

PCSO Monthly Ward Update: Woodingdean

Brought to you by your Ward PCSO Podesta

Introduction

My name is Leo **Podesta**, and I have been serving as a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for over 2 years now. During this time, I have developed my skills and knowledge to provide the best possible service to the community.

Prior to my current role, I briefly served as a Police Constable, though I later realised that the PCSO position was a better fit for me. Additionally, I was a Police Cadet during my youth years, which started my passion for helping the community. My experience across these various roles has given me valuable insights into policing, enabling me to approach situations effectively and with a well-rounded perspective.

(3 main ward Priorities)

- **ASB from E-bikes/ scooters**

This is most prevalent in summer however any ASB driving will be met with S.59 warning or seizure of the vehicle if appropriate.

- **Dirt bikes in green spaces**

If you do notice people riding on dirt bikes/ motorbikes in green spaces, causing ASB or distress then please put in a report.

- **Speeding on COWLEY DRIVE/ WARREN ROAD / FALMER ROAD**

Regular patrols to be completed to deter/ detect speeding. Those caught speeding, will have action taken against with Traffic offence reports (TORS). This can be issued both my PC's and PCSOs (Myself). I will be later this month receiving specialist training on speed recording devices which can aid my policing approach around speeding.

Ward Update – January 2026

Hope this update finds you well. Firstly, I wanted to give you news with a suspect attempting to gain access to multiple stores on WARREN ROAD & WARREN WAY. This has been classed as attempted burglary. Multiple enquires are being made, including myself engaging with business to ascertain any further CCTV/ information.

I can appreciate there may be rising concerns in WOODINGDEAN on this type of crime especially in recent months on residential burglaries. I want to provide reassurance, that this has not gone un-noticed and is being taken with caution. I continue to patrol areas affected as part of my Directed Patrols Activity (DPAs). I am also welcome people to come to any of my monthly community meetings, whereby I can provide crime prevention advice on how to stay safe.

For residents in Bexhill Road, you may have noticed an untaxed Vauxhall Corsa which has reportedly been left on the public roads since summer. I have since made communication with the owner. It has now been removed and should not be returning unless made legal. If you do see a vehicle which has been left alone for an extended period of time or appears

abandoned, then I ask you make contact with the DVLA/ Council. If these services are unable to assist, I would then ask you make a report via 101 or online with the police to which we can act with.

Monthly community meetings

As part of the neighbourhood policing guarantee, the government has allocated more time to ward officers to be actively visible in their wards, this includes the use of community meetings. With this important news, monthly community meetings will now be held at the WOODINGDEAN COMMUNITY CENTRE. I will be at the community centre to have any 1:1 / provide information within the local ward. Please see below:

2026

- 6th January at **1130am** – 1 hour
- 11th February **1000am** – 45 minutes

I continue to monitor reports that come into WOODINGDEAN and ensure the public receive the necessary support. I will also check trends and rising issues and ensure proactive policing is taken.

WOODINGDEAN Patrols

Patrols have been completed across various areas of WOODINGDEAN. These patrols are directed with information/ intelligence we receive.

The central park has been patrolled regularly, with foot patrols near and around the playground. In recent weeks more patrols are being completed in the evening period whereby suspicious activity is occurring.

I encourage those within information around a particular concern, to please make a report. As this could help me patrol more particular areas of concern. This can be done via 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Visits attended

This month, I have had a meeting with councillor Jacob on concerns/ issues within WOODINGDEAN. This has proven to be greatly beneficial in information sharing.

I have also completed a school visit at DOWN VIEW SCHOOL, whereby a talk was done on community safety. This is a great opportunity for children to learn the necessary skills to remain safe. I welcome schools in the WOODINGDEAN area to get in contact with me if you wish for any police school visit!

If you would like me to attend any other community meetings or events, please submit a request through the Sussex Police website using my collar number 43598.

I hope you found this month's ward update to be informative and look forward to giving out the next monthly update!