

Worthing NHW Newsletter



September 2025

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Protect Your Property

Burglars are often opportunistic thieves who prey on houses and flats. They seek out any means of entry of which they can take advantage, specifically doors and windows that are left open or unlocked or are easy to force. Anything of value that they might spot through a window will only spur them on.

The Police have provided the following guidelines that you can follow to protect your property and to prevent this from happening:

- Burglars target homes that they think will contain valuables. A sure giveaway is leaving packaging from expensive items outside your front door.
- Burglars often look for homes with windows or doors left open or with vulnerable features that they can exploit.
- Burglars are aware of the times when someone is expected to be away from their house such as during the school run or holidays and will use social media to that end, so change any social media accounts to private and target posts specifically at your friends. That way, only people you trust can see your content, rather than potential thieves that you don't know.
- Burglars typically do not want to be seen or heard and if they feel that they would be noticed by a neighbour or passer-by then they are more likely to feel exposed and may move on to find somewhere else to burgle.
- Burglars often choose a home because they've spotted a specific vehicle, motorcycle or bicycle they want to steal – and the keys are more than likely to be inside the residence
- Sheds and garages are often vulnerable as they are not that secure and contain tools which the burglar can use to assist them to gain entry to a home
- It's a fact that many burglars return to homes that they've previously burgled because the homeowner failed to upgrade security following the first burglary. They sometimes return to an area to try to burgle a nearby home that they spotted while committing a previous break in. Even more reason for you to ensure you keep your home as safe as houses!

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

Emergency preparedness campaign launches in West Sussex

Pack your grab bag, gather your emergency contacts, and get ready to mark the annual 30 Days, 30 Ways emergency preparedness campaign this September.

The national campaign provides simple and practical advice throughout the 30 days of September to help people prepare themselves and their families for a wide range of emergencies.

It covers the five key themes of identifying risks, sourcing reliable information, creating emergency plans, protecting family and pets, and strengthening community resilience.

This year West Sussex County Council's Resilience and Emergencies Team will be sharing daily tips on their social media channels covering everything from severe weather to cyber safety.

West Sussex County Council's Head of Resilience and Emergencies, Martin Funnell, said: "The 30 Days, 30 Ways campaign is a great way to get people thinking about their personal and community resilience should the worst happen. The aim is for everyone to feel prepared, not scared, when faced with an emergency, and there are lots of things you can do.

"Sign up for relevant alerts and warnings to ensure you receive the latest news and updates from trusted sources and keep an up-to-date list of emergency contacts.

"Create a household evacuation plan and prepare a grab bag for each member of your family filled with the essential items and documents you might need if you had to leave your home.

"Consider volunteering in your local community. This can help build crucial support networks in preparation for an emergency and aid in the recovery following a major incident."

The Resilience and Emergencies Team works to ensure the county is prepared for emergencies. They prepare, maintain, and review arrangements for dealing with major incidents across West Sussex.

The team also works closely with the county's emergency services, district and borough councils and many other agencies and organisations within the Sussex Resilience Forum.

Councillor Duncan Crow, Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said: "We all have a role to play in ensuring we are prepared for emergencies that could cause disruption in our communities. I would encourage everyone to get involved and follow the 30 Days 30 Ways campaign on our Resilience and Emergencies Team social media channels on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Bluesky](#)."

ONLINE SHOPPING

The convenience of online shopping may be undeniable, but it carries its own hazards in the shape of "porch pirates" – opportunistic thieves who steal deliveries from doorsteps across the UK. So Simplisafe, Neighbourhood Watch's partner and home security expert, has provided the following list of recommendations to reduce these risks:

- Most carriers offer tracking notifications, so use these to know exactly when your package is due and delivered – then retrieve it promptly
- Install a video doorbell or outdoor security camera. They not only record suspicious activity but also allow you to see and speak to anyone at the door, often deterring thieves before they act
- Add a note to the delivery instructions and request drivers to place packages in less visible stops, such as behind planters or gates
- Request a signature for valuable items, or direct packages to your workplace, a trusted neighbour or a secure locker service such as Amazon Locker.
- Motion-activated lighting around your entryway can startle and expose thieves acting under cover of darkness.
- Leverage the community values of Neighbourhood Watch by informing neighbours about expected deliveries and offer to take in theirs if necessary
- Consider investing in a sturdy, lockable parcel box, securely fastened to your property for safe package drop-offs.

Simplisafe's comprehensive range of home security products provides several layers of protection, such as HD (high definition) cameras, instant alerts, 24/7 security monitoring, sirens and more.

Meanwhile, another Neighbourhood Watch partner, Avast, has introduced Email Guard, which is aimed at protecting users from email-based scams and phishing attempts. It uses AI to analyse email content, including attachments for malicious codes or phishing attempts, to identify potentially dangerous language or links, and to flag suspicious emails before they even reach your inbox.

Email Guard is available in both free and paid versions of Avast but some features, such as scanning emails across multiple online accounts, are exclusive to the paid version – Avast Premium Security. While some features are platform specific, Email Guard is available on Windows, Mac, Android and IOS devices.

Garden Waste

Now that Autumn has officially arrived, it will not be long before trees start shedding their leaves. Many gardeners will be wondering how best to get rid of all these along with other detritus, bearing in mind that you should not dispose of garden waste in your main refuse bin.

If so, and you need the assistance of an outside agent to dispose of your garden waste - or any other “unusual category” of waste, for that matter - please ensure that that agent is a Registered Waste Carrier for your type of waste for ensuring this, so ask to see its certificate, or alternatively check with the Environmental Agency on their national hotline (0800 807 060).

By taking these steps, you are both complying with your legal obligations and helping to minimise the possibility of fly-tipping. Fly-tipping is not only unsightly, but also illegal and potentially dangerous, with an estimated £150 m annually spent on investigation and removal by local councils and private landowners.

Illegal waste disposal has severe community, environmental, and health-related consequences, as outlined below:

- Littering is a big obstacle to the Government’s mission of keeping Britain tidy. When people leave rubbish on the streets or near garbage cans, it gives the area an untidy appearance and destroys its aesthetics.
- Uncontrolled disposal of harmful substances like chemicals, asbestos, and medical waste can harm people’s health.
- Improper waste disposal threatens soil quality, air quality, local streams, watersheds, and groundwater.

The consequences of failure to comply are severe. If traced to you, you could face a sentence of up to 12 months in prison and up to £5,000 in fines. If charged in the Crown Court, the fine is unlimited, and terms of imprisonment can be as much as 5 years.

If you see anyone fly-tipping or wish to report an area where fly-tipping has taken place, then please note the time, date and place of the discovery; the appearance and quantity of the waste; and any vehicular description. The details should then be reported either to the Environmental Agency or to your local council.

Lost Items

How many of you have found yourselves wondering where you put your keys or cards, and need to find them urgently? AirTag, which is produced by Apple, may prove invaluable under such circumstances.

AirTag is a small device that you can attach to your items and locate them with your iPhone or iPad. It is designed to help people find personal objects such as keys, bags, apparel, small electronic devices and vehicles. This it does by sending out a secure Bluetooth signal that can be detected by nearby devices in the Find My network. Find My is an app that helps you track your Apple devices, AirTag, and friends using iCloud.

These devices send the location of your AirTag to iCloud — then you can go to the Find My app and locate it on a map. The whole process is anonymous and encrypted to protect your privacy.

AirTags are compatible with any iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch that runs iOS or iPadOS 14.5 or later, including the iPhone 6S and newer models, although advanced features like Precision Finding require an iPhone 11 or later with the U1 chip. iOS18 lets you share AirTag with up to five people, so everyday household items can be tracked by friends and family.

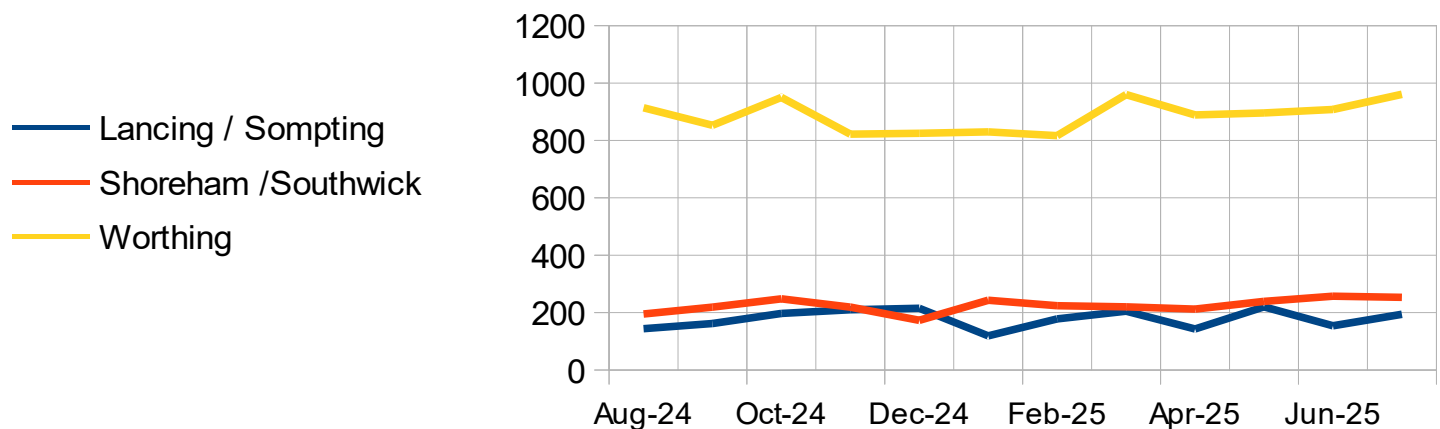
You can play a sound on the built-in speaker by going to the new Items tab in the FindMy app, or say “Siri, find my wallet.” If it is lying concealed nearby, you have only to follow the sound and your search is over.

Tim Drew

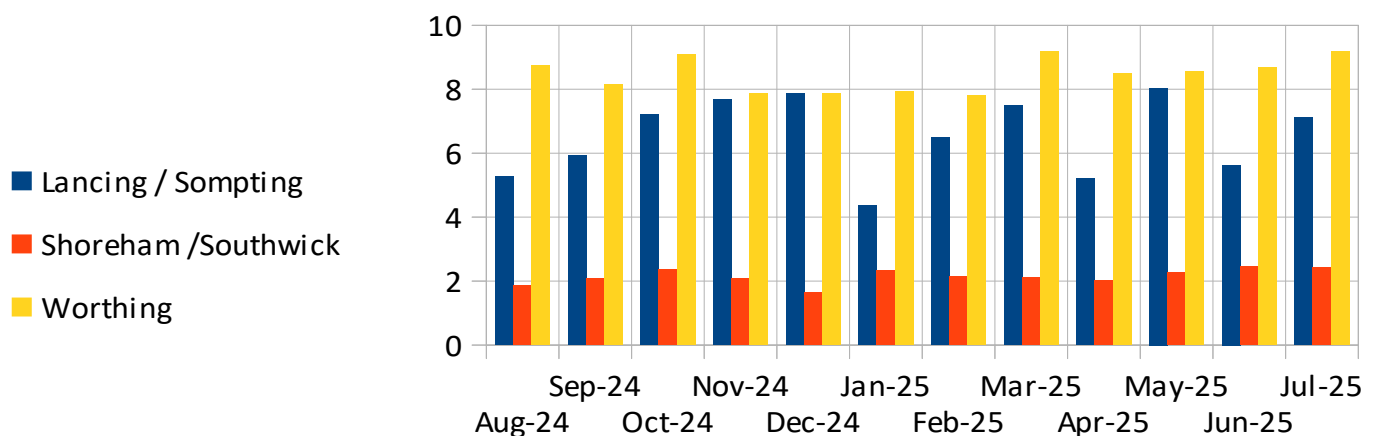
Crime Statistics for July 2025

July 2025	Broadwater	Castle	Central	Durrington	Findon	Gaisford	Goring	Heene	Marine02	Northbrook	Offington	Salvington	Selden	Tarring	Sub Total
					BN										
Antisocial Behaviour	20	24	40	7	1	11	7	23	5	15	2	11	3	10	179
Bike Theft	2	1	5	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	3	1	18
Burglary	0	1	2	1	1	3	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	13
Criminal Damage	5	3	17	1	1	7	1	4	2	7	2	4	8	6	68
Drugs	2	1	11	1	0	2	0	7	1	5	5	2	3	5	45
Other Crime	1	2	3	3	1	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	18
Other Theft	6	3	10	0	4	4	5	5	0	3	3	2	2	2	49
Weapons	0	0	4	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	11
Public Order	3	5	27	2	2	4	4	4	3	7	7	3	7	4	82
Robbery	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Theft Shop	2	18	36	1	1	2	3	26	6	1	5	1	11	10	123
Theft Person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Vehicle Crime	5	2	4	0	1	2	0	6	0	3	1	0	0	0	24
Violence & Sex Offences	11	24	102	11	2	21	15	29	10	26	12	23	24	16	326
Totals	57	87	262	27	14	59	39	108	31	71	39	48	62	57	961

Crimes August 2024 to July 2025



Crimes per 1000 of Population



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