

# Warden Monthly Report

## Southwater Parish Report for December 2025

If you witness acts of violence, verbal abuse, drug taking, irresponsible alcohol use or damage to property please report it to Sussex Police via the methods below or anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit their website: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>



## Reporting crime and anti-social behaviour

☎ 999

- A crime is happening now.
- Someone is in immediate danger or at risk of harm.
- Property is in danger of being seriously damaged.
- A serious disruption to the public is likely.

☎ 101

or report online  
[www.sussex.  
police.uk](http://www.sussex.police.uk)

- All non-emergency incidents where the crime has already happened or there is no immediate risk of harm.

**CrimeStoppers.**

☎ 0800  
555 111

[crime  
stoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org)

- To report crime 100% anonymously.
- Crimestoppers is not the police – it is an independent charity working to help communities.
- Information given will be shared anonymously with the police.

**British  
Transport  
Police**

☎ 0800  
40 50 40  
Text 61016

- Non-emergency incidents on a train or at a station can be reported direct to the British Transport Police online: [www.  
btp.police.uk/  
reportcrime](http://www.btp.police.uk/reportcrime).
- There is also a Railway Guardian app.

**Horsham  
District  
Council**

[communitysafety  
@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@horsham.gov.uk)

- Report general anti-social behaviour and repeated public nuisance to the ASB team at Horsham District Council.
- You can also report litter, fly-tipping, graffiti, dogs and dog fouling online: [www.horsham.  
gov.uk/report](http://www.horsham.gov.uk/report).

## See it. Report it.

Reporting crime and ASB means we can work together to reduce it.



Horsham District  
Community Safety  
Partnership



Horsham  
District  
Council

<b>Patrol hours TOTAL:</b>	<b>95.50</b>	<b>ASB incidents reported to us TOTAL:</b>	<b>21.00</b>
Foot (high visibility)	33.25	Noise	1
Vehicle	62.25	Neighbours	1
<b>Notices/warnings TOTAL:</b>	<b>13.00</b>	Driving/vehicles	13
Verbal Warning	5	Bicycles/E-scooters	2
Parking Alert	8	Alcohol/Drugs	0
Yellow card warning (ASB)	0	Other	4
Fixed Penalty Notice	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	<b>Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>19.00</b>
<b>Police reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>19.00</b>	Fly tipping / flyposting	0
In person	5	Graffiti	1
Phone (including 101 and 999)	7	Dog fouling	4
Email	2	Litter	3
Intelligence report	5	Drug litter	0
		Hazards	11
<b>Media reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>Community events attended</b>	<b>10</b>
Press release / Community magazines	1	<b>School contact</b>	<b>16</b>
Social Media Posts	5	<b>Youth engagement</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Vulnerable People Welfare Checks</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Reports to DVLA</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Signposting</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Reports to Operation Crackdown</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Safeguarding referral</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Admin</b>	<b>35</b>

## Anti-Social Behaviour

Through our partnership working, in particular with Sussex Police and the Neighbourhood Watch Association plus routine monitoring of crime reporting websites for information about suspicious activity, people and vehicles, we are able to understand and respond to emerging trends.

**All Crime is Anti-Social Behaviour**  
**But...**  
**Not all Anti-Social Behaviour is a Crime!**

It has come to our attention that some residents of Southwater are worried about Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) and maybe think it is mostly committed by young people. Southwater is a very safe place to live and the crime incident rates are low. Although it is true that a small minority of young people (and we have 1000s living here) engage in ASB, it is also true that most Crimes in our village are committed by adults.

Almost all dog fouling offences are committed by adults in charge of their own dogs.  
Almost all neighbour disputes we deal with relate to the behaviour of adults - who all live here.  
Almost all ASB parking and driving offences are committed by adults - most of whom live here.  
Almost all fly tipping offences are committed by adults – some of whom live here.  
All high value shop thefts are committed by adults - some are organised criminals but some actually live here.  
All thefts of fuel from our petrol station are committed by adults – some of whom live here.  
The majority of physical assaults are committed by adults – some of whom live here.

### **Good News.....**

On 19/12, while conducting a joint patrol with Sussex Police PCSO Damian Cecil, we responded to a report of suspicious activity at Southwater Country Park. The emergency call was initiated by a group of young people who heard sounds of distress. Due to the darkness and limited visibility, the group was unable to verify the individual's safety from a distance and correctly contacted Sussex Police via 999. As the first units on the scene, we located both the callers and the individual in question. Upon assessment, it was determined that the person had fallen and was in a state of distress. They had not sustained any serious injuries and were able to continue their journey home. We would like to extend our gratitude to the group of young people involved. Their quick thinking and responsible use of the emergency services ensured that assistance was promptly available to a member of the public in need.

## Youth Anti-Social Behaviour

Further to our report last month about young people accessing a wooded area which lead to allegations of trespass and criminal damage, we are pleased to report that following an increase in patrols in the area and several conversations with some of our young residents, we have not had any further complaints.

Further to our report last month relating to an incident at Texaco (21/11) and our conversations with the young people involved, we had received no further complaints until 21/12 when it is alleged that 1 of the original perpetrators returned with several others and caused disruption by moving traffic cones blocking the exits. We continue to liaise with staff to address ongoing youth ASB in the store.

21/12 – Report of young people running around a shop and causing a disturbance

22/12 – Report of young people accessing the library via the fire doors, being loud & disturbing other patrons

## Crime

Like you, we were alarmed to hear of an incident in Lintot Square where a young resident was approached by two adults causing considerable distress. This is a very serious incident and rightly, responsibility for the investigation rests with Sussex Police. We would encourage all residents who were present or have any evidence that could support the investigation to contact the police. Please do not engage in speculation via social media as this can hinder any potential prosecutions in the future.

We are aware of reports relating to the theft of a high value vehicle and understand that police investigations are ongoing.

A resident reached out to us for support after they captured footage of suspicious activity near their motorbike. Their quick thinking probably prevented its theft as, later the same night, the vehicles returned but the bike had been moved to a safe location. We did some further research and passed our findings to the police for consideration.

We have received several reports from HDC's key holding security team in relation to criminal damage being caused to the toilets in the Country Park. Please report any suspicious activity in that area to the police.

We are aware of allegations that two residents in different areas of the village have both had their front doors kicked causing damage. As with all such events, we would encourage the victims to report it to the police in the first instance but if they have insufficient evidence to proceed, please do get in touch with us as we may recognise them.

23/12 – We received a call reporting alleged harm being caused to swans at the Southwater Country Park. Sussex Police were called who attended the park and joined us for an area search for the suspects. The offenders were no longer at the scene, and we are pleased to report that the swans were unharmed. If you see a wildlife crime being committed, please call 999 immediately. For more information please visit

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/wc/wildlife-crime/what-is-wildlife-crime/>

## Parking/vehicles

We continue to receive reports relating to the anti-social use of a vehicle particularly in the early hours of the morning in Woodlands Way area. This vehicle is causing noise nuisance and has allegedly been driven erratically. If you have Dash Cam footage of such incidents, reporting to Op Crackdown would be an option or if at the time of an incident you feel the safety of others is at risk, please call the police.

We received reports from residents in the Martindales area, complaining of anti-social use of a vehicles including loud revving of engines, loud bangs and the sound of 'drifting' around the industrial estate. Please report any future incidents at the time to Sussex Police.

We continue to receive complaints about a local resident with a very loud vehicle which they leave running outside the homes of others for long periods of time before revving the engine repeatedly causing a noise nuisance as they leave early in the mornings.



For anti-social driving, please report to Operation Crackdown at:

<https://operationcrackdown.org/>

To report vehicles being driven with no Road Tax or a valid MOT please use the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/report-untaxed-vehicle>

To report abandoned vehicles please use the link below:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/report/abandoned-vehicles>

If you need to contact Horsham District Council for parking related issues, please check the website

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/parking/report-a-parking-problem> or call the Customer Services on 01403 215100.

## Fly tipping, littering & graffiti

- **Fly Tipping**

Nothing to Report

- **Fly Posting**

Nothing to Report

- **Graffiti**

20/12 – Non-offensive graffiti noted by us whilst on patrol and was reported to HDC for removal.

- **Litter**

We routinely support our Parish Litter Pickers to keep our village free from litter.

If you would like to collect litter in your local area at a time which suits you, Horsham District Council will support you with appropriate equipment through the **Adopt a Street** Scheme:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/adopt-a-street>

- **Drugs Litter**

If you know about someone you care about being involved in drugs, please check out

<https://www.talktofrank.com/> where you will find useful information about different types of drugs, their effects and associated risks.

## Community engagement & events

10/12 – The Parish Council provided the WSCC 'Are you Scam Savvy' event which was very informative.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/news/are-you-scam-savvy-free-advice-sessions-for-residents/>

10/12 – We were pleased to be invited to join the **Welcome Club for their Xmas Dinner** at the Sports Club.







Committee Members		<b>Southwater Welcome Club</b> Formed in 1960  Meetings on alternate Wednesdays at the Village Hall, Church Lane Southwater 2.30pm until 4.30pm.
<b>Club Leader</b>		
Deborah Bailey	01403 731891 07828 144870	
<b>Secretary</b>		
Kris Massie	01403 731553	
<b>Treasurer</b>		
Robert Piper	01403 730264	
<b>Committee</b>		
Sheila Byford	01403 732601	
Beryl Simmons	01403 731761	
Lesley Smith	07701 393987	
Jilly Ponegar	07806 531897	



2026 Programme	
<b>January</b>	<b>April</b>
7th Welcome Back! Chat from Volunteer Community Responder, Pauline Flores Moore	1st Chris Hockley, local author and historian with presentation on 'A Sussex Scrapbook'
21st Rainbow Shanties	15th Karen Whittingham, Southwater singer
<b>February</b>	<b>May</b>
4th A talk from Southern Water	13th Horsham District Council, indoor Curling game
16th Music from local folk group, Culliton	27th Country and Western afternoon with Kim Sander
<b>March</b>	<b>June</b>
4th Line Dancing demonstration and jam session	10th Outing to Brighton Marina
18th Anniversary Party and entertainment from 'Frank Sinatra'	

11/12 – We delivered our final **Journey** event of 2025 for parents and carers of young people with additional needs  
 13/12 – We attended the **Southwater Junior Academy Christmas Fair**



We successfully coordinated **Operation Jingle Bells 2025**.

Partnering with Santa, SPC and Councillor Derek Moore, we delivered surprise gifts to deserving children at Southwater Junior & Infant Academies and Castlewood Primary School.

Now in its third year of operation, this initiative aims to support families who may find the holiday season particularly challenging while fostering community spirit.

This heartwarming project is made possible through the continued generosity of Southwater Parish Council and the Chairman's Discretionary Fund. We extend our sincere thanks for their vital support, which ensures this tradition can continue to bring joy to the community year after year.





## 17/12 – Southwater Stars Shine Bright at Southwater Junior Academy Christmas Performances!

A big thank you to everyone at **Southwater Junior Academy** for inviting us to your fantastic Christmas Performances! The acting and the singing were brilliant, filling the whole room with happy festive vibes. You spread lots of Christmas cheer to everyone watching. It was clear how much practice and hard work went into making the performance so special. Well done to all the actors, singers, and teachers for a brilliant job!

## Patrols

- We continue patrols of local businesses designed to disrupt shoplifting, ASB and improve engagement.
- We continue to provide high visibility patrols both on foot and in a liveried vehicle throughout the Parish.

## Older, Vulnerable People and Youth

We routinely conduct high visibility patrols at times and in areas often used by older residents to offer a reassuring presence plus cover areas previously connected with ASB to act as a deterrent. By undertaking home visits to vulnerable residents, we were able to sign post support services.

## Dog related issues

09/12 - Whilst on patrol we found an older dog in the road, unsupervised. After a lot of local enquiries, we located the owner and gave them words of advice in relation to the risks of not supervising their dog appropriately.

12/12 – Following further reports from residents of the Mulberry Fields development in relation to an unsupervised dog defecating in people's gardens, we were advised that the dog had been contained in a back garden by a resident. We collected the dog for their safety, liaised with a local vet who confirmed that the micro-chip data was out of date and the owner could not be readily identified. We followed the HDC stray dog process and the dog was collected by the out of hours team to be safely kennelled until the owner could be identified.

23/12 – Whilst at Southwater Country Park, a person walking their dog lost control and the dog was able to run free and chase another animal. The dog was secured, and strong words of advice were issued to the dog owner. No animals were harmed during this incident.

If you find a dog roaming free and not being supervised, please report it to our kennels on **07512 089777**. If you have lost your dog, please report it to Horsham District Council on 01403 215641 (office hours) or email [ehl@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:ehl@horsham.gov.uk)

For further information, please refer to <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/environmental-health/stray-dogs>  
As with any other incident involving an immediate threat to human or animal life, please call 999.

## Parish specific/other

### Public Enquiries

This month we responded to 14 enquiries from residents by phone, email or in person and where necessary, signposted them to the most appropriate support services. These enquiries included topics such as parking, youths on scooters, house in state of disrepair, dog on dog attack and residents with vulnerability.

### Hazards

- 01/12 – We found an insecure vehicle on Ash Road and advised the owner
- 09/12 – We found a dog loose in the road but managed to safely return them to their owner
- 09/12 – We found a number of large branches blocking the pavement at Tower Hill so made it safe and called WSCC
- 09/12 – We found that a local building site was insecure so called their security team to make it safe
- 10/12 – We found a bird in the middle of the road, which we managed to safely collect and later release again
- 12/12 – We found a dog loose in Mulberry Fields but without an identifiable owner he had to go in to kennels



### Meetings

- 03/12 – We attended our Warden Team Meeting at HDC
- 04/12 – We met with SPC Community Engagement Officer Veronika Toth to discuss existing and future projects
- 11/12 – Meeting at the Horsham Family Hub

### HORSHAM FAMILY HUB

Here to help children, young people and families who need extra support. Drop in for information, advice and guidance

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9.15 AM - 5.00 PM Three Acres, Horsham RH12 1RS

- ✓ Sensory Room
- ✓ Sensory Toy Library
- ✓ Magic Carpet
- ✓ Play room and garden open

**OPEN TO ALL FAMILYS**

horshamhub.info@westsussex.gov.uk  
@Horsham Area Family Hub  
01403 213590

Children's first Early Help Service

### HORSHAM FAMILY HUB

#### Sensory Room

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9.30 AM - 4.15 PM **Call to book a session FREE**

**Start times:**  
9.30am 10.30am 11.30am  
12.30pm 1.30pm 2.30pm 3.30pm

45 min slots

**OPEN TO ALL FAMILYS**

horshamhub.info@westsussex.gov.uk  
@Horsham Area Family Hub  
01403 213590

Children's first Early Help Service

### HORSHAM FAMILY HUB

#### Magic Carpet

MONDAY 9.30 AM - 4.30 PM **Call to book**

Play on our interactive, touch sensitive magic carpet, with 100s of multi-sensory learning experiences. Half hour slots available to book.

**Sensory Toy Library**  
Borrow up to 3 toys, for 3 weeks for free!  
A wide range of toys to support your child's learning.

01403 213590

Children's first Early Help Service

### HORSHAM FAMILY HUB

Visit our Facebook page for lots of useful information for you and your family.  
@Horsham Area Family Hub

Best Start in Life brings together trusted information and support from pregnancy through your child's early years and beyond

Integrated Front Door is the first point of contact for support from Early Help and Children's Social Care follow this link for an online general enquiry form

horshamhub.info@westsussex.gov.uk  
@Horsham Area Family Hub  
01403 213590

Children's first Early Help Service



## Social Media/Press

<https://www.facebook.com/HDWardens> and Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HorshamWardens>

Our monthly reports are available on the Southwater Parish Council website:

<https://www.southwater-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-wardens>

If you know of someone who would be interested in reading our monthly report, but they do not have access to the internet, please contact us and we will be happy to deliver a printed copy to them:

Bettina Long – 07789943156

Dominic Woodhead – 07789943193

[Southwater.Wardens@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:Southwater.Wardens@horsham.gov.uk)

**NEIGHBOURHOOD  
WARDENS**



## Your Neighbourhood Wardens

- We meet the needs of the community to improve the quality of life for the residents through engagement, promotion and support.
- We develop projects that benefit the local residents to tackle community safety issues and promote inclusivity.
- We promote community cohesion, resilience and solidarity to encourage and empower communities to resolve issues.
- We support vulnerable members of the community with activities, advice, welfare checks and signposting.
- We engage with residents daily to get to know our community to become a trusted friend to offer advice, guidance and educate.
- We offer education and advice when required before taking enforcement action (Fixed Penalty Notices for Public Space Protection order and Environmental Crime offences)
- We contribute to the delivery of the Community Safety Partnership by working with other agencies to provide a highly visible and reassuring uniform patrolling presence.
- We provide an effective eyes and ears service aimed at reducing the fear of crime and improving quality of life.
- We submit reports to the police to reduce incidents of drug use, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour (101 in non-emergencies and 999 in emergencies) and work alongside them to tackle anti-social behaviour.



**Bettina Long**  
07789 943156



**Dominic Woodhead**  
07789 943193

**IN AN  
EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS DIAL 999**

If you wish to speak to us in confidence, please give us a call or email [southwater.wardens@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:southwater.wardens@horsham.gov.uk)

 @HorshamWardens  
 @HDWardens



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