

Neighbourhood Watch Update

Key Information

Neighbourhood Beat Bus and Community Surgeries

Up-to-date information about our beat buses and events can be found on: [Your area](#) | [Northamptonshire Police](#) (northants.police.uk) under 'Meetings & Events' tab

Latest News

Up-to-date information about general force news, witness appeals, campaigns, court cases and appeals for wanted people, can be found on: [Latest news](#) | [Northamptonshire Police](#)

Report a crime

Information about the different ways you can contact the police or report a crime, can be found on: [Contact us](#) | [Northamptonshire Police](#)

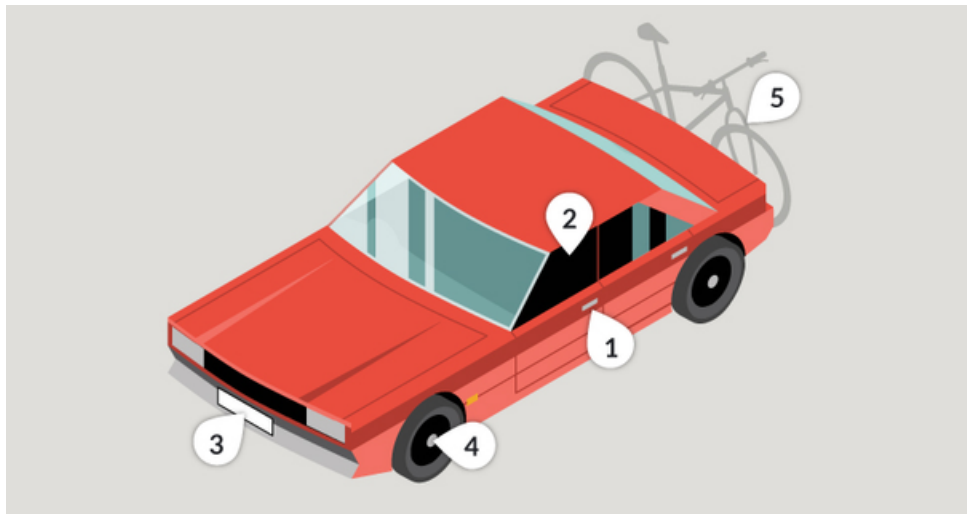
Welcome Neighbourhood Watch members!

Northamptonshire Police is keen to keep you informed about upcoming campaigns and to share the various ways you can get involved.

Strong relationships between Neighbourhood Watch groups and Northamptonshire Police are vital to keeping our communities safe. By working closely together, we can share local knowledge, build trust, and respond more effectively to concerns. This partnership ensures that residents feel heard, supported, and empowered- creating neighbourhoods where everyone looks out for one another and crime has less room to take hold.



Tackling vehicle crime



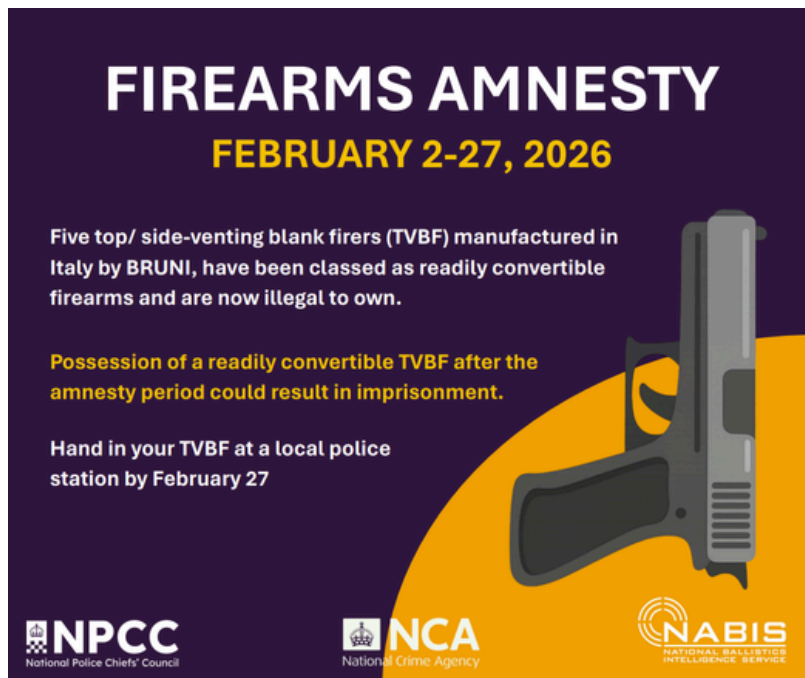
Residents in East Northamptonshire are being urged to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police following a recent spate of vehicle crime in Rushden. East Northants Neighbourhood Policing Team has launched an operation in response to these incidents and is asking members of the community for their support to help prevent further offences.

Both marked and unmarked police patrols have been stepped up to deter and catch offenders, and targeted crime prevention advice is being delivered to residents in affected areas. With many of the offences believed to be linked, officers are building the necessary evidence to enable charges against identified suspects.

5 Prevention Tips

- 1. Always lock it-** Get into the habit of locking your vehicle even if you're only going to be away from it for a moment
- 2. Close windows and the sun roof to prevent 'fishing'.** Leaving windows and the sunroof open invites fishing for items through the gap
- 3. Secure your number plates with tamper-resistant screws.** Using security screws to attach your vehicle's number plates makes it harder for thieves to get your number.
- 4. Fit locking, anti-tamper wheel nuts to secure alloy wheels.** Stolen wheels are valuable, either as parts or for their scrap value.
- 5. Secure anything that's on the outside of your vehicle.** Anything left on roof-racks, tailgate racks, holiday top boxes or in tool chests are easily stolen when the vehicle is parked.

Firearms amnesty



Northamptonshire Police is asking people to hand in unwanted and illegal firearms as part of a national four-week amnesty which began on February 2.

Coordinated by the National Ballistics Intelligence Service (NABIS), the firearms surrender will run for just under four weeks from Monday, February 2, to Friday, February 27.

The four-week amnesty is a campaign to remove firearms from falling into the pool of criminally used weapons, with a particular focus on BRUNI top/side venting blank firing (TVBFs) firearms.

In their original state, top-venting blank firers (TVBFs) have a fully blocked barrel and are designed to discharge only blank cartridges. When discharged, combustion gases vent from the top of the weapon.

But since 2021, UK law enforcement has recovered 800 of these guns converted to fire live ammunition, and data shows that at least five homicides have occurred using a converted TVBF since 2023.

Whilst people will have purchased these firearms legally for their intended use, they are now no longer to be kept in your possession, therefore they should be handed in to your local police station before February 27, 2026.

Read more [here](#).

Rogue trader warnings



An increase in rogue trader incidents across Northamptonshire has prompted police officers to issue a warning to local residents.

Rogue Traders will often cold call at your address, claim they are working in the area, have materials left over for a cheap job, and can start immediately.

They will often claim they have noticed issues regarding your property, for example the roof/tiles/driveway are damaged or in need of repair and then pressure you into signing up or agreeing to services on the spot. Sometimes, they will also drive the occupant to a cash point or bank to withdraw money.

Crime prevention advice

- If someone cold calls at your address and you don't recognise them, don't open the door.
- It is ok to say no to a cold caller.
- When looking for work to be completed at your property, obtain at least three quotes before choosing a trader.
- Pay by card, pay in stages, and avoid deposits or upfront payments.
- Only pay for work once fully completed and you are satisfied with the job.
- All reputable companies provide a written quote and a 14-day cooling-off period.
- Ask friends/neighbours for recommendations.
- Never allow a trader to take you to a bank.
- Consider installing smart doorbell or CCTV cameras outside your home.

Riding E-Scooters



Members of the public are once again being urged to make themselves aware of the rules on using privately-owned electric scooters after an increase in their use across Northamptonshire since the start of the New Year.

The Northampton Suburban Neighbourhood Policing Team has issued the reminder following reports of private e-scooters being ridden inconsiderately and irresponsibly in public places in the town and local communities.

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles, which mean they are treated as motor vehicles and therefore subject to all the same legal requirements such as insurance and licensing.

However, privately owned e scooters cannot currently meet the legal criteria and therefore remain illegal to use on roads or ridden on pavements, in parks or in other public areas, and owners risk prosecution if caught flouting the laws.

Officers will continue to take enforcement action where illegal use of e-scooters is identified, including seizure and disposal of e scooters, issuing penalties and progressing prosecutions where dangerous or unlawful riding occurs.

Be the difference



Find your purpose. Where you thrive. Learn new skills for now and the future.

The new recruitment campaign seeks to actively attract people to become police officers with the aim of helping increase officer numbers, tackle policing challenges and enhance diversity.

The campaign, across Northamptonshire and surrounding counties, will be broadcast on ITV X on demand and across social and digital platforms including outdoor media.

The campaign hopes to inspire and attract applicants who will work alongside the 1500 officers currently in force.

[Click here to view the campaign or apply.](#)

Interested in volunteering?

Explore the wide range of opportunities available to you - whether you'd like to become a Special Constable, join the Northamptonshire Emergency Service Cadets (NESC), volunteer on horseback, or take part in Street Watch.

Find out more [here](#)