Avon and Somerset Police
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Taunton West

NEWS IN YOUR AREA August 2023

NEWS FROM ACROSS TAUNTON

Community Events

In August our neighbourhood policing team had the opportunity, in between the wind and rain to take part in the West Somerset Railway Steam Rally in Norton Fitzwarren and the Taunton flower show in the town centre.



Our team had the opportunity to engage with members of the public as well as educate the public on Road safety, including the effects that drink, drugs, and tiredness can have on your reaction times and sight. The various goggles that we have helped to simulate the effects and allow those onlooking to have a laugh whilst their family and friends fall over whilst trying to pick up various items set out for them.



We also took this opportunity to reassure members of the public and answer questions around local crime.





Meet the Team

Hi! We are PCSOs Marshall Bernhardt and Lyndsay Smith we cover Taunton West.

Community is at the heart of our policing, and we want to know about any issues and problems to make sure everyone feels safe. We are often out and about in the community so please do come and have chat when you see us.

Keep up to date

Facebook and Twitter are a great way to keep up to date with your local Neighbourhood Policing team. Follow us on:

Facebook: Taunton Neighbourhood Policing

Twitter: @ASPWestSom

www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

Get in touch

In an emergency always call 999

For non-emergency matters call us on 101 or report online via www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report

To report a crime anonymously, contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Anti-Social Driving

Unfortunately, since March we have received numerous reports of vehicles being driven dangerously and inappropriately that has been keeping the public awake most nights at various locations across the Taunton area, including Galmington, Norton Fitzwarren and Kingston St. Mary.



Since then, many residents have provided evidence to us which has assisted officers in identifying, where vehicles have been driven dangerously and or inappropriately putting other road users at risk of harm, as well as causing disruption to the wider communities.

As a result, many of these drivers have already been visited by officers and many more across the area are due to receive visits from us to be dealt with positively.

We ask that if you continue to witness such behaviour, please capture this via video where possible to assist us in trying to keep the roads safe.

CRIME STATISTICS

You can access and find out more about crime statistics near you by following this link: [Your area | Police.uk (www.police.uk)]

Did you know…?

The Knife surrender bin that was installed outside of Taunton Police Station and Council Offices on Belvedere Road back in May has already seen 13 bladed articles surrendered and taken off the streets.

Carrying a knife makes you more likely to be involved in an incident, and more likely to be harmed. The bin will remain in place, and we encourage more people to come forward and surrender any harmful object whilst remaining completely anonymous.

If you are concerned about knife crime, or someone you know is carrying a knife, you can report anonymously online via CrimeStoppers or by calling 0800 555 111. You will remain 100% anonymous and will not be contacted by the Police.

Find out more by visiting: **www.avonandsomerset.police.uk.**

Neighbourhood Surgeries & Events

The Skittles Coffee Shop, Norton Fitzwarren on **Wednesday 11th October 2023 11:00 -12:00**

The Hive Café, Trull on **Thursday 12th October 2023 10:00 -11:00**

Further dates to be announced as they are arranged.

Please note that while our officers will always endeavour to attend events and neighbourhood surgeries, this current period of high demand may mean that due to operational requirements, officers are unable to attend on short notice.

LOCAL PRIORITIES

Anti-Social Behaviour

High visibility Patrols across Taunton West.

Unfortunately, over the summer holidays there has been an increase in youth related anti-social behaviour with incidents in Norton Fitzwarren, Galmington, Bishopshull and Trull.

In response the Neighbourhood Team along with our Response colleagues will be out patrolling across the beat, to deter and disrupt this behaviour.

We ask that parents be mindful of where their children are going, what they are getting up to and who they are associating with.

Catalytic Converters

Recently there has been a spike in the theft of Catalytic Converters from vehicles across Taunton.

Although investigations into these thefts are ongoing, we are advising drivers to be weary and take simple and sensible precautions to ensure the safety of their vehicles, such as:

Parking your vehicle in a locked garage where possible, but if this isn't an option to park it in a well-lit and populated area.

Avoid parking your vehicle half on the pavement and half on the road, as this may make it easier for thieves to access the catalytic converter.

Suspicious activity in Trull and Staplehay

Regrettably there has been a recent spike in non-dwelling burglaries in the Dipford rd, Sweethay area.

Regrettably, the beat team have been unable to identify those responsible thus far.

Please ensure that you are securing your outbuildings and are not leaving valuables, such as bicycles or garden machinery out in the open.

The neighbourhood policing team as well as our Roads Policing Team are maintaining regular patrols, in and around the area.

If you would like support or any advice regarding these issues, please feel to contact the beat team via the get in touch section above.