

Worthing NHW Newsletter



January 2026

Your Committee:

David Hansford	Acting Chair
Timothy Drew	Secretary - Treasurer
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Worthing Neighbourhood Police Meeting

Successful joint operations by the Police and Trading Standards to track down illegal and counterfeit goods, bike thefts, Operation Marble, civic enforcement, rough sleeping and the work of Worthing Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) were all discussed at the latest Worthing Neighbourhood Police Meeting on the evening of January 14th.

An intelligence-led operation over seven days resulted in six retail premises being visited, two warrants issued, and the seizure of significant quantities of counterfeit goods, hand-rolling tobacco and illegal vapes laced with cannabis.

A spate of bicycle thefts was reported, many of the bikes having been bought as Christmas gifts, and in at least some cases this was attributable to failure to secure them adequately. The Police recommend the use of two Police-approved "Sold Secure" D-locks (<https://soldsecure.com>) but a strong heavy chain is also suitable. Cable locks should be avoided because these can be severed without difficulty.

The Neighbourhood Watch-manned bike registration service is not expected to resume activities until Spring; details of the next exercise will be published on our web site and by email to our members. You can register to become a member at (<https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/Content/Pages/Join-Us>).

Operation Marble, which is aimed at preventing disorder in the night-time economy, has been re-assessed and invigorated, and licensing objectives are being fulfilled.

A private company (National Enforcement Solutions) has been commissioned to tackle dog fouling and littering. So far, 676 penalty notices (all for littering) have been issued.

The Council Outreach Team reported a significant drop in the number of rough sleepers, thanks to the opening of Skywaves House which is designed to provide 21 self-contained apartments for people locally connected to Adur and Worthing.

Worthing BID said that its radio network had enabled it to support local businesses and its body-worn cameras were producing good quality images. BID was working closely with Pubwatch and the Night Safety Marshals, helping those addicted to opiate drugs, and expanding the "Safe Places" scheme - these being places to which young people can go if feeling unsafe.

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

Putting children first: West Sussex launches partnership plan to keep children safe and help them thrive

A bold new plan demonstrates how West Sussex County Council and partners are delivering on our priorities of keeping children and young people safe and helping them achieve their potential. The new [Children and Young People's Plan for 2026 to 2029](#) outlines five key priorities designed to make West Sussex a place where children feel supported and able to thrive:

1. Keeping children and young people safe from harm

Tackling exploitation, knife crime, and online dangers while creating safe spaces in communities.

2. Providing early support for families in need

Expanding Family Hubs, parenting support, and holiday activities for low-income families.

3. Reducing inequalities

Improving school readiness, supporting young carers and LGBT+ youth, and ensuring fair opportunities for all.

4. Improving mental health and wellbeing

Faster access to mental health services and more support while waiting for treatment.

5. Supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Quicker assessments, more inclusive schools, and stronger family support.

The plan will continue to build on key successes achieved during the four-year period covered by the previous plan. These include:

- 10% reduction in the number of domestic abuse re-referrals made with children in the family over the past two years (Q1 2023/24 compared to Q4 2024/25)
- A 35% decrease in the number of children and young people involved in road traffic collisions
- Working with children and young people to create new online content to help young people to feel and stay safe
- Increase the percentage of education, health and care plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks
- Improved online safety training and support to parents, including online and in-person events

Councillor Jacquie Russell, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, said: "We are ambitious for all our children and young people. This plan is about working together to make sure every child feels valued, included, and supported.

"It will help map out how we can further enhance services and support available to children and young people across West Sussex for the next four years.

"I'm delighted with the progress that we have made and continue to make. This was reflected in the praise received from Ofsted inspectors who visited us in November and found we are getting better outcomes for children in need of help and protection.

"We will continue to work closely with groups of young people, parents and carers, school staff, health workers, charities and local organisations to keep children safe and give them the best start to life."

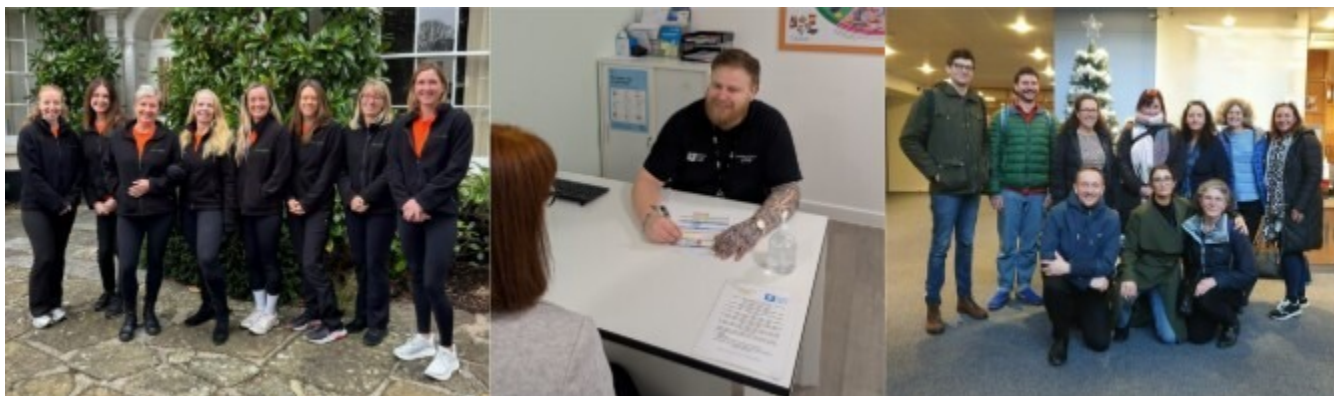
READ: [Ofsted inspectors praise county council's children's services following focussed visit](#)

Every local authority is required to create and publish a Children and Young People's Plan. The new West Sussex Children and Young People's Plan was shaped through extensive consultation, including feedback from more than 275 young people, parents, carers, and professionals.

It will be monitored and overseen by the Children First Board, a partnership of local government, health, education, police, and voluntary sector organisations, all committed to putting children first.

West Sussex Wellbeing

If you're looking to make some changes this year to support your health and wellbeing, look no further than West Sussex Wellbeing!



What is West Sussex Wellbeing?

West Sussex Wellbeing is a free service for those aged 18 years and over who live or work in West Sussex. Our friendly team of wellbeing advisors at wellbeing hubs across the county offer one-to-one and group-based advice and support to help you meet your health and wellbeing goals. These include how to maintain a healthy weight, drinking within recommended limits, stopping smoking, being active and more.

What we offer:

- **Up to three one-to-one sessions** to discuss your goals and how we can help you achieve them.
- **Group programmes** to help you maintain a healthy weight and become more active.
- **Individual options**, including:
 - Health MOT or [NHS Health Check](#) (where eligible)
 - Support to stop smoking
 - Help to cut down or stop drinking
 - Support to become more active, including advice on how to stay steady and to prevent falls.
- **Guidance on how to access high-quality digital programmes** that fit around work and family commitments. Your Wellbeing Advisor will work with you to agree the best type of support, along with a convenient time and date to begin the next steps of your journey.



How do I contact my local Wellbeing service?

Find your nearest wellbeing hub close to where you live or work, complete the referral form or alternatively you can email or call to request an appointment. If you have any accessibility needs, just let us know when you get in touch. We will work with you to ensure these are met.

We also have a wealth of self-service support and advice on our [West Sussex Wellbeing](#) website, for weight management, alcohol, smoking, being active, falls prevention and more.

Visit our website to find out more about the service, your local wellbeing hub and how to book an appointment with a trained wellbeing advisor: <https://www.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk/>

Local Safety Scheme - A24/A283 Washington Roundabout HT08 (25/26)

West Sussex County Council is promoting a Local Safety Scheme for the A24/A283 Washington Roundabout to improve road safety performance at this junction. There is currently a higher-than-expected number of collisions on the immediate approach and on the arms of the junction. In addition, a high proportion of collisions involve motorcyclists. The scheme involves changes to the speed limit on the approach to and including the roundabout, the introduction of visibility screens and partial concentric road markings. The package of measures will help to reduce the collision risk at this roundabout.



2025 National Crime and Community Survey

The results of the 2025 National Crime and Community Survey are in, and they reveal a nation feeling increasingly uneasy.

More than thirty eight thousand respondents shared their experiences. What emerged was that nearly 42% of respondents believed that crime levels in their neighbourhood had risen in the past year, similar to the figure reported in the previous year's survey.

This contrasts with findings from the Crime Survey for England and Wales which suggest that crime against individuals and households has generally decreased over the last 10 years, with some exceptions, such as fraud.

General feelings of safety have taken a hit, dropping from 80% to 68% in just twelve months. However, there is a silver lining for those involved in Neighbourhood Watch. Members report feeling significantly safer (76%) than the general public, proving that community connection remains a powerful shield against anxiety.

The top three crimes according to respondents were antisocial behaviour (66%), burglary (49%) and cybercrime (45%). 35% of people reported being a victim of, or witnessing, a crime in the past 12 months, which is slightly down from 36% in the previous year.

91.3% of respondents trust the crime prevention advice offered by Neighbourhood Watch - a result exactly in line with the 2024 survey - and 79% of respondents have acted on or changed their behaviour after engaging with Neighbourhood Watch crime prevention advice/information, a slight improvement from 78% last year.

Neighbourhood Watch members show higher levels of community engagement: they are 15% more likely to be part of a neighbourhood WhatsApp group (60% vs. 45%); are 15% more likely to chat to their neighbours "on most days"; and are 12% more likely to litter-pick in their locality than non-members.

As regards facial recognition technology, negative concerns included accuracy, problems with skin tones in imaging, invasion of privacy, and a general mistrust of agencies.

There was a slight increase in people reporting crimes to the police (53.22% in 2025 vs. 51.30% in 2024). However, mistrust is strong among transgender and non-binary respondents, with 80% believing nothing would be done if they reported a crime.

Tim Drew

Business Startups

At a time when obtaining gainful employment is becoming harder than ever, many people may be considering setting up their own businesses. But many new businesses never last beyond the development stage, for lack of the funding needed to get them off the ground.

The good news is that funding is, in fact, available for UK small businesses in the form of grants, loans, tax credits and private investments, But, as any fan of “Dragons’ Den” would agree, potential investors want to know that their money is going to be put to good use, so how best are aspiring entrepreneurs to set out their stall if those investors are to be attracted?

One source of guidance is provided by UKStartups.org, which is a private organisation dedicated to providing small business owners and entrepreneurs with guidance, tools and resources required to start and launch a business in the UK.

By following a process outlined in the website’s Small Business Startup Portal that you receive as a member, you will have the step by step guidance needed to launch your business within a month. With resources such as the Business Plan Builder, the Investor PitchDeck and the Funding Database, you will have exactly what you need to get started.

Developed by entrepreneurs and consultants, the Small Business Startup Portal contains the tools and resources needed to evolve your idea to become a full-fledged business. Whether you are brainstorming for ideas, beginning to write a business plan or looking for funding, step-by-step guidance is available to help you to achieve the next step towards launching your business.

Experts at UKStartups are included with your membership of the Small Business Startup Portal, and their assistance is available 24/7.

The cost of registering with UK Startups. org is £269. This is a one time non-refundable fee charged as an administrative fee, as well as a consulting fee. No other costs are associated with the service.

UK Startups. Org’s website address is <https://www.ukstartups.org/> and its small business advisors can also be contacted on 020 3880 8554.

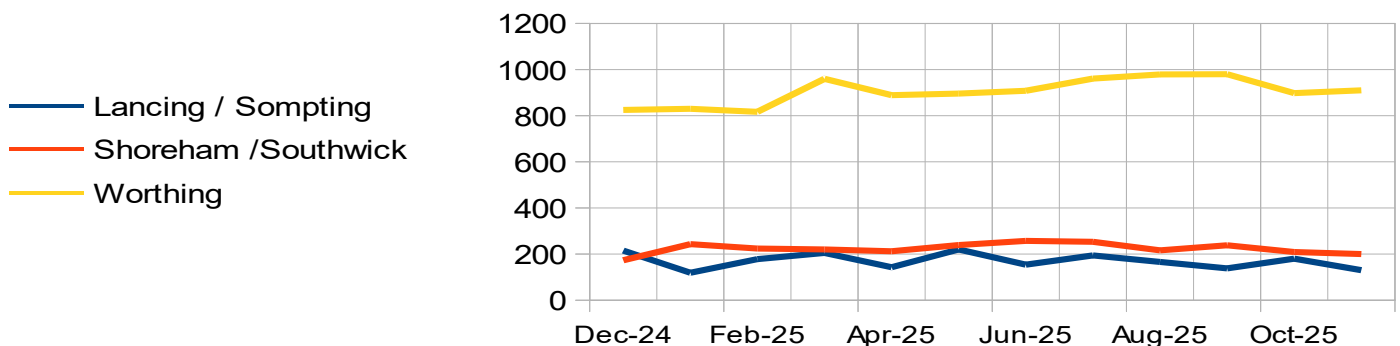
Tim Drew

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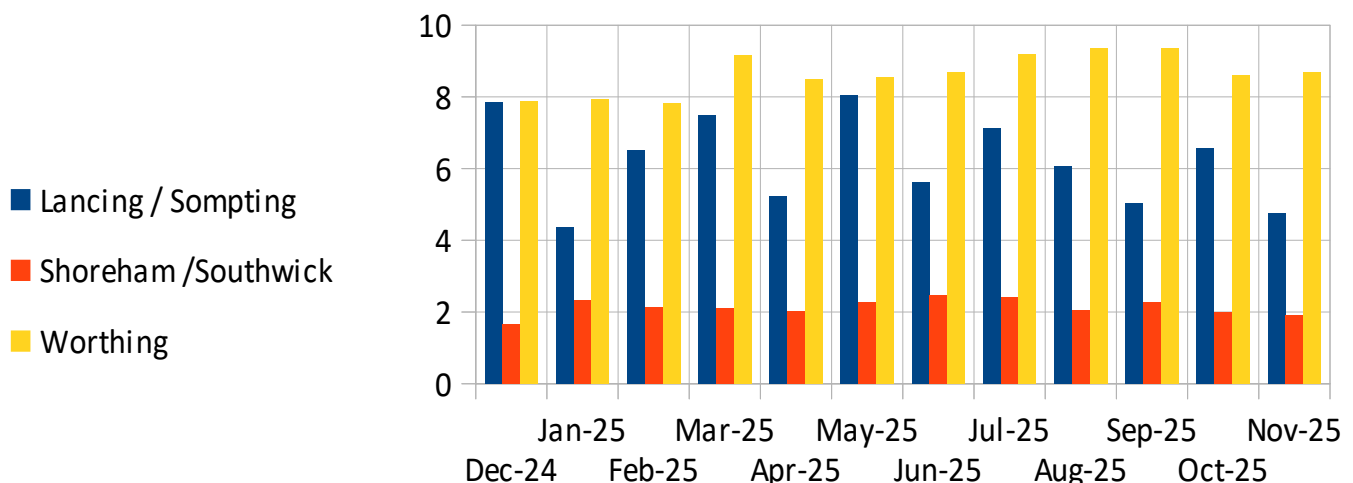
Crime Statistics for November 2025

November 2025	Broadwater	Castle	Central	Durrington	Findon	Gaisford	Goring	Heene	Marine02	Northbrook	Offington	Salvington	Selden	Tarring	Sub Total
					BN Codes										
Antisocial Behaviour	6	38	30	5	1	3	2	15	8	10	8	8	11	15	160
Bike Theft	1	0	10	1	0	3	0	2	0	4	0	0	1	1	23
Burglary	0	1	4	4	2	0	1	3	6	1	1	0	3	0	26
Criminal Damage	3	5	12	4	0	6	4	8	3	4	0	5	3	6	63
Drugs	4	1	7	0	1	0	1	1	0	5	2	0	0	2	24
Other Crime	2	2	2	0	2	3	1	3	1	3	1	1	0	1	22
Other Theft	5	3	7	0	1	2	2	2	2	4	1	0	3	0	32
Weapons	0	2	3	0	0	1	0		1	0	1	1	0	0	9
Public Order	1	2	28	0	2	4	1	15	0	4	3	4	4	3	71
Robbery	0	2	6	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	14
Theft Shop	14	12	20	0	0	2	3	71	13	0	14	0	8	21	178
Theft Person	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Vehicle Crime	1	2	2	0	0	4	0	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	27
Violence & Sex Offences	12	18	73	11	5	17	5	26	21	19	8	10	15	17	257
Totals	49	88	206	27	14	45	21	151	59	57	42	31	51	69	910

Crimes December 2024 to November 2025



Crimes per 1000 of Population



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