

Worthing NHW Newsletter



August 2025

Your Committee:

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Town Neighbourhood Police Meeting

The Safer Streets Summer initiative, the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee and success in the war against shoplifting all featured in the most recent Town Neighbourhood Police meeting on Wednesday 23rd July.

Safer Streets Summer is a national campaign, supported by the Home Office, to tackle crime, shoplifting and anti-social behaviour in town centres throughout the summer and until the end of September. In Worthing it will involve increased visible police patrols and officers working directly with businesses and the community to tackle issues, particularly in the town centre, Victoria Park and Montague Street. A Violence Reduction scheme, for which funding will be available, is being trialled in Victoria Park and is aimed at getting young people involved in activities such as boxing and football.

The Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee is a government initiative in England and Wales aimed at ensuring every community has dedicated police teams that are visible and responsive to local issues. It focuses on restoring public confidence in policing by providing named officers for neighbourhoods and increasing Police presence in community areas. The Police will guarantee that neighbourhood queries will get a response within 72 hours and the Government will be holding forces to account.

The method by which neighbourhood policing priorities are decided will involve moving away from monthly meetings in parish wards, which have often been sparsely attended and tended to focus on dog fouling and pavement cycling. Instead, the Police are liaising with councillors for news of events such as Residents' Association meetings which they can attend, and you can also publicise your own event on the Sussex Police website.

Operation Apprentice, the Sussex-wide operation to tackle prolific shoplifters, has led to a series of key arrests and charges. As a result, the level of offences has fallen and more prison sentences are being levied. Worthing was one of the worst places when it came to shoplifting but now has a dedicated Sergeant in charge and is going in the right direction.

Additionally, Wickes has been hosting tool marking events using SelectaDNA coding tool marking kits, and a similar event is to be booked at Shoreham.

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

Motor Bike & Moped Thefts

The Police are continuing to receive reports of motorbike and moped thefts locally, particularly 125cc models. Most of these thefts are happening overnight in residential streets and driveways, with thieves targeting bikes that are left unsecured or in easy-to-access locations.

The Police recommend the following steps when it comes to protecting your bike:

- Use a disc lock on your front wheel
- Chain your bike to a solid object or ground anchor
- Park in well-lit, secure areas, or inside a garage if possible
- Use a bike cover to keep it out of sight
- Never leave helmets or accessories on show
- Mark and register your bike with schemes like Bike Register

Operation Crackdown

An initiative by Sussex Police that allows the public to report instances of anti-social driving and abandoned vehicles, has recently issued a reminder that, contrary to popular belief, the Police do not just send a warning letter and nothing else. In fact, every report is reviewed and logged, and repeated reports about the same driver or vehicle can lead to police visits, penalty notices, or even prosecution when evidence supports it.

PCSOs have Section 59 powers. This means that, if a vehicle is used anti-socially, a PCSO can issue a formal warning. If the same driver or vehicle is reported again within 12 months, the vehicle can be seized.

Your reports matter because they help the Police to identify hotspots, dangerous drivers, and tackle behaviour before it escalates. So, if you do see careless or anti-social driving, please keep reporting it – your information could result in lives being saved.

SUSSEX SAFE SPACE SCHEME



The OPCC is actively working to expand the scheme to include a wider range of businesses and other publicly accessible venues, and would greatly value your support in raising awareness of the initiative and in helping to identify suitable locations, including local businesses, that may be approved as designated safe spaces.

While the OPCC welcomes applications from all suitable spaces, it is particularly focusing on the following:

- Late-night Safe Spaces that support the night-time economy to assist individuals who may be at risk during evening hours. Given that many businesses and existing safe spaces are not open during the evening or night-time economy, there is a requirement to identify additional safe spaces for individuals to go if they are feeling unsafe whilst out. This could include 24/7 petrol stations, hotels, council buildings/community spaces, religious venues, or other publicly accessible eligible establishments.
- Identifying spaces that are able to assist vulnerable women, LGBTQ+, religious and other protected groups.
- Targeting areas where feelings of unsafety have been reported, but no safe spaces are currently available (Yapton, Billingshurst, Steyning and Wadhurst/Turners Green).
- Creating spaces in Hastings, Horsham, Worthing, River Arun and Crawley, where high levels of feeling unsafe have been reported.
- Identifying additional spaces in Eastbourne North, Littlehampton, St Leonards, Chichester, Brighton West, Brighton East, Brighton Central and Bognor – these are the areas where the highest crime increase has been recorded.

Further details about the scheme and how to sign up are available via the website:
www.safespacesussex.org.uk

Winter Fuel Scams

We are not yet through with Summer, but already the winter fuel scams are going the rounds. We are seeing an increase in fraudulent texts, emails, and direct messages claiming to be from banks, delivery companies, and even government departments. This scam is part of a broader surge in fraudulent activity targeting vulnerable people, particularly older adults on low incomes.

While some of the messages may appear legitimate at first glance, they use a fraudulent domain ending in “.cfd” rather than the Government’s secure “.gov.uk”, and reference the previous years’ application, rather than the upcoming one – this is a clear indication that they are fraudulent. Another clue is that they refer to the Winter Heating Allowance instead of the Winter Fuel Payment.

In any event:

- Do not click on links from unknown or suspicious sources.
- Never share personal or banking details in response to an unsolicited message.
- Take your time: criminals often create a false sense of urgency to pressure you into acting quickly.

Additionally, forward scam texts to 7726 (free) and report scam emails to report@phishing.gov.uk, and always verify information with the official organisation before taking action.

Cybercrime

With the UK economy losing around £27bn a year due to cybercrime, Brighton & Hove Police are delivering weekly interactive webinars on a variety of topics, some of which are aimed at businesses and charities and address the latest cyber security measures such as phishing awareness, protecting against ransomware and business continuity. Parents and guardians can also learn all about keeping children safe online, with the sessions covering social media, parental controls, gaming, digital footprints, trackers, AI and much more.

The topics (each of which finishes with a “Q and A” session) include:

- Online Safety for Beginners
- Keeping Children Safe Online
- The Dangers of AI
- Cyber Security for Businesses: Threats you must address this year
- Online Safety for Women and Girls
- Cyber Security for Charities
- Special Sessions (i.e. Crypto-currencies)

Discover more on all upcoming cyber webinars and sign up on <https://orlo.uk/crFPA>

Resolve

The UK’s leading community safety experts, have recently launched the 2026 National ASB Awards and are inviting organisations and individuals to compete. There may be a particular project or partnership that has helped tackle antisocial behaviour in your area, empowered the community to help, or perhaps a specific problem was dealt with and resolved because of the work done by local volunteers.

You have until 31st August 2025 to make your nomination on:

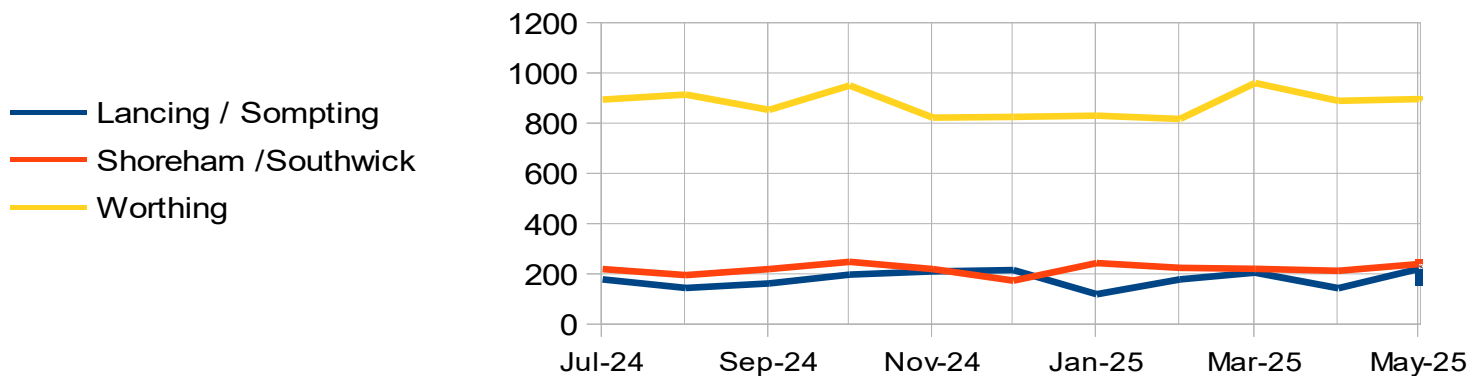
<https://www.resolveuk.org.uk/>

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

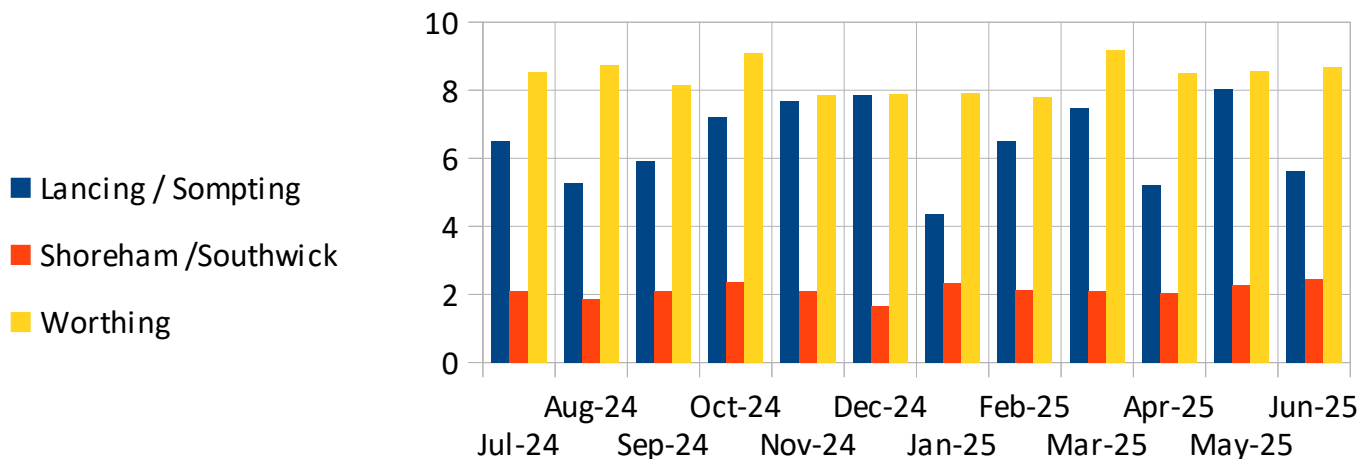
Crime Statistics for June 2025

June 2025	Broadwater	Castle	Central	Durrington	Findon	Gaisford	Goring	Heene	Marine02	Northbrook	Offington	Salvington	Selden	Tarring	Sub Total
					BN Codes										
Antisocial Behaviour	9	11	40	5	2	4	8	20	13	49	4	10	6	7	188
Bike Theft	1	0	5	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1		11
Burglary	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	4	1	0	0	0	5	1	17
Criminal Damage	3	0	5	1	1	6	3	3	1	9	0	3	9	2	46
Drugs	0	3	8	0	0	2	0	0	1	6	0	0	1	2	23
Other Crime	1	1	3	4	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	15
Other Theft	3	4	5	0	0	1	3	1	6	1	1	2	1	2	30
Weapons	0	1	3	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	12
Public Order	8	6	32	1	0	2	2	4	1	8	5	3	9	8	89
Robbery	0	1	4	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0		10
Theft Shop	4	28	22	1	0	5	2	15	9	1	7	1	4	20	119
Theft Person	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		4
Vehicle Crime	2	4	9	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	3	1	26
Violence & Sex Offences	24	16	88	11	7	31	3	22	14	33	8	17	24	20	318
Totals	56	76	228	25	11	58	25	75	48	109	28	39	63	67	908

Crimes July 2024 to June 2025



Crimes per 1000 of Population



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