

Update on Crime Alert Delivery in Sussex



Dear Coordinators & Members

Service Disruption in Crime Alert Deliveries

In some areas of Sussex, there has been a clear decrease in how often crime alerts are sent out. Both Neighbourhood Watch (NW) and Sussex Police would like to sincerely apologise to all those who have been affected by this reduction. We understand and value the importance of these updates, recognising how essential and helpful they are for everyone involved in Neighbourhood Watch. Your patience and understanding during this period are greatly appreciated.

Reasons for Service Disruption

The interruptions in the delivery of crime alerts have arisen due to two main factors: resourcing challenges and additional, unforeseen commitments.

District Engagement Officers (DEOs) across Sussex have been heavily involved in a continuing monthly government project. This, combined with some resourcing difficulties in various areas, has placed significant extra demands on them.

Details of the Government Project

As part of this project, DEOs are required to dedicate a substantial amount of time to uploading information onto the Sussex Police website (SPW). This includes two key areas:

- Updating policing priorities for each area
- Uploading details of local engagement meetings

Policing priorities for each group of areas may change according to the specific needs identified locally. For instance, the Horsham District is divided into 43 areas, which are organised into 10 groups on the SPW. Managing this is a significant task, especially as our DEOs are already responsible for numerous other duties. We are extremely grateful for their continued hard work and recognise the pressures they face, especially when resources are limited.

Ongoing Collaboration and Interim Solutions

Neighbourhood Watch and senior Sussex Police representatives are working closely together to explore alternative ways to deliver crime alerts effectively.

In the interim, crime data for all areas remains accessible via the SPW. However, please be aware that this information is typically uploaded approximately six weeks after incidents occur. If you require assistance accessing this data, please email horshamnwh@gmail.com. The Horsham District NW Association will then provide a training note to guide you through the research process.

Apology and Appreciation

Once again, we sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this disruption may have caused and want to reassure you that every effort is being made to restore crime alert delivery to those affected areas as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. We would also like to express our appreciation to our DEOs for their ongoing dedication and hard work on behalf of our communities.

Kind regards,
Mary Irons

Vice Chair, Pan Sussex for the Sussex NW Federation Communication & Events Manager.