

# Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 17 May 2026

## Cheshire News & Appeals



### Latest Cheshire News

#### **Man jailed for 12 years for sexually assaulting woman**

A man who sexually assaulted a woman and isolated her from her friends and family has been jailed for 12 years.



Carl Hughes, of Barry Street, Latchford, Warrington, was sentenced on Thursday 14 May after appearing at Chester Crown Court. The 58-year-old had been found guilty of four counts of assault by penetration plus one count of controlling and coercive behaviour. On top of the 12-year custodial sentence, Hughes must sign the Sex Offender Register and is also subject to a restraining order.

In June 2022, Cheshire Police received reports of sexual abuse committed by Hughes. The female victim, who was known to Hughes, stated he would frequently turn up at her address and sexually assault her, ignoring her pleas for him to stop. The victim also stated that he displayed controlling behaviour, such as isolating her from friends and family, calling her names, putting her down, telling her what to wear and even attempted to stop her from running a charity race.

When Hughes was first arrested in June 2022, his mobile devices were seized, and these showed he had sent abusive messages aimed towards the victim and her family. Hughes was charged with multiple offences and despite his denials, he was found guilty of assault by penetration and controlling and coercive behaviour in February 2026.

Detective Constable Cameron Mackay said: *“Hughes has quite rightly been handed a substantial custodial sentence which reflects the severity of his crimes. I would like to highlight the bravery of the victim in this case for speaking about what happened to her and hope the conclusion of this court process will provide her with some closure. Hughes thought he could treat the victim however he wanted, trying to control her and subject her to sexual abuse. He even then attempted to deny the offences and subjected her to the stress of a trial. No one should ever have to be treated this way and Hughes is now behind bars after he was found guilty.*

*“If anyone wishes to report any similar offences, please contact us by calling 101 or you can report information to us through our website. We take all reports seriously and investigate them thoroughly.”*

#### **Man charged with drugs offences in Crewe**

A man has been charged with multiple drugs offences in Crewe.

Kane Hirons was arrested on Wednesday 13 May. The 26-year-old, of Sherbourne Road, Crewe, has since been charged with possession with intent to supply cocaine and heroin, acquire/use/possess criminal property, being concerned in the supply of heroin, and being concerned in the offer to

supply crack cocaine. He appeared at Chester Magistrates' Court on Thursday 14 May and has been remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court on Thursday 25 June. The charges relate a warrant conducted at an address in Fairhurst Road, Crewe, on Wednesday 13 May.

### **Brothers jailed following vicious attack in Macclesfield**

Two brothers have been jailed after they left a man seriously injured in a street in Macclesfield.

The men, both of HMP Altcourse, appeared at Chester Crown Court to be sentenced on Monday 11 May. Aaron Whittaker, 35, who had earlier pleaded guilty to S20 assault, was jailed for three years and four months. Haden Whittaker, 33, was jailed for eight years after pleading guilty to S18 assault.



Aaron Whittaker Haden Whittaker

The court heard that on 19 November 2025, the victim had attended an address on Fir Court, Macclesfield, with Aaron and Haden Whittaker. Whilst at the address, an argument broke out between the three men which quickly escalated. The Whittaker brothers then began their vicious attack on the 44-year-old man, beating him unconscious. The pair undressed the man and dragged him outside, leaving him seriously injured and unresponsive in the street. Police arrived on the scene and the victim was taken to hospital where he received treatment for seven weeks. An investigation was launched and Aaron and Haden Whittaker were both arrested a short time later and subsequently charged.

Detective Constable Tiffany Berry-Perkin said: *“Aaron and Haden Whittaker carried out a brutal and unjustified attack, subjecting the victim to extreme violence. This was a deeply distressing incident that has had a profound impact not only on the victim, but also on local residents who were confronted with the aftermath. Officers undertook extensive enquiries to identify and locate those responsible, building a comprehensive file of evidence that ensured both defendants were brought before the courts. I welcome the sentences handed to them and hope they provide the victim with a sense of closure.”*

Detective Inspector David Jarvis said: *“Violence of this nature has no place in our communities, and we understand the concern incidents like this can cause. We remain committed to tackling serious violence and ensuring that people in Macclesfield feel safe in their neighbourhoods. I hope this result highlights that those responsible for inflicting harm will be found and held accountable.”*

### **Man charged with multiple child sexual offences in Cheshire**

Detectives from Cheshire Constabulary's Online Child Abuse Investigation Team (OCAIT) have charged a man with multiple offences.

Thomas Avery, of no fixed abode in Manchester, previously of Wilmslow, has been charged with 36 offences, including causing a child to engage in penetrative sexual activity, making indecent images of children, inciting a child to engage in sexual activity, and threatening to share intimate photographs or films. The charges relate to an investigation into offences which occurred between October 2024 and April 2025, and involves 27 victims across the UK. The 19-year-old has since been bailed to appear at Crewe Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 7 July.

### **Man charged in Congleton County Lines crackdown**

A man has been charged with drugs offences following an investigation into County Lines in Congleton.

Ehsan Raza Shah was arrested on Friday 8 May at an address on West Street, Congleton. The 34-year-old of Swallow Walk, Biddulph, has since been charged with being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs, possession with intent to supply Class A drugs (cocaine), and possession of criminal property. Shah has been remanded into custody until his next appearance at Chester Crown Court on Monday 8 June.

### **Northwich man charged of multiple shoplifting offences**

A man from Northwich has been remanded in custody after he was charged with multiple counts of shoplifting.

Gary Bloor was arrested on Sunday 10 May following reports of a string of shoplifting offences at four stores across the town. Following questioning, the 43-year-old was charged with 14 counts of shoplifting and 14 counts of breaching a criminal behaviour order. The charges relate to offences which occurred at Boots, Iceland, Co-op Lostock Gralam and Spar in Davenham between Sunday 29 March 2026 and Sunday 10 May 2026. The total value of the items stolen was more than £2,100.

Bloor, of Parkfield Road, Northwich appeared at Chester Crown Court on Monday 11 May in relation to the offences where he was remanded in custody. He is next set to appear at Chester Magistrates Court on Friday 19 June.

### **Family of a woman who died in a collision in Moreton pay tribute to her**

The family of a woman from Chell who sadly died following a collision in Moreton have paid tribute to her.

Amarni Jessica Rose Walton, 20, was a passenger in an Audi which collided with a silver Range Rover parked in a layby on Newcastle Road on the evening of Friday 1 May.

*Amarni's family said: "Our darling daughter, Amarni Jessica Rose, was taken from us far too soon on Friday, 1st May 2026, due to a serious RTC, leaving behind a world less bright. Amarni was a devoted daughter, sister, granddaughter and girlfriend who worked hard, cared endlessly and loved fiercely. She loved being with her friends and most of all, her family. She taught us all how to love fully and live in the moment. Though our hearts are broken, we will try to find some peace in the beautiful and funny memories she left us. When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure."*



Officers are continuing to support the family as the Serious Collision Investigation Unit investigates the incident which occurred at 9.55pm on Friday 1 May. The black Audi had been traveling along Newcastle Road towards Congleton when it left the carriageway near to Little Moreton Hall and collided with a silver Range Rover. Three of the occupants from the Audi were taken to hospital

with serious injuries. Amarni was the fourth passenger; she sadly died at the scene. One occupant of the Range Rover also received hospital treatment.

Detective Sergeant Iain Condliffe said: *"I'd urge anyone who witnessed the collision and has not yet spoken to police to contact us. The same goes for anyone with dash cam footage that may help our investigation."*

Anyone who witnessed the collision should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via the [website](#) quoting IML 2320247.

### **Twelfth person arrested following serious allegations at a religious group in Crewe**

Officers investigating reports of serious offences alleged to have involved members of a religious group in Crewe, have arrested a twelfth person.

On Friday 8 May a 30-year-old man who is a Mexican National was detained in Croydon on suspicion of sexual assault by penetration and modern slavery offences. He has since been interviewed and released on conditional bail. An application is being made for a Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order against the man which is set to be heard in court next week. This follows the arrest of a 48-year-old British national on Thursday 7 May. He was bailed and as of today subject of a Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order.

The investigation began in March 2026 when Cheshire Police were made aware of allegations of serious sexual offences, forced marriage and modern slavery, involving members of a religious group called the Ahmadi Religion of Peace and Light. The offences are reported to have taken place in 2023 and involved one victim, a woman, who was a member of the group at the time the offences occurred. Following a detailed investigation into the allegations, officers conducted three warrants in Crewe on Wednesday 29 April, leading to the arrest of six men and three women. The suspects, who were arrested on suspicion of a number of offences, including rape, human trafficking, modern slavery, sexual assault and forced marriage offences, have all since been released on conditional bail.

Superintendent Adam Waller, Head of the Major Crime Directorate at Cheshire Constabulary, said: *"As this arrest shows, this investigation is still very much active and remains at a fast pace. We can confirm that the suspect arrested is also a known member of the Ahmadi Religion of Peace and Light in Crewe, and his arrest is linked to the original allegations which were reported to us in March 2026. These include allegations of serious sexual offences, forced marriage and modern slavery involving members of a religious group called Ahmadi Religion of Peace and Light in Crewe. While all the suspects we have arrested are members of the group, as we have stated from the beginning, this is not an investigation into the religion. Our investigation solely focuses on the serious allegations which have been reported to us. With that in mind, I'd also remind everyone that this remains a live investigation which will take some time, and I would ask that people do not speculate while the case remains ongoing."*

Anyone with any information which could assist with the investigation is asked to contact Cheshire police at [Public Portal](#) or call 101.

## **Man charged with assault in Warrington**

Officers investigating an assault of two men in Warrington have charged a man.

At 6.26pm on Saturday 9 May police were called to an address in Leonard Street following a report of an assault involving minor injuries. The suspect was arrested nearby and later charged with three counts of assault by beating and one count of possession of a knife. Gabriel Wecnyin, 24, from Leonard Street, Warrington is due to appear at Chester Magistrates on Monday 11 May.

## **Further Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order granted following serious allegations involving religious group in Crewe**

The eleventh man arrested in relation to serious offences involving members of a religious group in Crewe has now been issued with an interim Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order.

The 48-year-old British national was arrested on suspicion of human trafficking offences on Thursday 7 May at an address in Crewe and has since been conditionally bailed. An application for an interim Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order (STRO) was heard at Chester Magistrate's on Monday 11 May, which was approved, and will provide additional restrictions that will enable us to manage him and ensure there is no risk to the public and other members of the group.

A number of conditions have been put in place as part of Sajid Khokhar's bail conditions in addition to the Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order, which is the sixth STRO Order we have successfully applied for as part of our investigation into the allegations. Under the terms of Order, the 48-year-old is now required to comply with the following conditions:

- Not to enter Crewe
- Not to contact the victim
- Not to have any unsupervised contact with any children aged under 18 without the consent of the child's parent or guardian and with the express approval of Social Services for the area.
- Not to travel into or out of the United Kingdom in the company of any person save for his biological children
- No to organise any transport and/or accommodation for any person other than their biological children
- Arranging, facilitating or participating in any arrangement whereby individuals are required or encouraged to reside in any accommodation under their control or influence.
- Not to be in possession of any original or copy identity documents save those pertaining to themselves
- Not to be in possession or control of any bank card, payment card, sim card or mobile phone belonging to another person
- Not to reside at an address in the UK for more than 24 hours without reporting his whereabouts to the police
- Not to apply for, obtain or being in possession of any passport, national identity card or other travel document for the duration of this order
- Must surrender any passport, national identity card or other travel document issued in his name to a constable within 24 hours of this order being made.

This latest arrest follows a policing operation on Wednesday 29 April, where more than 500 officers from Cheshire Police, with support of colleagues from neighbouring forces, conducted warrants at

three addresses in Crewe following of reports of serious sexual offences, forced marriage and modern slavery. The offences are reported to have occurred in 2023 whilst the victim, a woman, was a member of a religious group called the Ahmadi Religion of Peace and Light.

Chief Superintendent Gareth Wrigley said: *"I welcome the granting of this order, and I hope that they provide some reassurance to the local community. Our priority is always the safety of the public, and while our investigation continues, these orders will provide additional restrictions to ensure there is no risk to the public and other members of the group. I would also like to reiterate that this is not an investigation into the religion, our investigation solely focuses on the serious allegations which have been reported to us. I'd also remind residents that this remains a live investigation which will take some time, and I would ask that people do not speculate while the case remains ongoing."*

## Latest Cheshire Appeals

### **CCTV image released following serious assault in Warrington**

Detectives investigating a serious assault in Warrington have now released CCTV images of a man they are looking to identify.

At around 11.40pm on Friday 1 May, officers were called to reports of an incident near to the junction of Greenings Court and Battersby Lane in Warrington. Officers attended the scene and found that a 44-year-old man has been stabbed in the torso. The man was taken to Aintree Hospital for treatment, thankfully his injuries were not life-changing, and he has since been discharged.



Enquiries in relation to the incident have been ongoing and as part of the investigation detectives have now released CCTV images of a man they are keen to identify. He is described as white, between 30 to 50-years-old, of small build and around 5' 8" tall. The man had dark blonde hair, which was brushed back, he was clean shaven and wearing a hiking style jacket with a light-coloured t-shirt underneath. He was also believed to have been wearing a rucksack and sports style trainers with reflective detail.

At the time of the incident, he is believed to be in the company of a woman, she is described as white, 20-40-years-old and with long dark hair. The woman was wearing a sleeveless dark coloured crop-top, light blue jeans with rip detailing around the knees. She may have been carrying a khaki green jacket, and large light coloured tote bag, and was possibly walking barefoot.

Detective Constable Ed Davy, of Warrington CID said: *"I'd like to reassure the residents that this is believed to be an isolated incident, and we are committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what took place. We've already spoken to a number of witnesses as part of our investigation, and I would like to thank the local community for the support provided. As part of ongoing enquiries, we're*



*keen to speak to anyone who witnessed the incident, or anyone with any CCTV or dashcam footage which may aid the investigation. We'd also like to hear from anyone who recognises the man in the CCTV images, we know the pictures are not great, but if you think you know who he is please get in touch. I'd urge anyone with any information, no matter how small, to contact the team here at Warrington."*

Anyone with any information in relation to the incident is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the website, or on 101, quoting incident number IML-2320317. Information can also be passed on anonymously via Crimestoppers, by calling 0800 555 111

### **Police appeal for information after a man was found with unexplained injuries in Sandbach**

Detectives are investigating an incident where a man was found with serious injuries in Sandbach.

In the early hours of today, Sunday 10 May, a 46-year-old man was found collapsed on Oldfield Road, Sandbach. He was taken to hospital with serious injuries, where he is currently receiving treatment. It is believed that he had been seen earlier in the evening on Saturday 9 May in the Cheshire Cheese and Barchetta establishments on Crewe Road, Sandbach. Police are now appealing for any anyone who saw anything of significance in the area during the evening to get in touch.

Chief Inspector Hannah Friend said: *"At this stage this appears to be an isolated incident, and we are doing everything we can to establish the exact circumstances of how this man came to sustain such serious injuries. As part of our investigation, we are appealing to anyone with information, CCTV, doorbell or dashcam footage which may aid our investigation, to please contact us. We are particularly keen to speak to anyone who was in the area of Oldfield Road, the Cheshire Cheese, or Barchetta, and ask that local residents check their CCTV and doorbell cameras for footage which may assist with our enquiries. We are also asking any taxi drivers, bus drivers or vehicles with dashcam to check their footage if they were in this area during this time."*

Anyone with information or video footage which may assist the investigation is asked to contact Cheshire Constabulary on 101 quoting IML 2325816 or [visit the website](#). Information can also be reported anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

### **Appeal for information following fail to stop collision in Winsford**

Detectives are appealing for witnesses and video footage following reports that a woman was deliberately knocked off her bike in Winsford.

At around 1.40pm on Thursday 14 May the female victim was riding an eBike on Mount Pleasant Drive, near to the junction of Caernarvon Avenue, when she was hit from behind by a green hatchback car. The car failed to stop at the scene and drove off in the direction of Swanlow Lane. The woman was taken to hospital as a precautionary measure but thankfully did not sustain any serious injuries. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and officers are appealing for anyone with information to come forward.

Detective Constable Hannah Clement, of Northwich CID said: *"Thankfully the victim in this case did not sustain any serious injuries, however the outcome could have been far worse, and we're*

*committed to doing all we can to identify those responsible. As part of the investigation, we're keen to hear from anyone who witnessed the incident or anyone with any dashcam or video footage which aid the investigation. We're also keen to hear from anyone who may have any footage of a green hatchback vehicle either before the incident, or after the car drove off from the scene towards Swanlow Lane."*

Anyone with any information or footage is asked to contact Cheshire Police on 101, or at [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us) quoting IML 2328497.

### **Police continue to appeal for information following deliberate fires in Crewe**

Police in Crewe are continuing to appeal for information on three deliberate fires in the town.

Officers investigating the fires released an image of a man they would like to speak to and are still keen to identify him. The fires in Forge Street, Electra Way, and Orion Way, occurred on the evening of Saturday 14 February. The investigation into the cause of the fires confirmed they were started deliberately. As part their investigations into the incidents, officers are reissuing a CCTV image of a man they would like to speak to.



Detective Sergeant Mitch Allford, from Crewe CID, said: *"As part of these enquiries, we are looking to speak to the man pictured in this CCTV image, as we believe he is local to the area and that he may hold vital information in relation to the incidents. Anyone who recognises him, is asked to contact police. We are also asking anyone who witnessed anything suspicious around the time of the incidents to get in touch with us."*

Anyone with any information in relation to the incidents, or recognises the individual pictured, is asked to contact Cheshire Police via the [website](#), or on 101, quoting IML-2271109.

### **Investigation launched following aggravated burglary in Warrington**

Detectives have launched an investigation following an aggravated burglary in Warrington.

Shortly before 11pm on Wednesday 13 May, police were called to reports of a disturbance at an address on Fairbrother Crescent, Poplars and Hulme. Officers attended the scene and found that unknown offenders had forced entry into the address and assaulted the 56-year-old occupant. The man suffered serious head injuries and was taken to hospital, where he remains at this time; his injuries are not believed to be life threatening.

Detective Inspector David Schofield, of Warrington CID, said: *"I understand the concern that this incident is likely to cause and I would like to reassure residents that we are committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what took place. From our initial inquiries, we believe that this was a targeted attack and there is no risk to the wider community. Over the next few hours, we will be conducting numerous enquiries in the area and are appealing to anyone who may have information or seen the assault take place to please get in touch. There will be local officers patrolling the area to provide reassurance to those in the community and if you have any concerns or information please do speak to them."*

Anyone with any information in relation to the incident is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101, or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), quoting IML 2328245.

### **Warning issued following keyless car theft in Northwich**

Police are urging residents to remain cautious following a keyless car theft in Northwich.

During the early hours of Wednesday 13 May, a white BMW was stolen from the driveway of an address on Bickerton Way. The vehicle was later found abandoned on Pulford Close. An investigation into the incident has been launched and officers are keen to hear from anyone with any information or footage which may aid the investigation.

Police Constable Tom Waring, said: *“Enquiries in relation to this incident are ongoing and we’re working hard to establish exactly what took place. As part of the investigation, we’re keen to hear from anyone who witnessed anything suspicious in the area. We’re also urging residents on Bickerton Way and Pulford Close, along with the surrounding areas, to check their CCTV footage between 2am and 4.30am on Wednesday 13 May, for signs of any suspicious activity. Anyone with any information, no matter how small, is urged to contact the team here at Northwich on 101 quoting IML 2327754.”*

While the investigation remains ongoing, officers are urging residents in the local area to remain cautious and consider following the security steps below –

- *Always lock your vehicle securely, even if leaving it unattended for a short time.*
- *Do not leave keys in the ignition or inside the vehicle.*
- *Keep key fobs away from doors and windows to prevent signal theft.*
- *Remove valuables from sight or take them with you.*
- *Consider use of a faraday bag or faraday box to secure vehicle keys.*
- *Consider using steering wheel locks or other visible security devices.*
- *If you have CCTV or doorbell cameras, ensure they are working and positioned correctly.*

Anyone with any information which may aid the investigation is asked to call Cheshire Police on 101 or visit [www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tell-us), quoting IML 2327754.

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

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