drug-related activity provided to us and I would urge anyone who believes this is happening in their community to please contact Cheshire Police through our website or by calling 101."*

Man jailed for arson in Winsford

A man has been jailed after setting fire to a school bus in Winsford.

Joshua Sigley, 25, of St Chads Fields, Winsford, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 20 June 2025, charged with incidents of arson in the town. Sigley was sentenced to three years after pleading guilty to three counts of arson. Peter Towers, 30, of Rosemary Crescent, Winsford, will be sentenced for this case at a later date, on Friday 15 August 2025.



On Sunday 4 August 2024, Cheshire Police were notified of three deliberate fires which had been started in Winsford between the hours of 3pm and 11pm. These were located on High Street, Queensway, and Ford Court. Members of the public reporting the fires described seeing two men, matching the descriptions of Sigley and Towers. The fire on High Street was started using rubbish placed on the ground and a green jerrycan filled with petrol. CCTV footage obtained from a petrol station showed Towers arriving on a bike and filling a green jerrycan with petrol and making payment. Dashcam footage then showed Towers meeting with Sigley just minutes later.

A school bus was completely destroyed after being set on fire in Queensway, resulting in £70,000 worth of damage. Two men matching Sigley and Towers' description were then seen trying to set fire to trees near to Ford Court. Both men were subsequently arrested at an address in Winsford on Sunday 4 August 2024 and later charged.

DI Ross Hamilton said: *"Sigley's actions were incredibly dangerous, fuelled by the national disorder last summer, and could easily have ended up injuring someone, or even worse. I welcome the custodial sentence which has been handed to him; to target a school bus and cause £70,000 worth of damage is shocking. The sentence handed down to Sigley should serve as a strong reminder of how serious these crimes are regarded and robust action will be taken against anyone who chooses to behave in this manner."*

Man arrested following Winsford drugs raid

Officers have arrested a man and seized a quantity of class A drugs following a raid in Winsford

At around 7.55am on Friday 27 June, officers from Northwich Proactive Policing Team along with officers from Winsford & Northwich Neighbourhood teams, executed a warrant at an address on Bowland Rise, Winsford. A search was undertaken at the address and officers discovered quantity of what are believed to be Class A, Class B and Class C drugs, along with other drugs paraphernalia. An 18-year-old local man was also arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs; he is currently in police custody where he is being questioned by officers.

<https://youtu.be/CISgMrLN9eE>

The warrant was conducted as part of an ongoing operation in relation to the supply of illegal drugs.

Following the raid, Insp Paul Heatley said: *"This is another fantastic result which has led to the recovery of a quantity of illegal drugs, along with the arrest of a man on suspicion of drugs offences. The impact of drugs is well known, and I hope that this arrest provides reassurance to the community that we are doing all we can to stop those believed to be involved in this behaviour. Intelligence supplied by members of the public is crucial to this fight and I urge anyone with any information about suspected drug related activity in their community to get in touch. We will continue to tackle drug dealing in Winsford and elsewhere in Cheshire head on, utilising all the resources at our disposal."*

Anyone with any information in relation to illegal drug activity in their community is urged to report it to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or [use the reporting section of our website](#).

Man jailed for drugs offences in Northwich

A man has been jailed for more than five years for drugs offences in Northwich.

Enrico Poli was sentenced to five years and seven months at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 24 June 2025. The 34-year-old, of Riding Close, Sale, pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply cocaine. At 8.45am on Saturday 24 May 2025, an officer stopped a vehicle in Northwich. The driver mentioned she was collecting Poli from an address in Dock Road, Northwich, where he had been staying with a friend.



The officer recognised the address and the friend's name from intelligence about drug-related activity in the area. At 9.02am, an officer attended the address in Dock Road to conduct enquiries in relation to this intelligence when they saw a man, later identified as Poli, exit the property and quickly walk away, without acknowledging the officer. The officer attempted to engage with Poli, who refused to give any details and continued walking, before the officer stopped him. Poli was found in possession of £345 in cash and a snap bag of cocaine. Following further enquiries, he was subsequently charged in relation to drug-related offences and pleaded guilty.

PC Andy Collict said: *"I welcome the substantial custodial sentence handed to Poli and I hope this sends a stark warning to anyone who thinks they can come to Northwich to sell drugs and get away with it. It was thanks to intelligence about drug activity in the area and officer intuition that Poli was caught as he tried to flee an address and he was left with no choice but to plead guilty to the offences. If you have any information about drugs offences in your community, please contact us via 101 or through our website and we'll do the rest."*

Man jailed following assaults in Chester

A man has been jailed for more than two years after being charged with multiple counts of assault in Chester.

Charles Leach (also known as Aaron Millar), of no fixed abode, was sentenced to 26 months at Chester Crown Court on Monday 23 June 2025. The 33-year-old was charged with assault by beating, assault by beating of an emergency worker, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, and criminal damage.



At approximately 7.30pm on 22 November 2024, a female friend of Leach's offered him a lift from Chester city centre to her address in Saughall, Chester, where he could then order a taxi to drive him the remainder of his way home. While at the address, the pair consumed alcohol before Leach became aggressive. At around 2.15am, neighbours living nearby called police and came to assist after hearing screaming. The neighbours witnessed Leach closing the front door of the women's home on her head and a male neighbour intervened. Leach assaulted the man by hitting him to the head with his elbow, but the man managed to detain him until police arrived at the scene. Leach caused multiple injuries to the female victim, including bruising to her neck, bite marks to her arms, a cut to the inside of her lip, and bruising and swelling to her eye. During the incident, Leach damaged the woman's necklace.

Upon arrest, Leach also assaulted a police officer by striking her with his knee. He was subsequently charged with the offences and pleaded guilty. Upon Leach's release from prison, he will be subject to a Criminal Behaviour Order which was granted on 18 June 2025 following concerns about his repeated behaviour towards women.

The order, which remains in place until 18 June 2030, has the following conditions:

- Leach must not enter the area defined by the exclusion map, save to attend any pre-arranged appointments at the Foundation Medical Centre and Wells Pharmacy to collect his prescription only, taking the route from Fountains Roundabout down Northgate Street, onto Delamere Street and to take the same route back.

- He cannot enter any public house other than for the purpose of employment and must not consume alcohol on any licensed premises.
- Leach must not enter any premises in England and Wales where he has been warned verbally or in writing that he is barred or excluded.
- He cannot follow anyone or act in such a way that would cause a person harassment, alarm or distress, including making any unsolicited sexual comments, suggestions or requests to any person in a public place in England and Wales.
- Leach is also prohibited from approaching or communicating directly with any female that is not known to himself other than what is not reasonably avoidable during daily life, or for a legitimate purpose, or in case of an emergency in any public place in England and Wales.

Insp James Wilson said: *"I welcome the custodial sentence handed to Leach. He is a repeat offender and this recurring behaviour clearly shows no regard for the welfare of other people. Upon his release from prison, he will be subject to a CBO. This is a significant order which is intended to disrupt Leach's poor behaviour and protect the public of Chester. He has a list of stringent conditions attached to this order and I would urge anyone who sees Leach breaking the conditions of the CBO in the future to get in touch with us by calling 101 to report it, as he will be committing a criminal offence."*



Woman banned from retail park in Crewe under terms of CBO

A woman has been banned from a retail park in Crewe following the successful application of a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO).

Ashley Thomas, 33, of Crewe, is now subject to a five-year CBO which was granted at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Monday 23 June. The order comes following shoplifting offences at Grand Junction Retail Park, Crewe. Under the terms of the order, Thomas is now prohibited from entering Grand Junction Retail Park. If Thomas breaches this restriction, she will be committing a criminal offence.



Insp Dan Welch, of Crewe Local Policing Unit, said: *"We hope that with this lengthy criminal behaviour order, Thomas' offending will be stopped in its tracks. If she fails to adhere to the order, she faces going to prison. CBOs are one of the tools we use to tackle criminal behaviour and this order should serve as a reminder of how seriously we take offending of this nature."*

Anyone who encounters Thomas breaching the above restriction is urged to contact Cheshire Police at <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/> or call 101, to report it.

More than 20 fines issued at illegal car meet in Alderley Edge.

Officers from Macclesfield Local Policing Unit issued more than 20 traffic offence reports last weekend as part of ongoing efforts to tackle illegal car meets in Alderley Edge.

Last week police became aware of an illegal car meet which was planned in Alderley Edge on Sunday 22 June. Following the reports, a warning was issued advising people that the event was not authorised, and a dispersal order was also put in place which provided officers with additional powers to tackle offending drivers and members of the public causing harassment, alarm or distress in the local community. Overall, the area was busy throughout the weekend, but thanks to the high police presence in the area there were less offences reported than at previous car meets. In total officers issued 24 traffic offence reports for a variety of offences, including speeding, illegal number plates, missing number plates and window tints. Four section 59 warning notices were also issued to drivers whose vehicles were being used in a manner which causes alarm, distress or annoyance. Officers are also continuing to analyse video footage from the area, so anyone who committed any driving offences can look forward to a visit from officers.

CI Zoe Bowden, of Macclesfield Command, said: *"As previously stated, we understand the frustration and anger that illegal car meets cause, and we are committed to doing all we can to tackle the issue. We have a zero-tolerance approach and as these results demonstrate we will take action against those who break the law. This is an ongoing operation, and I hope that the action taken this weekend will provide some reassurance and act as a warning to those planning to come to Cheshire. Our message is clear – anti-social behaviour and anti-social use of vehicles will not be tolerated."*

If you have any concerns or information on any criminal activity taking place, please contact us on 101 or dial 999 if it is an emergency.

Congleton man found guilty of historic child sexual offences

William Woods was found guilty of 57 offences at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 24 June, including inciting children under the age of 14 to commit an act of gross indecency, incite boys aged 13 to 15 to engage in sexual activity and attempted rape.



In addition, he was found not guilty of one count of sexual assault and one count of neglect. The 67-year-old of Lawton Street, Congleton, has been remanded in custody and is to be sentenced for his crimes on Friday 15 August. During the course of his eight-week trial, it was heard that between 1976 and 2006, Woods had sexually abused eight children across the Northwich and Crewe areas of Cheshire.

Woods was football coach over the course of his offending and used his connections with family friends to build a position of trust and influence over the children, isolating them from their loved ones before sexually abusing them. Woods also encouraged the young people to abuse one another, bringing multiple children together at his home to act out his warped sexual fantasies. Alongside his campaign of sexual abuse against these children, Woods was also physically abusive, with the court hearing how he had locked one of his victims in a cupboard for a prolonged period and burnt them with cigarettes and a pan that was being used for cooking.

In 2018, officers from Cheshire Police were approached by one of Woods' victims. Subsequent enquiries into this victim's case resulted in officers uncovering seven more victims, all of whom had

been sexually and physically abused by Woods between the late 1970s and early 2000s. Woods was interviewed on several occasions throughout the entire investigation before being formally arrested in 2022, outright denying any abuse - going so far as to tell interviewing officers that he had never even met several of the victims and that the ones he had previously met were lying about being abused. The 67-year-old would be charged with 59 offences in January 2024.

PC Emma Hughes, who oversaw the investigation, said: *"While on the outside William Woods looked to be a respectable member of the community; a coach of the local youth football team who had a good relationship with the children of family friends, he is, in reality, a malignant and opportunistic sexual predator who has already served a six-year sentence for sexual offences against young people in his care prior to our investigation into him in 2018. Being taken on holidays and camping trips are meant to be experiences that children should look back on with positive memories, but instead, Woods used the trust instilled in him to abuse the young people in his care, isolate them from their families and force them to act out his warped sexual fantasies over a period of 30 years."*

"Despite the overwhelming amount of evidence against him, Woods refused to accept any responsibility for his own horrific actions. However, their abuser has now, at long last, been served justice and I hope that today marks the end of a very turbulent chapter in their lives that will allow them to find some sense of closure and begin to heal. Today's result is the culmination of over seven years of police work and working alongside Woods' eight victims in bringing almost three decades of horrific abuse to a conclusion. "Coming forward to disclose offences of this nature takes a huge amount of bravery. So, I would like to take this opportunity to commend each of the victims in this case whose evidence was vital in helping us build a case against William Woods, as I know it will not have been easy for them or their families to process. I would like to stress that, as this case has shown today, we take all reports of historic sexual abuse extremely seriously and we thoroughly investigate every report we receive, placing the victim's needs at the heart of the case, regardless of how long ago the offence occurred."

If you have been a victim of sexual abuse, or know of someone who has, please call us on 101 or [visit the website](#). Information can also be reported anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111.

Man charged in relation to drugs offences in Crewe

Officers investigating the supply of illegal drugs in the Crewe area have charged a man.

Connor Harrison was arrested on Friday 20 June. The 32-year-old, of James Gibbons Road, Crewe, has since been charged with being concerned in the supply of class A and B drugs (cocaine and cannabis). He has been remanded in custody until a hearing at Chester Crown Court on Monday 28 July. The charge relates to a warrant executed at an address in James Gibbons Road, Crewe, on Friday 20 June.

Officers tackle ASB and parking issues in Pickmere

Officers from Macclesfield and Northwich Local Policing Units have been out in force to tackle issues with parking and anti-social behaviour in Pickmere.

Over recent years there have been ongoing issues with parking and ASB caused by people visiting Pickmere Lake during the warm weather. This has included cars blocking footpaths, roads and driveways, issues with littering and people swimming in the lake. To help tackle the issue officers are working closely with the council to introduce additional parking restrictions in the area, to help minimise some of the disruption. Additional patrols have also been conducted in the area during periods of warmer weather.

CI Zoe Bowden, from Macclesfield Local Policing Unit said: *"With all the recent hot weather we can understand the reason why so many are attracted to Pickmere lake. However, it's essential that residents in the local area are able to go about their daily business. So far this year we have seen a reduction in the number of incidents in the area thanks to the work that we've already undertaken. However, during times of warmer weather we have seen some issues, with more than 20 parking tickets issued last weekend alone. "Therefore, I would urge anyone who is visiting the area to be considerate to the residents and ensure that they park respectfully and take their litter home. As we enter the summer period, we'll continue to step-up patrols in the area to provide reassurance to local residents and issue further fines where appropriate."*

Man charged following attempted robbery in Congleton

Officers investigating an attempted robbery in Congleton have charged a man in relation to the incident.

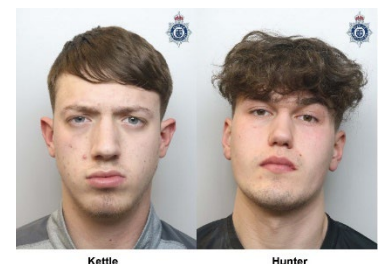
Paul Cordingley, 37, of Granville Road, Chester, was arrested on Sunday 22 June. He has since been charged with attempted robbery and is remanded in custody until a hearing at Chester Crown Court on Monday 21 July. The charge relates to reports of an attempted robbery of a taxi driver in Buxton Road, Congleton, which was reported at 4.01am on Sunday 22 June.

Two county lines dealers jailed following Winsford stop-check

Two more county lines dealers have been jailed following another successful stop check in Winsford.

Leonard Hunter and Archie Kettle appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 20 June where they were sentenced to a total of 5 years in prison. The pair had previously pleaded guilty to two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine), two counts of being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine), and possession of criminal property.

Hunter, aged 19, of Springfield Avenue, Malpas, and Kettle, aged 19, of Tilstock Lane, Tilstock, were each sentenced to 30 months in prison.



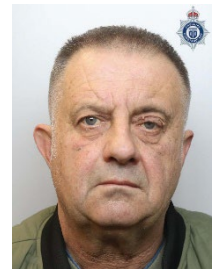
The case began in March 2024 when officers from Northwich Proactive CID became aware of a county line operating in Winsford. Following the intelligence, on Monday 10 March plain clothed officers were deployed to the area and at 11.20am they spotted two men, Hunter and Kettle, who were believed to be linked to the gang. Officers attempted to stop the pair and while Kettle was detained at the scene, Hunter ran off on foot. However, despite his attempts to evade officers, he was quickly located hiding in a nearby alleyway. During searches, Kettle was found to be in possession of 338 wraps of crack cocaine and heroin valued at almost £3,400, meanwhile officers also located more than £2,500 cash and a mobile phone hidden under a fence panel in the alleyway where Hunter was located. During analysis of the phone officers recovered a number of messages indicating that the pair were actively involved in drug dealing.

Following the sentencing PC Ed Whalley, of Northwich Proactive CID, said: *"This is another great result which has led to the recovery of a large quantity of illegal drugs from the streets of Winsford. In addition, another two county lines dealers are now behind bars. While this case has now concluded, our campaign against drug dealers is ongoing and we're committed to doing all we can to stop drug activity on the streets of Winsford and make Cheshire a hostile place for criminals. We will always act on any information about drug activity provided to us and would urge anyone who believes this activity is happening near to them, to please contact us on 101 or visit www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us."*

Man convicted of historic sexual abuse in Northwich

A man from Northwich has been found guilty of grooming and sexually abusing a young boy in the 1990s.

Trevor Leach was unanimously found guilty of 19 counts of gross indecency following a trial at Liverpool Crown Court. The 65-year-old, of Verdin Avenue, Northwich, has been remanded in custody and will be sentenced on Friday 8 August. The court heard Leach groomed and sexually abused the victim between 1992 and 1996, starting when the boy was just 12 years old. The pair initially met while Leach was working at the former Elf garage, which was located opposite Hartford High School. The victim recalled how Leach would regularly take him out in his car and back to his home, where he would sexually abuse him. The victim initially chose not to report the incidents to police. However, in 2022 they had a chance encounter with Leach which triggered a number of memories and led them to report the allegations. Following the reports an investigation was launched by detectives and Leach was questioned in relation to the allegations. Leach admitted that he knew the victim but denied any wrongdoing. Despite his denial, he was later charged in relation to the allegations.



Following the guilty verdict, DC Kelly Mankee, who led the investigation said: *"This has been a complex and lengthy investigation which ultimately uncovered Leach's despicable behaviour. It was apparent throughout the investigation that Leach is a sexual predator who had preyed on a vulnerable young schoolboy, grooming him and manipulating him in order to fulfil his own sexual gratification. He convinced the boy that what they were doing was normal, when in reality Leach was well aware that what he was doing was wrong. His actions have had a lasting impact on the victim, and I would like to praise him for the courage and bravery that he had shown throughout the*

trial. Having to relive his ordeals in court was not easy, but thanks to the strength of their evidence, Leach had now been held accountable for his actions. As this case shows, we treat all reports of non-recent sexual offences seriously, with the wishes and needs of the victim as our main priority, and any allegations will be thoroughly investigated. Anyone who has been a victim of sexual abuse – no matter how long ago the incident took place – is urged to come forward and report it to Cheshire Police on 101 or through our website.”

Operation Crossbow sees officers tackle criminality on the roads of Cheshire East

Over 100 officers from the eastern area of the county have conducted a day of action to disrupt criminals abusing the road networks as well as tackling immigration and modern-day slavery offences.

Operation Crossbow took place across Monday 23 June as part of efforts to disrupt criminality across the eastern area of Cheshire and protecting vulnerable people. Over the course of the day, action took place across areas including Crewe, Macclesfield, Sandbach, Congleton, Knutsford and Wilmslow. Over 100 officers from various departments worked alongside colleagues from Staffordshire Police and British Transport Police, Trading Standards, Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency and the Motor Insurers' Bureau in disrupting and directly targeting criminals who choose to abuse Cheshire's road networks and bring crime into the county.



Officers from localized Beat Teams, Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Drone Unit, Roads and Crime, Motorbike Unit, Special Constables and the Dog Unit were also joined by colleagues from Immigration Enforcement and the Home Office in visits to addresses linked to modern day slavery and immigration offences, directly safeguarding the most vulnerable people in the county. Following an 8am briefing from Chief Constable Mark Roberts and Superintendent Andy Blizard, officers rolled out from the Cheshire university campus in Crewe, making it known that Cheshire remains a hostile environment for anyone flouting the rules of the roads.

Over the course of the day, officers and their colleagues spread across the county and executed a number of actions including; weight checks of vehicles carrying heavy loads on the motorways, conducting stop and search operations in the county's busiest railway stations, seizing non-roadworthy vehicles and stopping drivers on busy roads who were without insurance, not wearing seatbelts, and being distracted by using mobile phones or Sat Navs whilst behind the wheel. Assisting their colleagues from Immigration and Trading Standards, officers visited commercial premises to locate and seize illegal tobacco and vape products, conduct extradition warrants and arrest outstanding offenders.

The overall results from the day included:

- 161 speeding activations (Hand-held and Static Van)
- 56 TORS issued
- 35 stop searches (11 of which positive)
- 26 Op Learn (HGV security) engagements

- 19 checks at locations for Immigration and Trading Standards - including several fines issued, one person arrested on Extradition Warrant, two illegal workers detained, 3500 illegal vapes seized worth around £5000, with multiple follow ups for Trading Standards.
- 14 Arrests
- 11 PG9 notices issued
- 11 Community Resolutions issued
- 6 Vehicle Seizures
- 3 Postal Requisitions submitted
- 2 PNDs issued in relation to parking
- 1 yellow card issued
- Op Vigilant (child exploitation) deployments at various locations across the east

Other highlights included a motorbike being prohibited from driving on the road for having very little rear tyre tread and a broken exhaust on Macon Way, Crewe, a driver travelling through east Cheshire from Doncaster had his vehicle seized as he was driving with a revoked licence and his passenger was not wearing a seatbelt, and a HGV at Sandbach Services was issued with a TOR and a prohibition notice for being over the legal weight limit. As well as this, within ten minutes of rolling out, officers became engaged in a failure to stop pursuit in the Mill Street area of Crewe, that resulted in the arrest of a man from Staffordshire. The 29-year-old, who also happened to be wanted for failing to attend court, was arrested on suspicion of failing to stop, dangerous driving, driving whilst disqualified and driving without insurance. He is currently in custody assisting officers with their enquiries.

CI Cameron Taylor, who the oversaw operational response, said: *“The successful operation is a testament to the hard work of the many officers from several departments across the Constabulary and our partner organisations coming together to directly target criminality within the eastern area of Cheshire. We have seen a high number of traffic offences reported and several vehicles seized that were either being driven dangerously, were not safe to be driven or incorrectly insured, thus further limiting the likelihood of incidents and continually making Cheshire’s roads safe for those who live, work and travel through the county. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our partner agencies as well as our officers from the Roads and Crime Unit and our Local Policing teams in their activity across the eastern area of the county as part of Operation Crossbow. Their proactivity and engagement have helped us identify and remove drivers that should not have gotten behind the wheel.*

“Alongside taking proactive action against those misusing the roads, we also used the deployment as an opportunity to provide education to motorists, familiarising them with the Fatal Five offences and utilising the team from the Commercial Vehicles Unit to ensure drivers carrying heavy loads along our roads were aware of the appropriate regulations regarding how much they can legally carry. I hope this sends out a strong message that if you commit crime in Cheshire, or on Cheshire’s roads, you will be caught, and we will utilise all of the tactics and resources at our disposal to ensure you are held accountable.”

Chief Constable Mark Roberts added: *“Our officers are committed to protecting our communities and work tirelessly every day to prevent and disrupt criminal activity. This latest operation shows*

just a small snapshot of their unwavering efforts as these are all areas in which we excel at day in, day out, and are part of our everyday policing tactics to continue to keep people safe and reduce crime. Operations like this send out a strong message that Cheshire is a hostile environment for those who wish to commit crime and that anyone who chooses to abuse our roads will be located and held accountable for their actions."

'Kardashian of Cheshire' pleads guilty to fraud

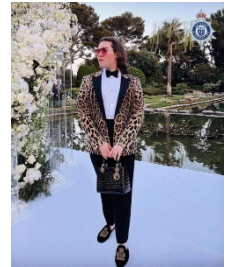
A man who described himself as Cheshire's very own Kardashian has been pleaded guilty to fraud and theft.

Jack Watkin, 26, formerly of Wilmslow Road, Alderley Edge funded his fantasy Instagram influencer lifestyle by defrauding businesses and individuals to a total value of more than £200,000. Watkin appeared at Chester Crown Court on Tuesday 24 June where he pleaded guilty to eight counts of fraud by false representation. He has been remanded in custody and is set to be sentenced for the fraud and indecent images offences on Wednesday 3 September at Chester Crown Court.



The court heard how Watkin used the lure of designer handbag brand Hermes as a ruse to trick people into giving him the money he needed to afford his extravagant lifestyle. The sought-after handbags can't be purchased over the counter. You must be invited to buy a Hermes handbag which makes it a lucrative investment as the resale value can be much higher than the original price. The victims

were told by Watkin that he had the contacts that could give them access to the handbags and that they could split the profits made on resale. They handed over their money in good faith, but when no bag or sign of any money from the investment opportunity arose, they would begin to ask for their money back, but he always had excuses. He duped one woman into handing over thousands thinking she was investing in the much sought after luxury handbag when she was in fact paying his bills at the Dorchester Hotel in London. She, like the others never received the handbags or their share in the profits of their resale.



<https://youtu.be/enHSkhKfktc>



The investigation was launched after the woman who inadvertently paid for his luxury hotel bill contacted the Metropolitan Police back in 2022 when she became suspicious of Watkin's continued excuses. The case was subsequently referred to Cheshire Constabulary's Economic Crime Unit, who launched a full investigation. Their enquiries unearthed a string of victims and a breath-taking amount of luxury goods, and hotel bills that Watkin's afforded by swindling his six victims. During the investigation detectives also found indecent images on his mobile phone for which he was found guilty at a previous hearing for possession of indecent images, extreme pornography and prohibited images.

DC Gareth Yates, of Cheshire Constabulary Economic Crime Unit said: *"Watkin's victims lost thousands and for some, their reputation was negatively affected when deals were unable to be honoured because of Watkin's criminal enterprise. Watkin's deluded himself that he was a successful rich kid influencer, but in reality, he was stealing money from wealthy individuals under the guise of 'business opportunities' to fund his expensive habit of fast cars, luxury goods, including Versace crockery, and designer footwear and clothing. It was never going to end well, and his downfall was inevitable. Eventually his lies caught up with him and he is now facing the consequences of his deceit, and his perversions."*

Man charged with drug offences in Widnes

Detectives from Cheshire Constabulary's Serious and Organised Crime Unit have charged a man following an investigation into drug supply within the town.

Jack Clarke was arrested on Thursday 19 June on Dundalk Road, Widnes. The 28-year-old, of Afton, Widnes, has since been charged with two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin, crack cocaine). Clarke has since been remanded in custody to next appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 18 July.

Officers in Chester take part in day of action

Officers across Chester have taken part in a multi-agency day of action targeting a range of criminality across the city.

On Wednesday 18 June, officers from Chester Local Policing Unit worked with partners from several organisations to tackle and disrupt criminality, while providing a reassuring presence for the public and business owners. The day of action – Operation Intent – is the third operation of its kind in Chester this year. Over the course of the day, officers conducted the following:

- Chester Beat Team deployed in both uniform and plain clothes across the city to target anti-social behaviour and other criminality, plus to engage with members of the public. One person was arrested on suspicion of theft and possession of class A drugs.
- The Exploitation Team carried out visits to ensure that no vulnerable people were being exploited.
- The North West Underwater Search and Marine Unit was deployed to The Groves to carry out high visibility boat patrols on the River Dee and engage with the public about water safety.
- Patrols were deployed with Taxi Licensing to ensure taxi drivers were complying with regulations.
- British Transport Police's County Lines Task Force attended Chester Railway Station among other locations to target people using the rail network to bring drugs into Chester.
- The Motorbike Unit was on patrol. They issued nine Traffic Offence Reports, seized an e-bike and motorbike, and a male was summonsed to court.
- Engagement activities were carried out at two school sports days.
- The Licensing Enforcement Officer carried out 12 visits. Advice was given to some premises around licensing and follow up visits will take place.

Insp James Wilson, of Chester Local Policing Unit, said: *"The operation provided a visible policing presence in the city centre and across Chester, while disrupting criminality. We had numerous positive comments from members of the public and we look forward to continuing with these operations in the future.*

Throughout the day we used a whole host of tactics to disrupt criminal activity in Chester, as well as working with partners, but it is important to note that we use these regularly as part of our everyday policing tactics. We hope residents and visitors to Chester are reassured that we are proactively tackling those who are up to no good. If you have any



information about criminal activity in your community, please contact Cheshire Police online or call 101. In an emergency, always call 999."

Officers charge Warrington man with eleven offences

A man from Warrington has been charged with common assault, possession of an offensive weapon, sending threatening communications, stalking, harassment, possession of a class B drug (cannabis), and five counts of criminal damage.

The charges follow a number of incidents which took place between 30 April 2025 and 19 June 2025 relating to five victims. Robert Bassnett, 35, of no fixed abode in Warrington, was remanded in custody to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on Friday 18 July.

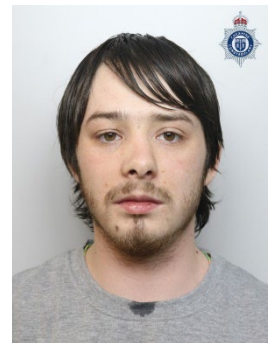
Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal to trace wanted man from Widnes

Police in Widnes are appealing for help from the public in tracing a wanted man.

Connor Pook, 22, is wanted in connection to harassment offences. Pook is described as white, around 5'4" tall, of slim build and with black hair and brown eyes. Connor Pook is from Widnes and is known to frequent the town, but he also has links to the Halton area of Runcorn.

Anyone with any information regarding the whereabouts of Connor Pook is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the website or on 101, quoting IML-2111853.



CCTV image released following criminal damage at Warrington church

Officers investigating a criminal damage incident at a Church in Warrington have released an image of a man they would like to speak to.

At around 2.47pm on Thursday 5 June, an unknown man entered the St Mary's Church on Buttermarket Street, Warrington, and made his way down the main aisle toward the tabernacle area at the top of the building. The man began purposely moving items placed here and blowing out lit candles placed on altars, before entering the back area of the church that is not accessible to the public. Whilst doing this, the man is believed to have purposely damaged a number of documents and items belonging to the church. When challenged by a parishioner, the man ignored them and promptly left the building. As part of their investigation, officers have released an image of a man, they believe, holds vital information in relation to this incident.



PC Sian Doyle, of Warrington LPU's Neighbourhood team, said: *"Deliberately damaging someone else's property is a very selfish crime, but entering a place of worship, a hub where a community is*

meant to come together without fear, and purposely causing a disruption and damaging their belongings is something that I am truly appalled to see. We are currently doing all we can to identify the individual responsible for this incident and, as part of our enquiries, we have now released an image of a man we would like to speak to. Investigating officers believe this man holds vital information in relation to the incident that occurred here, so anyone who knows who this man is, is asked to contact Cheshire Police. I would also like to appeal directly to the man pictured to please contact us."

Anyone with any information regarding the incident is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the website or by calling 101, quoting IML-2103969.

Appeal for information following two business burglaries in Congleton

Detectives are appealing for witnesses and video footage following two burglaries at a building society in Congleton.

The first incident occurred at around 3.30am on Saturday 21 June, when police were called to reports of an alarm activation at Nationwide on Bridge Street, Congleton. On arrival officers found that an unknown offender had gained access to the building via a first-floor window. CCTV footage showed the offender searching the premises before fleeing the scene empty handed. Then, at 4.26am on Tuesday 24 June, police were called to reports of a break in at the same premises. On arrival officers confirmed that unknown offenders had forced entry into the premises via a fire escape. It is unknown at this time whether anything was stolen during the incident. Enquiries in relation to the two incidents are ongoing and anyone with any information is urged to get in touch.

DS Laura Fox, from Macclesfield CID, said: *"Enquiries in relation to these incidents are in the early stages and we are doing all we can to identify the people responsible. As part of our investigation I'm keen to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time of either of the incidents and believes that they may have seen anything suspicious. I'd also ask residents in the area to check their CCTV or video doorbell footage to see if they have anything which may aid our investigation. The same goes for any motorists with any dashcam footage."*

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Cheshire police on 101, or visit [Appeal for information following two business burglaries in Congleton | Cheshire Investigate | Community Portal](#) quoting IML 2115952. Information can also be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appeal for witnesses and footage following fail-to-stop collision in Middlewich

Officers are appealing for witnesses and anyone with footage to get in touch with them following a fail-to-stop collision in Middlewich.

On Monday 9 June police received reports of a collision which occurred at around 10.30am on Holmes Chapel Road, near to Pembroke Place, Middlewich. The collision involved a vehicle and a pedal cycle. The 71-year-old cyclist suffered serious injuries and the driver of the unknown vehicle failed to stop at the scene.

Sgt Jon Dixon said: *"Officers are looking to trace any witnesses to this incident as part of our enquiries. We are also urging anyone with any dashcam footage of the incident to contact us to help trace the vehicle involved. "You can report information to Cheshire Police by calling 101 or by contacting us through our website by visiting cheshire.police.uk/tell-us, quoting IML-2107245."*

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA)

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

Email: cheshirenw@outlook.com

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

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/cheshirenw



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