

Worthing NHW Newsletter



February 2025

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Neighbourhood Police Meeting

The latest Neighbourhood Police Meeting on the evening of Wednesday 29th January included an extensive discussion of Police redeployment and the ongoing efforts to control drug dealing and anti-social behaviour, with the work of the Turning Tides team also under discussion.

Sergeant Nathan Tracey said that the Neighbourhood Policing Team was being split between Chatsworth Road and Centenary House, and that more police in uniform were in evidence. More Police than PCSOs were being recruited; also, retention of PCSOs was not easy as younger PCSOs often want to become PCs, because this gives them increased powers.

It should be remembered that PCSO activity is not restricted to the town centre, with PCSOs involved in guarding forensic evidence following the fire at The Sussex Yeoman, and significant resources were also allocated when investigating a number of suspected attempts at arson at Victoria Court in Clifton Road.

During Operation Tinsel, which was aimed at reducing shoplifting in the town centre during the run-up to Christmas, there were many more foot patrols. Drug dealing was reduced with no significant impact or criminality hotspots.

Cases of anti-social behaviour had reduced markedly, mainly due to the bad weather. Such behaviours have to be tackled early on and street drinkers are being made to surrender their alcohol if they continue to misbehave following receipt of a warning. More needs to be done when implementing public space protection orders, as not all officers are aware of the powers available to them but, with the coaching unit merging with the Neighbourhood Policing Team, Police response should be made more effective. It is hoped that some more cameras will be installed where anti-social behaviour is at its worst.

Drug syringes with needles had been found in Amelia Park and these are a hazard for dogs and young children. Drug litter can be reported on the Adur & Worthing Council website where pictures of litter can be uploaded and the information is sent to the waste and cleansing team but, as always, the Police need to be informed so that they can decide how best to allocate their resources.

Tim Drew

Web Site: <https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/>

Bicycle theft

Bicycle theft continues to be a widespread and growing problem, so the Neighbourhood Watch bike marking team will be readying itself for plenty of new sessions once the weather improves.

Bike marking is free of charge and involves the bike's owner providing the team with details such as its make and colour and registration number, in addition to ID such as a passport or driving licence. Each bike is then marked with two QR code labels and the details recorded on the National Cycle Database; once you have been notified that this has been completed, you can upload a picture of your bike, showing any distinguishing markings.

That may not in itself prevent your bike from being stolen, but it does add an extra layer of security and improves the chances of the bike being recovered – and not necessarily with the aid of the Police. One owner found his stolen bike advertised for sale on Ebay, and got it back once he had proved his ownership credentials.

The sessions are usually two hours long and the team is happy to provide advice on bike security. In order to drive down the number of thefts, good quality locks are essential and Police-approved "Sold Secure" D-locks are recommended.

Street Briefings



Two street briefings will be held by PCSO Ann-Marie Rushworth and PC Saiduroviene this month, the first being on Friday 14th February 2025 between 11am and 1pm at Barclays Bank, Chapel House, 1, Chapel Road, Worthing, the theme of which will be scam prevention. The second will take place on Monday 17th February 2025, between 3pm and 5pm at the Police Pod, South Street Square, Worthing and will concern general crime prevention.

Fire service issues electric blanket safety warning following fire

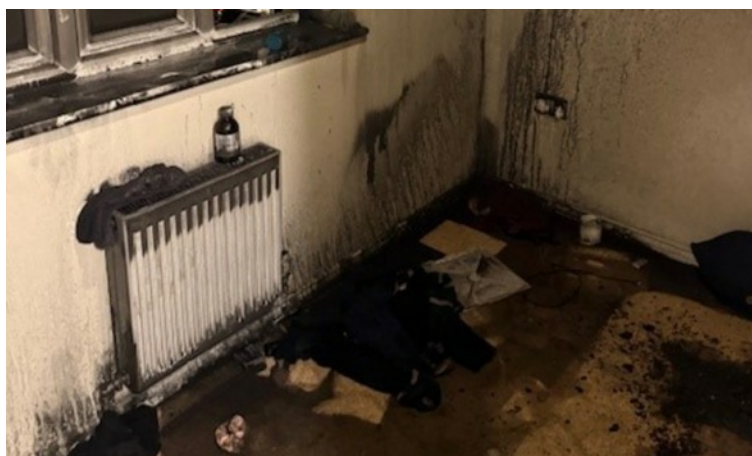
West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is urging people to close their internal doors and shut fires out following a fire in Chichester.

At 8pm on 5 January two crews attended a fire at a block of flats in Baxendale Road.

Upon arrival firefighters wearing breathing apparatus entered the property and located a fire in a first-floor bedroom.

The fire was started by an electric blanket laid on top of a blow-up bed, causing the materials to overheat and ignite.

Fortunately, the fire and 90% of the smoke damage was contained to the room of origin because the occupier closed their bedroom door after hearing the smoke alarm.



The occupiers then safely evacuated the building, and firefighters were able to swiftly extinguish the fire.

Anton Mezzone, Station Manager at Chichester, said: "The occupiers of this property perfectly followed every bit of safety advice we recommend in the event of a fire: firstly, they had working smoke alarms, they then closed the doors and swiftly left the property. By following this advice, the damage caused by this fire was kept to a minimum.

"We always recommend closing internal doors at night or when leaving the house, as this can prevent the spread of a fire and toxic fumes by up to 20 minutes.

"Not only does this incident highlight the importance of keeping doors closed, but it also raises awareness of keeping heating appliances away from flammable materials. While electric blankets don't use naked flames, the risk of fire is still present."

Safer Streets

The Government has set out its Safer Streets Mission, which is aimed at reducing violence against women and girls, knife crime and restoring confidence in our police service. Violence against women and girls in particular continues to proliferate, with 1.1 million people experiencing sexual assault in the past 12 months, 2.2 million people experiencing domestic abuse, and 1.5 million people experiencing stalking.

Integral to the Mission will be the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee, which will restore community patrols and enable Police and Crime Commissioners to prevent crime effectively. The changes will also ensure that policing has the national capabilities it needs to fight fast-changing, complex crimes which cut across police force boundaries, and to do this the Government will focus on:

- establishing a neighbourhood policing team in every local area, carrying out intelligence-led and visible patrols. The Government will hold forces to account for ensuring neighbourhood policing teams are protected, so they remain focused on serving communities. 13,000 additional police officers, PCSOs and special constables will be placed in neighbourhood policing roles.
- community-led policing with a named, contactable officer for every neighbourhood. Residents and local businesses will be able to influence police priorities for their area.
- clear performance standards and professional excellence. A new Police and Crime Performance Unit will be set in the Home Office, using high-quality data to spot trends, and improve performance standards. This unit will agree a single performance framework for policing (including minimum standards on neighbourhood policing), providing an important source of accountability for communities.
- creating new neighbourhood policing career pathways. New training for officers and standards for professional excellence will ensure neighbourhood policing is developed as a specialist policing capability.
- giving neighbourhood policing teams increased powers to tackle persistent anti-social behaviour. This includes piloting the new Respect Order to enable swift enforcement against prolific offenders, and a dedicated lead officer in every force working with communities to develop a local anti-social behaviour action plan.
- committing neighbourhood policing teams to crack down on shop theft, street theft and assaults against shop workers, thus reducing crime and the fear of crime.

Neighbourhood Membership



It's that time of year to check that your membership details are correct & up to date on the Neighbourhood Watch Alert Database.

If you received this Newsletter by email it means that your email address is correct and working OK.

You can log onto Alert to check your other details at one of the following entry points.

<https://members.sussexalerts.co.uk/Login> or
<https://worthingnhwmembers.ourwatch.org.uk/Login>

If you did not receive the Newsletter by email you need to register at :

<https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/Content/Pages/Join-Us>

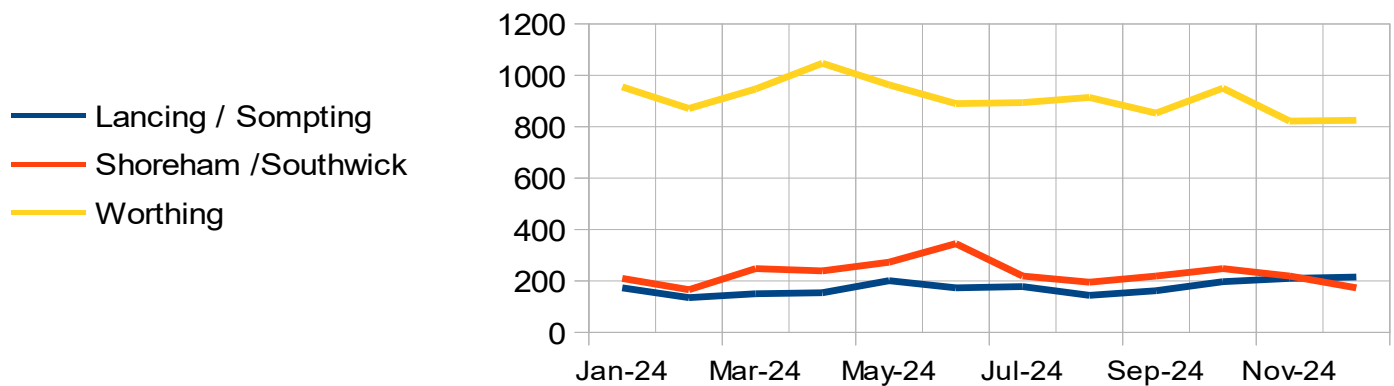
Our two websites for Adur & Worthing are to be found at :

<https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/> and <https://adurnhw.my.canva.site/>

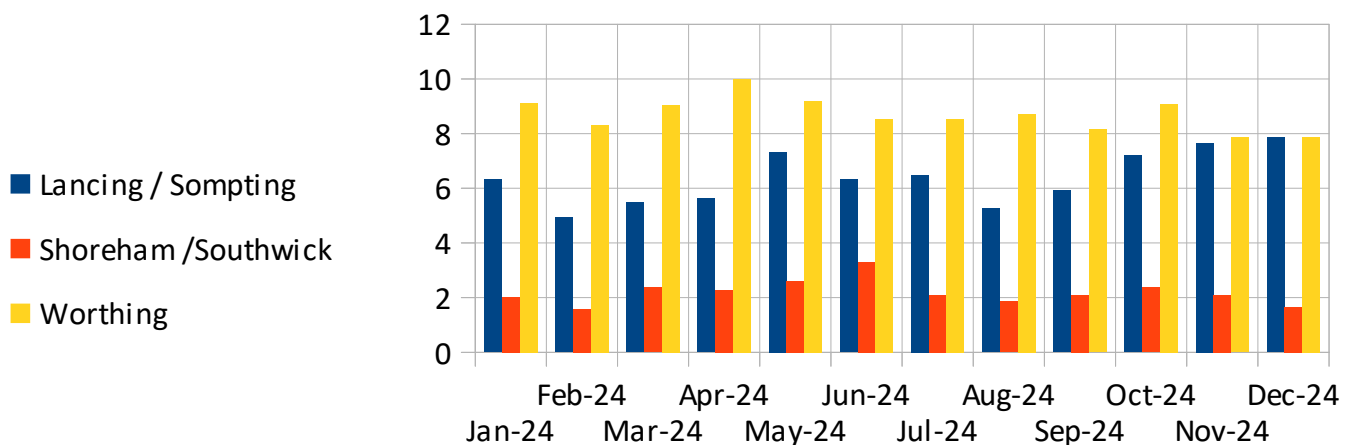
Crime Statistics for December 2024

December 2024	Broadwater	Castle	Central	Durrington	Findon	Gaisford	Goring	Heene	Marine02	Northbrook	Offington	Salvington	Selden	Tarring	Sub Total
					BN										
Antisocial Behaviour	5	4	21	3	1	2	1	8	1	6	8	5	6	4	75
Bike Theft	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	7
Burglary	5	3	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	2	0	1	1	0	19
Criminal Damage	5	7	23	2	0	6	3	4	3	2	3	6	5	3	72
Drugs	1	2	10	2	0	1	1	0	1	3	1	0	0	4	26
Other Crime	3	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	12
Other Theft	3	5	17	0	2	3	2	5	0	4	2	2	3	2	50
Weapons	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	7
Public Order	13	3	28	1	1	1	0	6	2	4	2	5	3	3	72
Robbery	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
Theft Shop	2	68	41	14	1	3	0	12	5	0	6	13	9	6	180
Theft Person	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Vehicle Crime	8	1	2	0	0	5	0	4	5	1	4	0	8	3	41
Violence & Sex Offences	17	14	70	7	3	12	10	17	12	29	3	24	25	12	255
Totals	62	110	224	31	10	35	18	62	33	53	30	59	61	37	825

Crimes January 2024 to December 2024



Crimes per 1000 of Population



See the latest Alerts at : [https:// worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/](https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/)