# Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025 Sussex Alerts – Wealden Police



#### Uckfield anti-social behaviour



Police have been working closely with partners in Uckfield to tackle reports of youth-related anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Targeted patrols and a Section 34 Dispersal Order have been put in place, with four arrests made over the weekend as part of ongoing enforcement (5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> September 2025).

We would like to thank the local community and businesses for their ongoing support of our continued efforts to keep the community safe.

**Wealden District Commander Mark Evans said**: "We know that anti-social behaviour can have a real impact on people's lives, whether that's young people, families, businesses or residents.

Our approach has been to combine robust enforcement with strong partnership working – tackling the behaviour directly but also offering support and opportunities to prevent further issues.

"We're encouraged by the early results and will continue to keep up this momentum to ensure Uckfield remains a safe and welcoming place for everyone."

Anyone affected by antisocial behaviour is encouraged to report it online or by calling 101. In an emergency, always dial 999.

# Arrests and appeal following disorder in Uckfield



Police have arrested two men following a fight in Uckfield on Saturday night (6 September).

Officers were called to Civic Approach at around 11pm, following reports of an altercation during which several people suffered injuries. One victim was taken to hospital with serious injuries and another suffered minor cuts and bruises.

Following police enquiries, two individuals were arrested in the early hours of Sunday, September 7. A 20-year-old man from Uckfield was arrested on suspicion of actual bodily harm and a 17-year-old boy was arrested on suspicion of grievous bodily harm. Both have been released on bail with conditions while enquiries continue.

**Wealden District Commander Mark Evans said:** "This was a serious incident that may have caused concern in the community.

We want to reassure residents that swift action has been taken, and two arrests have already been made as part of this investigation".

Anyone with information, mobile phone footage, or who witnessed the incident, is asked to contact police online or by calling 101, quoting serial 1590 of 06/09.

## Appeal to reunite tools with their owners



Do any of these belong to you?

Police investigating rural burglaries across areas of Wealden and Eastbourne are looking to identify owners of the pictured tools and equipment.

If these items belong to you, please get in touch quoting reference number 47250104706.

Please provide details of ownership e.g: serial numbers or proof of purchase when calling or reporting online here: <a href="https://www.sussex.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/">www.sussex.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/</a>, thank you.

Two teenagers, one 17 year old boy, and one 19 year old man were arrested on the 1st June 2025 on suspicion of handling stolen goods. They have been bailed whilst our investigations continue.

Further images of the tools can be found here: <a href="www.facebook.com/WealdenPolice/posts/1216972793808471">www.facebook.com/WealdenPolice/posts/1216972793808471</a>

### Cadets take action to support tackling serious crime

On Monday 1 September, our Volunteer Police Cadets carried out knife sweeps.



They covered a number of locations including Western Road Rec and Gleneagles Country Park as part of our ongoing commitment to serious violence reduction.

From their searches as well as finding evidence of drugs, Cadets and their Leaders spoke with a number of youngsters and parents in the parks around the work being conducted to keep them safe; we are pleased to report that no knives or potential weapons were located.

Many positive interactions had, with Cadets speaking to teens their age around the dangers and consequences of both drug use and becoming involved in crime.

A big thank you to all our Cadets for their continued hard work and for taking such an active role in crime prevention.

Find out more about our commitment to tackling serious violence online here: <a href="www.sussex.police.uk/police-forces/sussex-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/serious-violence/">www.sussex.police.uk/police-forces/sussex-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/serious-violence/</a>

Two men have been charged with multiple offences, following excellent partnership work between Sussex Police and Kent Police.

Police were alerted to a report of a Toyota Hilux, on cloned plates, being driven through Horam, East Sussex, about 5.30pm on Tuesday 2 September.

The vehicle – confirmed stolen from Westham two days previously – was spotted a short time later and a pursuit ensued into Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Command was led by the Kent Police Force Incident Manager, and officers from the Sussex Police Roads Policing Unit and Specialist Enforcement Unit used tactics to attempt to stop the Toyota.

The vehicle was abandoned in Montacute Gardens, Tunbridge Wells, and the driver decamped, but was tracked by a Sussex Police Dog Unit and found hiding in a toilet cubicle of the nearby Sainsbury's store.



**Detective Chief Inspector Cath O'Connor said:** "This incident demonstrates how officers from neighbouring forces work together, often in fast-paced and dynamic situations, to keep the public safe from harm.

"I'd like to commend all staff and officers involved for bringing the pursuit to a safe and successful conclusion.

"While considerable damage was caused to a number of police vehicles and parked vehicles, thankfully no serious injuries were reported."

A 27yo male, of no fixed address, was arrested and charged with aggravated vehicle taking, failing to stop when required by police, driving without valid insurance and driving without a valid licence.

He has been remanded in custody and is due to appear at Brighton Magistrates' Court for trial on 10 October.

A second male, a 21yo, of Seaside Road, Eastbourne, was arrested and charged with possession of cannabis, two counts of driving while disqualified, failing to provide a specimen for analysis, two counts of theft of a motor vehicle, two counts of burglary and two counts of driving without valid insurance.

He pleaded guilty to all offences at Brighton Magistrates' Court on Friday 5 September and has been remanded in custody for sentencing on 3 October (further details can be found here:

www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/court-results/two-men-charged-after-police-pursuit-between-kent-and-sussex/)

## **Upcoming meet your Neighbourhood Policing Team events**

## **SEPTEMBER**

Rotherfield, on the 12th September from 11:30-13:00 at Rotherfield St Martin Centre.

Frant, on the 13th September 15:00 – 16:00 at the Frant Village Hall.



Heathfield, for a 'Selecta DNA Demonstration' (Selecta DNA kits are designed to reduce theft by coding valuable possessions with unique synthetic DNA) on the 20th September from 10:00-12:00, at Hugh Page Limited, Station Road.

Hailsham, on the 25th September from 10:00-12:00 stationed up along the High Street.

All events are a chance to not only meet your local ward officers, but obtain support, advice and information about current crime trends, report local issues, and hear directly from those who patrol your streets on the work being conducted in your area to help keep communities safe.

Contact us online www.sussex.police.uk or by calling 101 (non-emergency reporting and support).

In an emergency call 999.

# Vehicle thefts - Toyota Hilux

Toyota Hilux owners in East Sussex are being warned to remain vigilant after recent reports of vehicle thefts.

Police are advising owners to review their vehicle security, storage, and parking locations.

It follows reports that Toyota Hiluxes have been specifically targeted by thieves in recent weeks.

**Detective Inspector Gavin Patch from East Sussex said**: "We are aware of an increase in reports of thefts and damage to Toyota Hiluxes in the area.

"We are taking action and focusing resources on this issue. Officers are working hard to target known offenders and to recover vehicles.

"We understand the impact that vehicle theft has on owners and the potential resulting anti-social behaviour in our communities from those driving stolen vehicles.

"We encourage everyone to report vehicle thefts and to provide information about these incidents to support our work."



#### Tips to protect your car:

- Park your vehicle in sight of your home or inside a garage; or where there is street lighting or CCTV.
- Use a visible steering lock to deter thieves and prevent the steering wheel from being turned.
- Consider 'blocking' the vehicle in with a second car or fitting a secondary immobiliser.
- Reprogramme keys if you buy a second hand car, or check that the key blade is cut and works, by testing it.

Police have located and recovered a number of stolen vehicles in East Sussex, but each incident serves as a reminder for owners to take precautions.

If you see or witness anyone acting suspiciously around parked vehicles in your community, report it to police at the time by either calling 101, or reporting online <a href="https://www.sussex.police.uk">www.sussex.police.uk</a> quoting Operation Aldwich.

In an emergency or crime in action always call 999.

### Keeping you cyber safe – free cyber security webinars

You don't have to be a computer expert to get up-to-speed and protect yourself from Cyber Crime.

Every week our dedicated Cyber Protect team delivers free, engaging, and interactive online webinars every week on a variety of topics covering the latest in Cyber Security:

- Online Safety for Beginners
- Keeping Children Safe Online
- The Dangers of Al
- Cyber Security for Businesses: Threats you must address in 2025
- Online Safety for Women and Girls
- Cyber Security for Charities
- Special Sessions (i.e. Crypto-currencies)



With the UK Economy losing around £27bn a year from Cyber Crime, the sessions for businesses and charities are essential to learn 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, Al and much more.

Each topic finishes with a Q and A providing the ideal time to answer any burning cyber security questions.

You can discover more on each subject area webinar, along with a schedule of forthcoming webinars to sign-up for via our Event page here <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/police-south-east-cyber-77121396093?msockid=3703b8df4a7c6fcd262faed24b246e40#collections">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/police-south-east-cyber-77121396093?msockid=3703b8df4a7c6fcd262faed24b246e40#collections</a>

#### **Contact Us**

For non-emergency incidents or crime prevention advice, click <u>www.sussex.police.uk</u>, (If you report a crime online, we will assess it in the same way as a 101 call).

Call 101 when you do not require an urgent response. In an emergency when life is threatened or there is immediate danger always call 999.

Speak to us face-to-face at a police station or contact the local policing team at <a href="https://www.sussex.police.uk/area/your-area">www.sussex.police.uk/area/your-area</a>.

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, or other forms of communication difficulties.

Those with textphone can text 18001 101, or BSL users can use SignVideo to provide a Video Relay Service (here: <a href="https://signvideo.co.uk/">https://signvideo.co.uk/</a>), to report crime through a live online interpreter, who will contact the police on your behalf, when you do not require an urgent response.

In an emergency when life is threatened or there is immediate danger please use the textphone service 18000 or text us on 999.

BSL users can call 999 BSL (here: https://999bsl.co.uk/) to use a British Sign Language interpreter.

For more information on textphone and Relay UK please visit: <a href="https://www.relayuk.bt.com/how-to-use-relay-uk/contact-999-using-relay-uk.html">https://www.relayuk.bt.com/how-to-use-relay-uk/contact-999-using-relay-uk.html</a>.

