

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 29 September 2024

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Man sentenced to 25 years for sexual offences against children

A man from Crewe who was convicted of 43 sexual offences against children has been jailed.

Clinton Royle, of Elm Drive, Crewe, appeared at Chester Crown Court on Friday 27 September where he was sentenced to 25 years. The 62-year-old was previously found guilty of the offences at Chester Crown Court on Monday 29 July following an 11-day trial. This included 28 counts of assaulting a girl under 13, two counts of taking an indecent photograph of a child, three counts of possessing indecent photographs of children, three counts of making indecent photographs of child, and seven counts of inciting a girl under 13 to engage in sexual activity.



Royle was arrested following a report to police in 2019 about non-recent child sexual abuse offences which occurred between August 2012 and April 2016 when the child victim was between the ages of eight and 12. Following Royle's arrest, an investigation was launched by officers in the Protecting Vulnerable People investigations department and various items were seized from his home, including children's clothing, hard drives, and digital storage devices. Royle denied all allegations during interview and was released on bail while the investigation was ongoing.

Cheshire Police's digital forensic unit conducted analysis of Royle's devices, discovering encrypted and password protected files containing thousands of indecent images of children. The files also contained recordings of Royle's offending. Further investigations were conducted, and officers were able to identify other child victims aged between three and 12 at the time of the offending.

Whilst Royle confirmed he was present in the videos and images with the children, he denied the offences, claiming that his actions and the images were not of a sexual nature. Despite his denials, he was ultimately charged with the offences. On top of his custodial sentence, Royle will be subject to a sexual harm prevention order, restraining orders against the victims, and will also need to sign the sex offender register.

Following the sentencing, DC Amy Pegnam said: *"Royle is a predator who exploited young children purely to satisfy his own twisted sexual desires. These innocent children were subjected to horrific abuse, and not only that, but Royle tried to deny any wrongdoing. But thankfully the jury saw through his lies, and he is now facing a lengthy sentence behind bars where he cannot subject anyone else to his abhorrent behaviour. This has been a complex and lengthy investigation, and I would again like to commend the courage of the victims, the officers, and all those involved who have helped bring this man to justice. 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."*

Warrington Mini Police become honorary Wolves at Halliwell Jones activity day

'Mini Police' officers from schools across Warrington visited the home of the Warrington Wolves rugby team for a day of activity as a reward for all the work they have done to help fight crime in Warrington.

On Tuesday 24 September, around 100 children from the Warrington area, who form part of the Cheshire Constabulary Mini Police initiative, visited the Halliwell Jones Stadium, the home of the Warrington Wolves.



Led by the Wolves' Community Foundation team, the pupils had a tour of the stadium, got to meet PC Panda, members of the Wolves squad, and were put to the test in several sporting activities, designed to develop their teambuilding and communication skills. The children also learned how the foundation works within their local area through community engagement and bringing people from all backgrounds across the Warrington region together through the power of sport, which has tied to the community work they have been getting involved with as part of Mini Police.

Established in 2005, the Foundation is committed to "being the change" in the Warrington community, promoting inclusivity, well-being, and empowerment - all aspects of a harmonious community that Constabulary shares and promotes through its work with its partner organisations like the Wolves - through sporting activity.



Deputy Chief Constable Chris Armitt, joined by Warrington Area Commander Superintendent Adam Ross and Chief Inspector Neil Drum, also joined the Mini Police during the session, speaking to the pupils about their respective roles within the Constabulary and how they keep them and the wider Cheshire area safe, as well listening to children's own stories and experiences as part of the Mini Police initiative.



Deputy Chief Constable Armitt shows a group of Mini Police his medal ribbons and explains what they represent



Warrington Chief Inspector Neil Drum

Deputy Chief Constable, Chris Armitt, said: *"I would like to thank the Warrington Wolves' Community Foundation team and everyone at the Halliwell Jones Stadium who hosted our Mini Police here today and ensured they had a brilliant time. Our Mini Police should be very proud for how well they represented the Constabulary during the day of activities, which formed a part of the ongoing proactive community outreach initiative between Cheshire Constabulary and the Warrington Wolves Rugby Club. It is so important that young people feel that can come to police with any issues and know that we will do all we can to support them and, which is why events such as these are crucial in building the bridges between them and our officers. The Mini Police is a really special project that demonstrates our efforts in improving youth and community engagement across the town. This scheme allows the children to play an active role in keeping their communities safe and be proud of what they can achieve."*

Superintendent Adam Ross, area Commander for Warrington, added: *"It is a joy to have our Mini Police visit the Halliwell Jones Stadium and meet the team from Community Foundation and the Wolves themselves; the ongoing work our Warrington officers are doing alongside the Wolves helps to create real positive change within our town, making it a safer place for everyone. The key to positive and safe communities is a strong relationship between residents and their local policing teams and the Mini Police project has opened up the opportunity for some of our youngest residents to engage with everyone who calls Warrington home and be proud of where they live. It has ultimately made a difference to those who are part of this community."*

Peter Astley, Rugby League Community Development Officer, added: *"Late great playwright Colin Welland once said "Rugby league provides our cultural adrenalin. It's a physical manifestation of our rules of life, comradeship, honest endeavour. This encapsulates the power of the game and how it can be a force for good in our communities. We are delighted that our Police colleagues recognise the potential for us working in partnership to help support our communities and were very happy to support this Mini-Police event at the Haliwell Jones Stadium. It was great to see the Mini-Police having such a fantastic time, they are a credit to their schools and the dedicated officers from Cheshire Police who support them."*

The Mini Police initiative sees children from across Cheshire take part in activities assisting the community by working with their local PCSOs throughout the school year and help to deliver important community messaging about road safety, littering and vandalism. The initiative is funded by the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner and money seized from criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Officers strike gold as £13k worth of bullion found during Crewe warrant

Officers from Macclesfield and Crewe Proactive teams came across several gold bars and drug paraphernalia during two warrants in Crewe.

In the early hours of Wednesday 25 September, officers from the Macclesfield and Crewe Proactive teams conducted two warrants at addresses on Badger Avenue, Crewe. Whilst conducting the warrant, a police dog and their handler that had been deployed to the scene located a first aid box that had around 190 grams of gold bullion inside it. The bars in question are believed to be worth over £13K. Officers also seized a quantity of cash, cannabis and a number of phones from across two properties raided and arrested a 24-year-old man on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class B drugs (Cannabis) and possession of criminal property. He has since been released on conditional bail.

PC Tyler Edwards, of Eastern CID, said: *"This joint effort between the Macclesfield and Crewe Proactive teams has been worth its weight in gold, as their swift work has taken another suspected drug dealer off our streets. Warrants such as those conducted on Badger Avenue form part of our ongoing efforts to tackle illegal drugs offences in Crewe and we hope this will provide reassurance to residents in the area that we are committed to dealing with this problem head-on."*

Four people charged in relation to Cheshire burglary series

Detectives investigating a series of burglaries in Cheshire have charged four men in connection with the incidents.

On Thursday 26 September a team of officers from Cheshire Police and Greater Manchester Police executed warrants at three addresses in Manchester and Ashton-under-Lyne, leading to the arrest of three men. A fourth man was arrested at HMP Berwyn and taken into police custody. Following questioning the following four men have been charged with conspiracy to commit burglary and conspiracy to steal motor vehicles.

- Brandon Day, aged 20, of Longton Road, Manchester
- Aaron Gee, aged 20, of Victoria Avenue East, Manchester
- Joshua Irving, aged 21, of HMP Berwyn
- Mason Kenny, aged 18, of Lodge Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

The charges relate to 14 burglaries (13 in Warrington and one in Middlewich) which occurred between 5 February and 20 April 2024. Eight vehicles were stolen during the incidents. All four men have been remanded in police custody and are set to appear at Chester Magistrates' Court on Friday 27 September.

Man jailed for shouting racial abuse in Widnes

A man has been jailed after shouting racial abuse during the period of national disorder following the recent murders in Southport.

John Lefevre has been jailed for six months for racially aggravated intentional harassment. The 35-year-old, of Albert Road, Widnes, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 24 September where he was handed his sentence. On Monday 5 August, during a period of disorder across the country, Cheshire Police received a call reporting a man was shouting racial abuse at people outside a place of worship in Peel House Lane, Widnes. At 9.30am members of the public were gathered outside the church when Lefevre approached them in an aggressive manner and started recording them on his phone. He began shouting various racial remarks and verbal abuse at people in the vicinity, many of whom were asylum seekers waiting for the church to open to seek help with paperwork and clothing. Lefevre was subsequently found and arrested nearby. He was identified from footage of the incident and was ultimately charged. Lefevre also filmed the event himself, leaving him with no choice but to plead guilty.

Following the sentencing, Chief Inspector Daniel Haddock said: *"When the disorder started in August in other areas of the UK, we were clear that we would not tolerate that kind of behaviour in Cheshire. Lefevre's actions were powered by the national disorder, and he chose to target innocent people going about their daily lives outside a place of worship. The sentence imposed upon him 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 attempted burglary in Poynton

Officers have arrested a man from Manchester following an attempted burglary in Poynton.

Shortly after 3am this morning, Thursday 26 September, a resident on Chester Road contacted police after disturbing offenders who were attempting to force entry into his home. The men made off on foot before fleeing in a car which was parked nearby. Officers were deployed to the scene and details were passed to neighbouring forces in relation to the vehicle believed to be involved in the incident.

A short time later, colleagues from Greater Manchester Police contacted to report that they had stopped a blue VW polo which was displaying cloned number plates in the Glossop area of Derbyshire. Three men had fled the vehicle on foot, but a fourth man was detained at the scene. It was also confirmed that the vehicle the men were using had been stolen during an earlier burglary in Lancashire. The 18-year-old man from Audenshaw, Manchester, was subsequently arrested on suspicion of attempted burglary. Enquiries are ongoing to identify the other suspects involved.

Following the arrest, DS Stephen Joyce, of Macclesfield Proactive CID said: *"This was a great example of partnership work and intelligence sharing, with officers from different forces working together to arrest a suspected burglar and recover a stolen car. Burglary is a priority for us as we understand the impact it has, whether it's someone's home or someone's livelihood. The effect this type of crime has on the victims and the local community should not be underestimated so we will continue to make every effort to find those responsible and put them before the courts."*

Members of the public commended by Chief Constable after halting knife attack on elderly neighbour

Three neighbours who helped stop a violent attack on an elderly woman have been awarded with the Chief Constable's Commendation.

In the early hours of Monday 11 July 2022, Phillip and Geraldine Baddley were alerted by screams and the repeated sounds of a car horn coming from outside their home. They both immediately went to check outside and were disturbed to see a tall dark

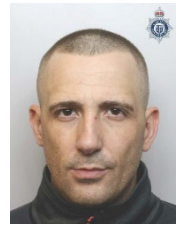


figure in their neighbour's driveway. The figure appeared to be trying to steal their neighbour's car, however, the reality was that he was attacking their elderly neighbour who was sat helplessly in her car.

Without thought for her safety Geraldine was first to act, leaning over her garden fence and attempting to stop the figure by grabbing hold of them and shouting. Philip soon took over from his wife, who then went to call the police for get help. Philip, also not knowing the severity of the situation and with little thought of his well-being grabbed the figure and held them as tight as he could, with a scuffle ensuing.

It was at this point that another neighbour, John Harrop, intervened upon hearing about the ongoing disturbance. John's immediate concern was that of the safety of his neighbour, above that of himself and his heavily pregnant fiancé, who was witnessing the events unfold from inside their home. Quick-acting John proceeded to tackle the suspect, pinning him to the ground, however, the attacker stabbed John in the leg in a desperate attempt to incapacitate him. Yet this did not stop him, with John having pulled the blade from his leg and advancing toward the attacker, who quickly fled from the scene in fear.

Cheshire Police officers soon arrived on the scene. They found that the elderly woman had 18 stab wounds across her forehead, neck, chest, abdomen, right leg, and both hands. The injuries had been inflicted by a self-made weapon consisting of two large kitchen knives bound together at the handles. As a result, she underwent extensive surgery, but thankfully, following many months of treatment and therapy from the intensive care unit, she recovered from her injuries.

As for John, he sustained a deep stab wound to his leg and was admitted to hospital, with the injury requiring intensive surgery, leaving him unable to walk for many months, plus a 9" scar that acts as a lifetime reminder of the incident. Philip sustained grazes to his abdomen and hands from the struggle with the offender. The suspect was soon apprehended and later charged with offences including attempted murder, grievous bodily harm and possession of an offensive weapon.

The trio's selflessness and bravery in the face of danger was rewarded by Chief Constable Mark Roberts during the most recent Chief's Awards at Cheshire Police Headquarters on Wednesday 19 September 2024.

Chief Constable Mark Roberts, said: *"Without their quick thinking and heroic, actions, the unprovoked attack could have been fatal. You are the epitome of amazing neighbours and the woman you saved will be forever grateful. It is without doubt that the selfless actions of all three brave individuals saved the life of their elderly female neighbour. They have been recognised by HHJ Mr Everett for their bravery and are indeed deserving of the Chief Constable's Commendation."*

Man arrested following cross border pursuit

Officers from Cheshire Constabulary have arrested a 27-year-old man following a pursuit across two police forces.

At around 2.45am on Thursday 26 September officers attempted to stop a blue BMW which had been seen contravening a no entry sign on Bridge Street. The driver failed to stop for officers and made off at speed. The vehicle was pursued by officers around Warrington town centre, travelling on a number of roads including Wilderspool Causeway, Mersey Street, Lythgoes Lane, Lovely Lane and Orford Road. During the pursuit the vehicle rammed two police cars and reached speeds of up to 70mph in 30mph zones.

<https://youtu.be/Li7-dlOQBkA>

The vehicle was subsequently stung on Lovely Lane, however the driver continued and made off, leaving Warrington and travelling into the Leigh area of Greater Manchester where he was brought to a stop in the Devon Street area. The driver attempted to make off on foot but was quickly arrested by officers. The 27-year-old man from Tyldesley has been arrested on suspicion of dangerous driving, failing to stop for officers, drug driving, and possession of cannabis. He remains in custody at this time.

Following the arrests, Chief Inspector John Forshaw, of the Roads and Crime Unit said: *"This was a great example of teamwork from different units across the force, each of which were pivotal in securing the arrest of the individual who clearly showed no regard for the safety of members of the public. This pursuit crossed into two separate police force areas, however, thanks to our officers working together, a stinger device was successfully deployed to deflate the vehicles tyres which reduced the speed and risk to others. Helping to enable us to bring their dangerous behaviour to an end. This should serve as an example that if you try and commit crime in Cheshire, we will find you, and you will be arrested for your actions."*

Day of action kick-starts retail crime focus in Congleton

Congleton Local Policing Unit officers were out in force speaking with local businesses about retail crime this week.

On Tuesday 24 September they visited shops, cafes, and pubs along with the designing out crime officers and North West Regional Crime Unit officers to talk about crime prevention, fraud and reporting crime. Each business visited received an information pack on how to report crime and how to use Nice Investigate, which is an online tool which makes it easier for people to send CCTV to police so officers can progress with their enquiries into a crime.

Nice investigate enables digital evidence to be requested, submitted and shared where necessary. The purpose of sharing via this digital evidence portal is to ensure crimes are investigated efficiently and our communities feel safe. Nice Investigate also reduces the need for evidence to be shared via physical media (such as discs and USB sticks). The process is intended to reduce the likelihood of lost physical media and offers businesses a secure, efficient way of sharing digital evidence.

<https://youtu.be/JGX5p0UPGsk>

Sgt James Bell said: *"Nice is vital for retail crime such as shoplifting and theft, especially now we have the use of facial recognition technology which increases the chance of identifying an offender. We wanted to take the opportunity to speak with our local business owners to help them improve their own security and to show them how easy it is to report a crime and send valuable evidence so that we can investigate their crime, identify the suspect and bring them to justice. If we've not been to you yet, don't worry, we are planning to visit as many as possible over the coming months, especially in the run up to Christmas, to provide the information packs and help you secure your business. And if you are unfortunate and need our help, you know that we are here for you and have the tools and expertise to investigate your crime."*

Congleton Town Mayor, Cllr Kay Wesley said: *"The town council fully supports our local police in their efforts to enhance crime prevention and protect our community. I encourage all business owners, especially shopkeepers, to take advantage of this opportunity and feel confident in reporting crime, knowing they have the full backing of the police. By working together, we can create a safer environment for both residents and local businesses, sending a clear message that crime will not go unchecked in our town."*

You can report crime by calling 101 or going to www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us/. If you are in danger or a crime is taking place call 999.

Illegal bikes crushed by police following crackdown on anti-social riding in Warrington

Officers in Warrington have crushed a number of illegal bikes following reports of anti-social riding in the town.

Operation HardHit was launched earlier this year in response to multiple reports from members of the local community of off-road bikers causing anti-social behaviour, riding without helmets in pedestrian areas and actively evading law enforcement on electric motorbikes. The initiative was designed to curb future irresponsible riding in the



area. Officers from the Northern Problem-Solving and Neighbourhood Policing teams have been working proactively to dismantle the groups of individuals intent on causing anti-social behaviour in the town, endangering themselves and pedestrians. On Wednesday 18 September, officers from Warrington Local Policing Unit crushed 21 illegal e-bikes, off-road bikes and quadbikes that had previously been ridden anti-socially or in pedestrianised areas of the town.

<https://youtu.be/OCm9MFP1k-k>

PC Dave Carr, who oversaw the operation, said: *"Over recent months, we have seen a considerable spike in reports of young people riding illegal electric and petrol motorbikes within pedestrian areas of the town, driving at considerable speed and whilst not wearing helmets - what they are doing is not only illegal it's also putting the lives of innocent members of the public at risk. The action taken here today as part of Operation HardHit is a positive and proactive response to concerns raised by the local community that will hopefully reassure residents that we will always listen to any problems they have, particularly when it regards a subject as important as road and public safety. We know that the use of illegal bikes and anti-social riding is closely linked with other kinds of criminality, and over the next few weeks, we will be stepping up our patrols and will be continuing to seize these illegal bikes - keeping Warrington's streets safe from those who think they can get away with flouting the rules of the road."*

Inspector Lee Hillyard, of Warrington LPU Neighbourhood, added: *"The unsafe and anti-social riding of e-bikes and motorbikes, both legal and illegal, within pedestrian areas remains a priority issue for police in Warrington and the destruction of these illegal bikes here today demonstrates that our officers are taking a direct and robust approach in reducing the harm these riders cause within your communities. Our officers will be carrying out high-visibility patrols in hotspot areas at key times across Warrington, targeting those intent on causing a nuisance in their community. Over the next few months, we will be continuing to work alongside local communities and our partner agencies in directly targeting addresses linked to drug usage and the anti-social driving and behaviour we are committed to putting a stop to. The message is simple: if you are caught riding an illegal e-bike or motorbike, we will seize them, and they will be destroyed."*

Anyone with information regarding the riding of illegal bikes, or the anti-social use of motorbikes or quad bikes in pedestrian areas should contact Cheshire Constabulary on 101 or [give the details via the website](#). Alternatively, information can be reported to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 [or via the Crimestoppers website](#).

Two drug dealers jailed in Warrington

Two men have been jailed for county lines drug dealing in Warrington.

Cian Pickett, of Dale Lane, Appleton, and Isaac Darcy, of Six Acre Gardens, Moore, appeared at Liverpool Crown Court on Tuesday 24 September, after previously pleading guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs. Pickett received a four year sentence while Darcy received four years and three months.



The court heard how at around 9.50am on Friday 9 February, plain clothed officers on patrol spotted Pickett who was believed to be dealing drugs in an alleyway near to Whitecross Road, Warrington. He was spotted again soon after entering an address on Broadhurst Avenue. Upon exiting the address, Pickett was quickly detained by officers and a search revealed him to be in possession of one wrap of crack cocaine, two wraps on heroin, and a quantity of cash.

Officers then entered the address to conduct a search when Darcy was seen fleeing from the rear of the property – he was immediately arrested. Following a search of the property, officers recovered a quantity of crack cocaine, heroin, a Nokia graft phone, and other drug paraphernalia. Messages discovered on the phone showed that Pickett and Darcy had been actively dealing drugs at county lines level in the Warrington area. During questioning, both Pickett, 19, and Darcy, 20, refused to answer any of the questions that were

put to them by officers. Despite their silence, they were subsequently charged with possession with intent to supply class A drugs and being concerned in the supply of class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine).

Following their sentencing, DS Alexander Reeves, of Warrington Proactive Policing Team, said: *“Warrington Proactive CID and our colleagues actively target county lines drug suppliers and as a result of this specific operation two county lines dealers are behind bars. This is a good result and I hope it acts as a warning to others planning to deal drugs in Warrington that we will always take robust action. Illegal drugs can have a devastating impact, not only to drug users, but also the community around them. Here in Warrington, we are doing all we can to stop drug activity on our streets to make the town a safer place to live and visit, while also making it extremely difficult for these offenders to operate. We will always act on any information about drug activity provided to us and would urge anyone who believes this activity is happening near to them to get in touch.”*

Two men charged following vehicle theft in Congleton

Officers from the Cheshire Police Roads and Crime unit have charged two men following the theft of a van in Congleton.

Shortly before 2pm on Tuesday 24 September police were called to reports that a Silver VW Crafter had been stolen on Sandy Lane. Officers attended and following a search of the area the vehicle was located at Heritage Marina. Following further enquiries, two men were arrested nearby and have since been charged in connection with the incident. Leon Crawford, 45, of Didsbury Close, Northwood, Kirkby, and Matthew Tyrer, 50, of West Street, Congleton, have both since been charged with theft of a vehicle and driving while disqualified. Both men have been released on bail and are set to appear at Crewe Magistrates Court on Friday 1 November.

Four people arrested and drugs seized following police raid in Northwich

Officers from Northwich Local policing unit have arrested four people and seized a quantity of illegal drugs following a warrant in the town.

At around 4pm on Friday 20 September officers executed a warrant at a caravan on Edward Street which is believed to have been used as a base to sell illegal drugs. During a search of the caravan officers discovered a quantity of class B drugs (Cannabis) and class C drugs (prescription medication). An e-Bike was also recovered from the vehicle, and several mobile phones were also seized. Four people were also located in the vehicle, all of whom were arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class B drugs.

Chief Inspector of Northwich Local Policing Unit, Leeroy Moss said: *“These arrests are a great result for the residents of Northwich and send a clear message that illegal drugs will not be tolerated in our community. I want to reassure the public we are doing all we can to crackdown on criminals who are operating in Northwich – this warrant being a prime example of this. However, this is not an issue that we can tackle alone, and I would like to also appeal to the local community that if anyone has any information about illegal drug activity or any other criminal activity taking place in Northwich then they should report it to Cheshire Police on 101, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 and we will do the rest.”*

The two men, aged 42 and 47, and two women, aged 49 and 46, have all since been released under investigation pending further enquiries.

Making Cheshire even safer – Police Officer numbers surpass 2,400 with latest recruits

Cheshire Constabulary has its highest number of police officers in over a decade after welcoming a team of new recruits to the Force.

On Saturday 21 September a total of 42 new officers celebrated ‘passing out’ at the force HQ in Winsford, and will now be on the frontline across the county. The intake means the total number of police officers in Cheshire has surpassed the 2,400 mark – the highest in over 10 years.



The ceremony came just two days after the latest Chief Constable Awards were handed out to deserving individuals who have gone above and beyond the line of duty, as well as officers collecting long service awards for 20 and 30 years of service. Recipients included an officer who saved the life of a vulnerable female after she became trapped in an unseen drainage channel, and another who prevented a teenage girl from falling from a building onto a railway line.

Cheshire Constabulary Chief Constable Mark Roberts said: *“Making Cheshire even safer is my top priority, and by bringing in new recruits we continue to achieve that aim. We are now at a number that surpasses any previous levels inside the last decade, and that is testament to the hard work of a number of departments as well as the dedication of our applicants. Crime rates in Cheshire continue to drop, and I hope that with this increase in police officer numbers we will see that drop even further, whilst bringing offenders to justice. We want to make Cheshire a hostile place for criminals – and those intent on committing crime should know that it will not be tolerated. I am proud of the work our officers do and the levels which they go to ensuring offenders are brought to justice and victims receive the support they need.”*



If you are interested in joining Cheshire Constabulary visit our [recruitment page](#) to see all the vacancies available.

Cheshire’s young drivers to be educated on road safety as part of national campaign

Cheshire Constabulary is reminding young drivers of how to help themselves stay safe on the roads as part of a two-week national campaign.

The force will be taking part in the National Police Chief’s Council (NPCC) ‘Operation Spotlight’ campaign focussing on the common causes of collisions involving young people. These include the Fatal 5 driving offences: speeding, distractions, driving under the influence of drink and drugs, not wearing a seatbelt and careless driving. The campaign will run from 23 September – 6 October 2024.



Overall, in 2023, almost 30% of all collisions on the roads of Cheshire involved a young driver or rider, aged 16 -29. So far, in the first six months of 2024 (January – June 2024), there have been 166 serious or fatal road collisions in Cheshire, with almost 24% of these falling into the young driver category.

Chief Inspector for Roads and Crime Unit, John Forshaw, said: *“Road traffic collisions in Cheshire are still a concern and something we are seeing and dealing with every day. With every serious and fatal collision, there is a family that is devastated by the loss or life changing injuries of a loved one. Keeping road users safe is a year-round priority of the Constabulary. Supporting this national campaign shows our continued commitment to reduce the number of fatalities in Cheshire, through the use of education and enforcement.”*

Educating young drivers and passengers remains a key priority for Cheshire Constabulary, and during the national operation there will be the opportunity for the public to take part in two road safety webinars. The first webinar taking place on Wednesday 25 September will be aimed at young drivers and their parents. The second webinar coincides with 'National Young Rider Day' on Tuesday 1 October, and is aimed at young riders using mopeds or motorbikes.

Chief Inspector Forshaw, said: *"Careless driving, driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol, speeding, not wearing a seatbelt and using a handheld device while driving make up our Fatal 5 which every road user should be familiar with, All of the Fatal 5 offences contribute to the casualties that we are unfortunately seeing on the roads of Cheshire. The majority of road users use the roads respectfully and adhere to the law but it is concerning that we still have some drivers or riders who are willing to risk it, in particular younger and newly qualified drivers. Cheshire Police will be out and about across the county to engage with young drivers to highlight the Fatal 5 and remind them of their responsibility while using Cheshire roads when they are behind the wheel."*

Man jailed for sexual offences against children

A man has been jailed after being convicted of historic sexual offences against children.

Philip Tomlinson appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 23 September where he was sentenced to 20 years in prison. The 56-year-old, of HMP Altcourse but previously of Leeds, had been found guilty of three counts of rape of a girl under 16 and two counts of buggery, following a week-long trial in June.



In February 2022, Cheshire Police were contacted by a woman reporting that she had been raped several times in the 1990s. The victim disclosed being raped on at least three occasions by Tomlinson, once in Winsford and twice in the North Wales area. Police then received a further report from a male victim, who stated he had been raped by Tomlinson. This second victim reported the offences took place in the 1980s in the Northwich area.

Tomlinson was subsequently arrested and interviewed in relation to the offences against both victims, but denied the allegations. Officers then conducted a lengthy investigation to ultimately get charges authorised against Tomlinson, while supporting the victims. On top of his custodial sentence, he is subject to asexual harm prevention order and required to sign the sex offender register.

Following the sentencing, DC Kelly Mitchell said: *"I am grateful for the sentence handed to Tomlinson who is now behind bars for his despicable actions. The two victims in this case have had to carry the horror of what happened to them for more than 30 years, and I commend their bravery in coming forward, especially as Tomlinson refused to take accountability and forced them to sit through the stress of a trial. 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 a sexual offence – 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."*

Appeals

Murder investigation launched following death of man in Northwich

Two people have been arrested on suspicion of murder following the death of a man in Northwich.

At 3.35pm on Saturday 28 September police were called to reports of a disturbance at an address on Brook Lane, Rudheath. Officers attended the scene, and a man was found at the property with serious injuries.

Paramedics also attended, along with North West Air Ambulance, but sadly, despite the best efforts of all those involved, the man was pronounced dead at the scene. The victim is believed to be in his late 30s, his next of kin have been informed and they are being supported by specialist officers.

An investigation into the incident has been launched and a police cordon is currently in place on Brook Lane. Two people, a 41-year-old woman and a 35-year-old man, were arrested at the address on suspicion of murder.

DI Eleanor Atkinson, who is leading the investigation, said: *"I understand the concern that this incident is likely to cause, and I want to reassure residents that this is believed to be an isolated incident and there is no risk to the wider community. Two people have been arrested and are currently being held in police custody. Patrols have been stepped up in the local area to provide reassurance, and a cordon is currently in place at the scene. As part of the investigation we're keen to hear from anyone who was in the area around the time of the incident and may have witnessed anything suspicious. The same goes for anyone with any CCTV or dashcam footage which may aid the investigation."*

If you have information or footage that could assist with the investigation, please contact Cheshire Constabulary on 101 quoting incident number IML 1928426 or visit [Public Portal \(mipp.police.uk\)](https://mipp.police.uk). Information can also be passed on anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appeal for information following suspected arson in Disley

Police are appealing for witnesses and video footage following a suspected arson in Disley.

At around 12.42am on Wednesday 18 September, police were called to reports of a fire at a public house on Buxton Road, Disley. On arrival officers found a fire which is believed to have started at the back of the building and spread through a window before being quickly extinguished by firefighters. The cause of the fire is believed to be deliberate, and an investigation has been launched.

DS Laura Fox of Macclesfield CID said: *"This investigation is in the early stages and we're doing everything that we can to establish what took place. Therefore, we're urging anyone who was in the area at the time and thinks they may have seen anything suspicious to get in touch. The same goes for anyone with any dashcam or CCTV footage which may aid our investigation."*

Anyone with any information should [visit the website](#), or call 101 quoting IML-1920792.

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