

# Teynham & Lynsted Ward West Downs Ward newsletter



## Kent Police

Get the latest crime statistics by visiting: [www.kent.police.uk/yourarea](http://www.kent.police.uk/yourarea)

May 2026

### Drop-in surgery at

- 10am Fri 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Teynham Community Hall
- 10am Sat 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Rodmersham Coffee Shop
- 10am Sun 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Bredgar Coffee Shop
- 12.30pm Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – The Net Church - Swale Foodbank, East Street, Sittingbourne.

**Please feel free to attend any of these drop in sessions, regardless of what area you live in.**

Your local beat police officer is  
PC Richard Divers 30702

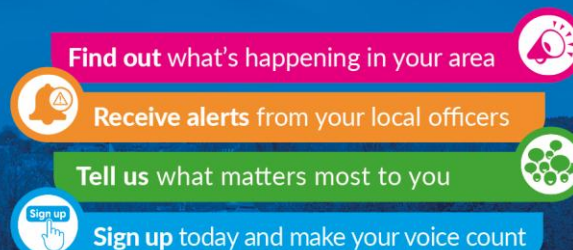
## Lets start with .....

### What are some of the results and what have we been doing this month?

- **Violence against women and girls** – Demonstrating the policing pledge principles and focusing on the VAWG strategy. A male is under investigation for child sex offences has had his car seized for no insurance, and whilst investigating this offence, another sexual assault offence was identified. The suspect has been arrested and the investigation is ongoing.
- Multiple arrests of prolific shoplifters, particularly at the CO-OP in Bapchild and Teynham. Two offenders were arrested, charged and remanded in custody. One offender has remained in prison until his Crown Court date this month for sentencing.

Other offenders remain under investigation and Police will continue to disrupt their behaviour and continue to gather evidence and pursue these offenders for arrest.

- Pursuit and arrest of a prolific burglar in the Teynham area. The suspect was arrested and remanded in custody awaiting court.



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- PC Divers and the NTF (Neighbourhood Task Force) Town Team, led an operation, to intercept offenders on electric off road motor cross bikes. The community have been getting terrorised for months, damage being caused daily in the parks, verges and those responsible being generally abusive and intimidating.

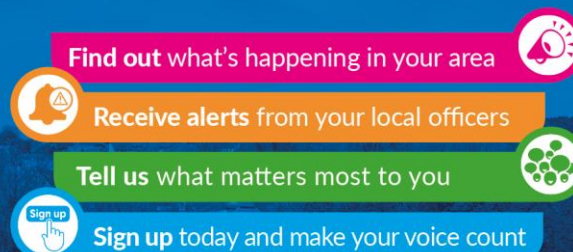
The issue was also identified among the My Community Voice survey top three priorities. Nuisance Bikes and Anti Social Behaviour. Recently a juvenile was caught riding a bike illegally and was caught by Police and arrested for failing to stop for a Police Officer. The rider was charged in custody for Failing to stop, driving otherwise in accordance with a licence, no insurance, no MOT and a Public Order offence (using threatening / abusive words / behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress)

These bikes are expensive and this bike has been seized and destroyed. The juvenile has been disqualified from driving (when old enough to legally drive) and been issued a fine. This a clear message to all of the community that the Police will not tolerate ASB and bikes being used ILLEGALLY in our community. The consequences are robust and we will continue to catch these offenders and ensure robust consequences are given to them. Hopefully this message will be taken seriously by the parents of these juveniles and the juveniles themselves, and that action is, and will continue to be taken.

- Police officers from the Swale Community Safety Unit set out for a speed enforcement operation to ensure our roads continue to be safe for everyone to use.

The objective was to stop cars for speeding and / or careless driving and to inspect for defects and to check for Valid Insurance and Tax. We were also there for bikes being illegally driven in the area.

Over a dozen cars were stopped, and our actions can include words of advice, fines, penalties or even seizure of the vehicle. I'm pleased to say no highly excessive speeds were recorded, 7mph over the speed limit was the highest, which is not acceptable, so we will be back out again soon.



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## Now lets look at what matters to you and what is being done about it:

### Your Top 3 priorities in your area have **changed:**

Kent Police have sent out another survey on My Community Voice to find out your top 3 priorities.

#### **Teynham & Lynsted Ward top 3 priorities:**

1. Fly tipping remains
2. Road Safety Issues remains
3. Theft / Shoplifting **has changed to Nuisance Motorbikes**

#### **What am I doing to reduce these problems?**

##### **Fly tipping:**

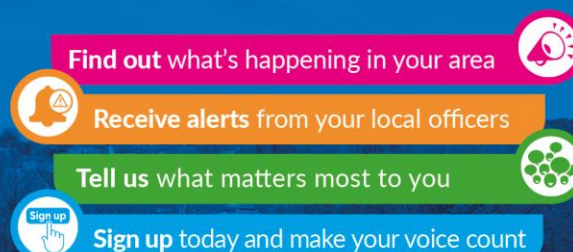
- Increase patrol visibility in hotspots.
- Work with council for signage and CCTV.
- Community engagement: encourage reporting via online portals.

##### **Road Safety Issues:**

- Speed checks and enforcement.
- Partner with Highways for signage and road markings.
- Education campaigns in schools and social media / MCV

##### **Nuisance Motor Bikes:**

- High-visibility patrols at identified peak times.
- Stop checks where safe and proportionate.
- Use of Section 59 Police Reform Act 2002 warnings and vehicle seizure where criteria met.
- Intelligence submissions completed regarding riders and bike storage locations.



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- Engagement with council ASB team and housing providers regarding environmental measures.
- Reassurance patrols conducted and community updates provided.

### West Downs Ward top 3 priorities:

1. Road Safety
2. Highway Obstruction (e.g. dangerous parking, parking on pavements)
3. ASB / Nuisance Bikes has been **changed to Fly Tipping**

### What am I doing to reduce these problems?

#### Road Safety:

- Work with Parish council and local councillors to deploy speed enforcement operations (e.g., Speedwatch).
- Work with council for improved signage and traffic calming measures.
- Community education campaigns.
- Regular patrols and speed gun ops

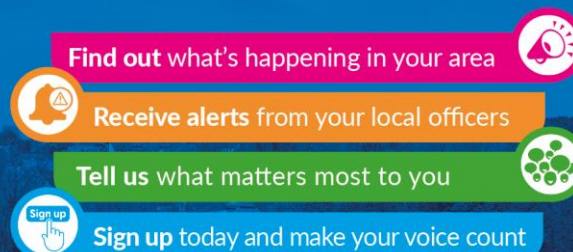
#### Highway Obstruction:

- Targeted patrols and enforcement for illegal parking.
- Issues warning letters and words of advice, and if this is not followed then issue Traffic Offence Reports (points and a fine and / or seizure of vehicle).
- Liaise with local authority for removal of abandoned vehicles.

#### Fly Tipping:

##### Enforcement

- Joint patrols with Local Authority Environmental Enforcement Officers at hotspot locations.
- Targeted patrols during identified peak times.



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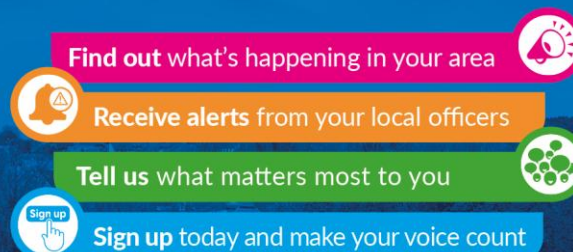
- Stop checks on vehicles suspected of illegal waste transport (where lawful).

#### Use of existing powers:

- Section 33 Environmental Protection Act 1990 offences
- Seizure of vehicles (where threshold met)
- Support council prosecutions with police statements and evidence.

#### Prevention

- Improved lighting where feasible
- Temporary barriers / bollards at access points
- Increased signage warning of penalties and surveillance
- Check waste carrier licences
- Encourage residents to Report fly-tipping promptly and accurately



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