



On the beat in
Stourport-On-Severn

February
2026

What have the team been doing?

Police warning after damage caused to Hartlebury Common



Officers are warning people not to ride an off-road bike or drive a 4x4 on Hartlebury Common following recent reports of damage caused to the protected land. Patrols are being stepped up to halt a rise in cases of the landscape – which is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) - being ripped up by quad bikes and cars, as well as incidents of fly-tipping.

Working with our partners at Worcestershire County Council and Wyre Forest District Council, Droitwich Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) and Stourport SNT met them at the site this week to assess the damage and continue with joint efforts to protect it.

Police Sergeant Cathy Atkinson of Droitwich SNT, whose team area includes the parts of the Common affected, said: “We have reviewed the damage caused to the site, caused by off road bikes and 4x4 vehicles, as well as the fly tipping and discussions were held about protecting the land, working together with support from partners.

“Further visits and patrols will be conducted, and we are warning members of the public that if anyone is witnessed causing damage to the land, then they can be fined by the council.

“Anyone caught driving on the land will be dealt with by police for traffic offences. Vehicles may also be seized.”

Our partners at the county and district councils gave officers an update on their work to monitor, enforce, clear and prevent persistent fly-tipping on the Common, particularly the track connecting Watery Lane with Broach Road, which provides a legal right of access to residents in the bungalows at the Broach Road end, but which is currently blocked with fly-tipped waste. They are also looking at costing to upgrade the current CCTV system to add two new cameras to monitor the length of the track where it borders a managed travelling community site.

Police will continue meetings with partners about the damage caused to Hartlebury Common in the coming weeks and months.

Anyone who witnesses anyone driving off-roaders or road vehicles on the site is encouraged to report it to us via 101 or our website at [Report a crime | West Mercia Police](#) .

Operation Whiteford

On Wednesday 21st January officers from Stourport Safer Neighbourhood Team joined forces with Bewdley Safer Neighbourhood Team to conduct a joint operation targeting the use of illegal E-bikes, off road bikes and scooters.

We are pleased to report that there were no bikes or scooters spotted in the Bewdley or Stourport area. Whilst we may not have seen any during this operation we are still aware that they are used illegally and we will continue to crack down on there use.



Good news

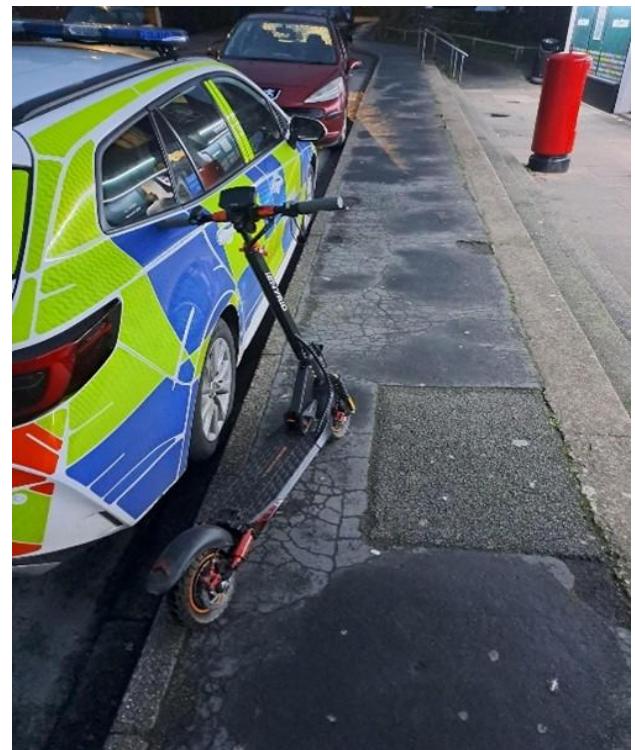


On Friday 23rd January Stourport safer neighbourhood team visited MT Plumbing and Heating, Lombard Street, Stourport to issue Smart Water to their workforce.

Smart Water is a property marking liquid which enables police to return found items to their owners by reading the code on the Smart Water. If you are interested in marking your property with Smart Water please email stourport.snt@westmercia.police.uk

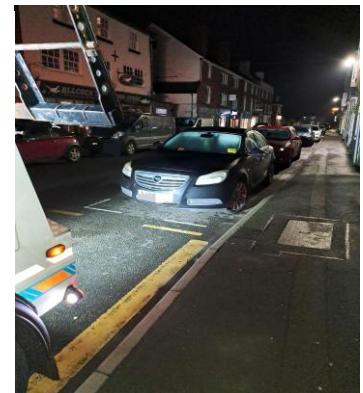
Whilst on patrol on Saturday 24th January officers identified an uninsured driver. The vehicle was subsequently seized and the driver reported for the offences. Insurance is a legal requirement. If you're getting behind the wheel, make sure you're covered. Officers seized an E Scooter on the same evening which was being ridden illegally on the Walshes Estate, Stourport.

As there are no legal schemes in place in Herefordshire or Worcestershire, e-scooters can only be ridden on private land with the permission of the landowner. West Mercia Police are actively trying to reduce the anti-social behaviour caused in the community by the illegal use of e-scooters, as well as raising awareness of the law. Anyone found using them in public areas risks having the e-scooter seized by the police .



Whilst on evening patrols on Wednesday 28th February officers came across a vehicle parked on York St in Stourport. Checks were conducted on the vehicle which showed the vehicle was not tax'd. Vehicle was seized by officer on behalf of DVLA.

The car will remain impounded until the owner can produce the correct documentation to retrieve it.





Stourport SNT attended Younity on Wednesday 28th February on the Walshes Estate. Younity is a newly established Youth and Family Hub located on Queens Road, Stourport. The hub provides regular youth club sessions for local young people:

- Ages 8–11: Wednesdays, 6:00pm – 7:30pm
- Ages 12–17: Fridays, 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Younity will also be holding its official opening during half term on 20th February, from 10:30am to 12:00pm.



In other news

Rock Up and Rugby Postponed

Thank you to everyone who has attended the ‘Rock Up and Rugby’ sessions at Stourport Rugby Club, delivered in partnership with the Worcester Warriors Foundation Rugby Initiative. Due to the increasingly inclement weather, we have made the decision to postpone the remaining sessions until Spring.

The Rock Up and Rugby initiative is designed to provide structured and positive activities for young people, particularly those who may be at risk of involvement in anti-social behaviour. Funded by the Police & Crime Commissioner for West Mercia, the programme focuses on supporting communities within Stourport.

New dates will be announced in March. If you have any questions, please contact: [✉ Stourport.snt@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:Stourport.snt@westmercia.police.uk)



Changes for West Mercia

From the 19th January West Mercia Police is changing the way it organises and delivers local policing to make sure services continue to meet the needs of local communities.

As part of these transitions Herefordshire and Worcestershire will go from being two local policing areas to a combined one (Herefordshire & Worcestershire).

This new structure is designed to strengthen resilience, improve coordination and ensure resources are focused where they are needed most.

Wyre Forest's communities will continue to receive the same level of service from their Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), who have recently seen an uplift in officer numbers.

The force has operated under its current structure since 2018, and feedback from the public has highlighted several ways to enhance how it functions and meets demand.

The planned investment supports the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Communities Plan and contributes to the national Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee, helping ensure policing remains visible, accessible and responsive. The updated operating model is expected to provide a stable, long-term framework that better supports officers and staff, adapts to evolving demands and maintains a high standard of service for the public.

Reporting Fraud

Reporting Fraud has replaced Action Fraud

To report fraud and cyber crime

Online - reportfraud.police.uk

By phone - [0300 123 2040](tel:03001232040)

If you've been the victim of a cyber crime or fraud, or you suspect one is being attempted, report it to Report Fraud.

Report Fraud is the UK's national cyber crime and fraud reporting service.

Appeals for information

- We are appealing for information following a pedal bike theft from a garden shed on Britannia Gardens in Stourport. The theft occurred between 14th and 21st January. Please contact us quoting incident number 00137_L_21012026

Anyone who believes there may be illegal cannabis grows or criminal activity in their community is urged to report it to us via our website www.westmercia.police.uk/report . Always call 999 in an emergency. Alternatively, if you have information but don't feel comfortable talking to the police you can speak to independent charity Crimestoppers. It is 100% anonymous they never ask your name, and they cannot trace your call or IP address. You can contact them by:

Online - crimestoppers-uk.org

By phone - 0800 555 111

They'll ask questions about the crime but won't ask about you. If you're concerned your call could be traced, dial 141 before 0800 555 111, this will block your phone number.

0800 numbers are free from a landline and don't show up on BT or cable phone bills.

Top 3 Crime prevention advice for this newsletter are:

1.Preventing Oil Tank Theft

Oil is used to heat homes or buildings. Oil tanks are targeted by thieves as they contain valuable oil and are normally outside.

Prevent theft

Although oil tank theft is increasing, there are steps you can take to keep your oil tank safe:

- Hide the location of the tank
- Fit your oil tank with a padlock or lockable filler cap
- Secure the oil tank within a cage
- Install lockable gates
- Fit an electronic gauge, which can activate an alarm when the oil level drops
- Fit security lights near to the oil tank location
- Fit CCTV cameras

Report it

- if the crime is happening now call [999](#) - if you are unsure, we'd rather hear about it and decide if a theft is occurring
- if it is safe to do so, take photos of suspects or the number plate of their car (do not approach suspects, as they have been known to use violence)
- if the crime has already happened then you can report it to us [online](#) or at your local station.

2. Preventing Door Stop Thefts

Practical advice to reduce the risk of being affected by the growing trend of theft of items left unattended by delivery drivers.

Preventing theft from your doorstep: Here are some things you could do to reduce the risk of doorstep theft:

- track your parcel to ensure you or someone else is at home for the delivery
- install a video doorbell; this can be connected to your mobile so you are notified immediately of any delivery, and is easier to install than a full CCTV system
- install a security light
- arrange for your parcel to be delivered to a trusted neighbour, or other family members who will be at home; if you live in a flat, is there a concierge who could accept the parcel for you?
- use an off-site locker service for frequent deliveries, or for expensive items; these parcel boxes are more likely to be in busy, safer locations - such as supermarkets - rather than secluded areas which could be targeted by thieves.

3.Protect yourself from mobile phone theft

- Don't leave your phone, iPad, tablet or camera unattended, out of your sight, or left on a table. Thieves can grab a phone from a table in seconds.
- Be aware of your surroundings and only use your mobile when it feels safe to.
- When you've finished using it, put it away.

Things to do now that will help if your phone gets stolen

Secure your phone

Use your phone's security features to stop someone using your phone if it's stolen. Choose a strong PIN, passcode, password or pattern.

Get your IMEI number

Get your phone's IMEI number by typing *#06# on your phone keypad. Keep a note of it somewhere other than on your phone. The IMEI can help track the phone down if it's lost or stolen.

Use a tracking app

Set up a tracking app on your phone so you can see where it is from another device like a laptop. Use it as soon as possible, before thieves have a chance to disable it.

Turn off message previews

Turn off message previews, so that thieves won't see any messages about reset or login codes when your phone is locked.

Make sure you can still access your data:

- your phone data is regularly being backed up, either automatically over wifi or by plugging it into a computer
- there's somewhere else you can get access codes sent to (two-factor authentication codes) to access your data from another device
- you keep important information like family and friends' phone numbers and passwords somewhere else secure, not just on your phone

Police Surgery dates for February

- Bike Marking Surgery, Burlish Bike Park, Kingsway - 1st Feb 11am to13pm
- B&M police surgery, Tannery Retail Park, Lombard Street 5th Feb 1pm-2pm
- Lidl Police Surgery, Vale Road, Stourport 10th Feb 6pm – 7pm
- SNT office Old Ford Walk surgery 12th Feb 11-12pm
- B&M police surgery, Tannery Retail Park, Lombard Street 13th Feb 1pm-2pm
- TSB, High Street, Stourport 16th Feb 10am – 11am
- Community Centre Car Park, Hermitage Way 17th Feb 11am-12pm
- B&M police surgery, Tannery Retail Park, Lombard Street 21st Feb 1pm-2pm
- Queens Road Shops, Queens Road 24th Feb 6pm – 7pm
- St Richards Hospice. Tannery Retail Park, Lombard St 25th Feb 10am – 11am
- Lickhill Community Centre Surgery, Lickhill Road, 25th Feb 11am-12pm

Sign up to Neighbourhood Matters



Follow us on social media:



Neighbourhood Matters enables residents, businesses and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can choose exactly what type of alert you wish to receive and how you receive them; whether that be by email, text or telephone.

Sign up now at: www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

Current statistics on calls to police and crime recording for your neighbourhood can be found at www.police.uk or follow the link below:

www.westmercia.police.uk/area/your-area/west-mercما/north-worcestershire/stourport

If you wish to discuss further, please contact a member of your safer neighbourhood team.

How to report an incident

- **For crimes in progress call 999.**
- For non-emergencies report online: www.westmercia.police.uk/report
- If you are unable to report online, you can contact the police via the 101 non-emergency number.

Contact the team

Stourport SNT (stourport.snt@westmercia.police.uk)



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PCSO Lisa
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