Avon and Somerset Police
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Taunton West

NEWS IN YOUR AREA January 2024

NEWS FROM ACROSS TAUNTON

Neighbourhood Policing



This month from 22nd to the 26th January was National Policing Week, a national campaign led by the College of Policing to highlight, and celebrate the work carried out by our Police Constables, Police Community Support Officers, Police Staff, Special Constables and volunteers working in our communities to keep peple safe.

During the week, our Neighbourhood Policing Teams;

- Made 13 arrests.
- Undertook 47 patrols focused on anti-social behaviour, vehicle nuisance and buisness crime.
- Took part in 45 engagment events and visits to youth clubs, residential homes and engaging with our rough sleepers.
- 26 School visits, and 35 school patrols.
- 17 Bike marking events,
- Hosted 16 'Talk to us' events.
- 10 crime prevention sessions.

Other activities included supporting our rural communities, knife sweeps to keep public spaces safe and visiting vulnerable victims.

Unlike Response Teams, which primarily attend emergency calls that come through 999, Neighbourhood Policing Teams include a variety of roles and work within the heart of our communites across the region.

Providing a highly visible presence in our communities to deter crime and also to support and reassure victims of crime and anti-social behaviour, also developing community knowledge and realtionships to identify individuals and locations at risk of crime.

If you have concerns about someone or about crime and disorder in your area you can contact your Neighbourhood team, whose details can be found online at: *Your area | Avon and Somerset Police* or by calling 101.





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

Drug Bus

Recently PCSO's Cat and Brian from the Taunton Neighbourhood Team attended Bishops Foxes and Richard Huish College in Taunton alongside the Drug Bus, with over 200 students involved.



The Drug Bus, which is run by Resilience Voyage, is a unique platform that allows people to learn about diverse topics in a fun and engaging way.

The bus consists of two main parts, the upstairs is designed to represent a drug den, where discussions on various subjects such as knife crime, county lines, mental health and offending can take place.

The lower area is made up of replica prison cells, where people will be placed into cells and take part in several educational activities relating to substance misuse to get themselves released early for good behaviour.

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…?

That there is a tool to help you report feeling unsafe in public spaces.

StreetSafe is an online tool that can be used by anyone to anonymously tell us about public places where they have felt or feel unsafe.

You might have felt unsafe in your local area due to behavioural factors such anti-social behaviour or vandalism or even environmental factors, such as a lack of street lighting or abandoned buildings.

The information you provide will be considered alongside evidence already being gathered by police forces and will be used to inform and guide policing and local authority decisions around safety activities within your community.

You can locate a link to the StreetSafe tool on our website at: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk.

Neighbourhood Surgeries & Events

Due to high operational demands the neighbourhood team are temporarily halting our Neighbourhood Surgeries.

Further dates for Surgeries and Events will be announced as they are arranged.

Please note that while our officers will always endeavour to attend events and neighbourhood surgeries, operational demands may mean that officers are unable to attend on short notice.

LOCAL PRIORITIES

Vehicle Damages

Unfortunately, there has been a recent spate of vehicles being damaged in the Galmington area of Taunton.

Investigations are currently ongoing, however at this time those responsible have not yet been identified.

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.

Local policing teams are increasing patrols in the area, to disrupt and deter further incidents.

Shop Thefts

Recently there has been a spike in shop thefts across the area, including Norton Fitzwarren and Galmington.

The Neighbourhood Team are currently investigating these thefts alongside other units across Taunton.

Local officers will also be conducting high visibility patrols to prevent further thefts and also engaging with local businesses and advising on security and crime prevention techniques.

Anti-Social Behaviour

High visibility Patrols across Taunton West.

Although we have seen an overall decline in reports of Anti-Social Behaviour across the beat which is fantastic news.

The Neighbourhood Team along with our Response colleagues will be continuing with proactive patrols across the beat, to deter anti-social behaviour, as well as taking positive action before it becomes a problem.

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

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.