

Community Messages

30/11/18 - Relaunch of Neighbourhood Watch supported by Bromsgrove MP and PCC

Re-launch of Neighbourhood Watch supported by Bromsgrove MP and Police & Crime Commissioner

West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch, part of the Neighbourhood Watch Network community charity, is being modernised and relaunched, to involve communities across Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin and Worcestershire.

With investment from the Police and Crime Commissioner John Champion, and support from MP for Bromsgrove, Sajid Javid MP, new Neighbourhood Watch signage has been produced and customised to give a local identity to each town and village.

An online presence is also continuing to grow, with 21 localised Facebook pages already reaching around 400,000 people each month.

West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner, and Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, Deputy Lead on Citizens in Policing John Champion said "The way in which this scheme is moving forward, allows communities to be involved and play an active role in sharing information and caring for others in order to contribute to a safer, more secure society.

I welcome the modern approach, which can have a far bigger impact, allowing people to be involved in a way that is easy and engaging, whilst still retaining the very important local community feel."

Craig Cox, Chair of West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch "This activity has already started to encourage some communities to fund their own additional street signs and is giving a boost to neighbourhood watch membership. The organisation is changing and is seeking to involve people from all communities and all age groups. Community safety is everyone's concern and West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch is there to help communities protect themselves."

West Mercia Police Local Policing Chief Superintendent Kevin Purcell said: "We really value the work of the many Neighbourhood Watch schemes we have right across the force and are incredibly appreciative of the time the volunteers involved put in to help protect their own community.

"Neighbourhood Watch plays a vital role in supporting our local policing teams in making their communities even safer and we're grateful for this investment in helping our local communities play even more of an active role in supporting the work we do."

For more information on West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch and how you can get involved visit

<http://www.westmercianw.org.uk/> or email enquiries@westmercianw.org.uk

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/54638/Relaunch-of-Neighbourhood-Watch-supported-by-Bromsgrove-MP-and-PCC>

29/11/18 - Watch out! Scam telephone callers are targeting West Mercia residents

Folks,

Please be aware and remain vigilant, over recent days there has been increase in reports of 'scam telephone calls' being made to Hereford & Worcestershire residents.

Calls have been received from male(s) and at least one female, described as having Asian accents. The fraudsters are purporting to be from the Inland Revenue and tell the victim large amounts of tax are owed due to some tax miscalculation, if the victim does not pay immediately, bank accounts will be frozen and they are about to be arrested. The fraudster states, to avoid this happening, the victim can pay by purchasing 'Google Play' gift cards and give the codes from the gift cards back over the phone. Victims have described the scammers as 'very convincing and persuasive'.

Scammers love gift cards!

It's one of their favourite ways to get your money! These cards are like giving cash. After you buy them, the scammer asks for the code on the back of the card or an image of it. If you provide the code, the scammer can use all the money on the gift card. They'll likely spend it all before you can contact Google or the police. <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/a-z-of-fraud/courier-fraud>

- If you receive such a call do not engage in conversation - clear the line immediately. Remember **NEVER** divulge or even confirm personal details, give out bank account numbers or your PIN numbers.

- Report the call immediately to Action Fraud <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>
Tel:03001232040

- Before making any further outgoing calls, ensure the telephone line is indeed cleared from the fraudster, if you still unsure then use another phone if necessary.

Thank you

Sender:60268

Citizens in Policing

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/54614/Watch-out-Scam-telephone-callers-are-targeting-West-Mercia-residents>

27/11/18 - PCC: Report Highlights Strain Mental Health Places on Police

A report which claims mental health provisions in England & Wales are failing both patients and police forces, has been welcomed by John Campion.

The review by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services found that too often police were being expected to "pick up the pieces of a broken mental health system".

In the last 12 months, more than 7,000 incidents reported to West Mercia Police were related to mental health.

West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion said: "This report comes as no surprise. Mental health is placing a significant and preventable demand on police forces."

"Patients need access to the right help, at the right time. That currently isn't happening, as people suffer mental health crises that could be prevented through effective early intervention. At the moment, the police are often expected to deal with these incidents and they cannot provide the professional mental health treatment these people need."

"I will continue to work with partners to improve the situation, but it is clear that health services have a leading role to take".

"The Government recently announced significant additional investment in mental health. This is very timely and welcome from a policing perspective because, as today's report highlights, the demand placed on our force linked to mental health is neither sustainable, nor is it in the best interests of patients or police officers."

(Message circulated all WMP Community for info)

Thank you.

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/54492/PCC-Report-Highlights-Strain-Mental-Health-Places-on-Police>

Contact Details

West Mercia Police Headquarters
Hindlip Hall
PO Box 55
Worcester
WR3 8SP
101 (In an emergency always call 999)

