



## Annual Report and You Said, We Did . . . . . March 2024

South Northants Neighbourhood Policing Teams have welcomed a couple of new members to the team and have also seen a couple move onto pastures new. PC Mohammed Mir has joined Brackley and PC Stefan Macovei has joined Towcester. PC Frankie Smith has moved to a seconded post as a Dog Legislation Officer with the Force and PCSO Paris Jones has left to take up a role as a civil servant. PCSO Jen Harrison is supporting our team whilst working as a dedicated anti-social behaviour officer.

Hopefully most villages will have now been visited by the Beat Bus, an initiative launched in late 2021. We aim to use this and other resources to bring officers to your doorstep and offer some of our more isolated residents the opportunity to speak to officers on a 1-2-1 basis whilst the officers also complete some of their existing workload in an agile manner. Our focus is driven by you and if you feel that your village would benefit from any additional visits then please contact us – details can be found at the end of this report. We would rather become involved in resolving any issues or concerns at an early stage to prevent situations escalating or deteriorating. Ideally our visits should be timed alongside community events, meetings or gatherings to maximise opportunities to meet your local officers.

Overall, South Northants is a pleasant and safe place to live. Crime levels are relatively low and if you wish to look at more detailed information in respect of these then you can visit [Police.uk - Your area](https://www.police.uk)

Our community identified policing priority surveys, highlighted that road safety; vehicle crime and rural crime are your real areas of concern and these were chosen to be the priorities between December 2023 and March 2024.

### **Road Safety:**

As a Neighbourhood Team, we have responsibility for engaging with all of our local schools across all year groups. We receive many reports relating to the use of vehicles around school times from the public and schools themselves. These reports are followed up by ourselves, or by us linking in with partner agencies and enforcement will be undertaken where appropriate. We acknowledge that many schools are located within tight road networks and that societal changes are often the cause of sheer volume of traffic utilising these to get children to and from school. Therefore, much of our work in tackling issues will be educationally based in order to, disrupt and deter issues. Enforcement will be a last resort but is always an option for persistent issues.

In December 2023 during the Force's Drink and Drug Drive campaign, an operation was carried out during a night in South Northants. This resulted in 27 people submitting to breath tests, 3 arrests for drug drive, disqualified driving and handling stolen goods (diesel). 18 offences were identified, 5 vehicles seized and a quantity of stolen property recovered. For anyone believing that it is unfair Police targeting motorists clearly this proves that notion to be misguided. Criminals use our road network and drive vehicles also.

### **Vehicle Crime:**

Nationally there is a trend in stealing load and diesel from HGVs parked up overnight. Currently these offences are low in number in South Northants and affect major trunk road predominately. Thefts of tools from vans is more problematic and officers aim to follow up all offences of theft from a motor vehicle with a call or visit to the victim, completion of any CCTV enquiries, house to house where appropriate and a media report for witnesses. These offences are opportunistic in nature and hard to second guess where they may occur. Vans are a particularly vulnerable target for stealing tools however these types of vehicles are parked in most streets and activity around them doesn't always draw attention. We encourage



van owners or operators to invest in lockable options for items within the van and consider marking tools to make them less attractive for onwards sale.

### **Rural Crime:**

The rural crime team has seen a much quieter start to 2024 than 2023 with far less thefts and rural crime activity happening. We have noted an increase in plant machinery thefts and building sites are proving favourable. The team have been busy with numerous warrants alongside the RSPCA for animal welfare related incidents as unfortunately we are seeing an increase in people abandoning their animals or just not caring for them. We have had several arrests for rural crime which are progressing at this time and cross border working with our neighbouring forces where we see offenders committing crime across several counties. We have delivered training inputs to all the young farmer groups across the county which have been well received. We have also been on training inputs with the other regional forces in Lincolnshire and Leicestershire on wildlife crime matters and to the LAMMA show at the NEC where we build working relationships with other forces and manufacturers as well as engaging with our own rural community who attend the event. We have recovered several stolen items and returned them to their owners and are continually developing intelligence around offenders. We've also had several reports of livestock worrying and where we had a particular problem which resulted in a warrant being obtained and the dogs seized and eventually rehomed. We will continue to support the rural communities through attending events and being visible and ask that any information no matter how small you may think it is, report it as it may be the missing part to a wider problem.

Please consider signing up to **Northants Talking**. This is an email messaging system that all Schools, Parish Councils, Neighbourhood Watch and community members can join. In registering your email address, you will receive up-to-date information regarding crimes, policing activity, crime prevention advice and much more. This system is a two-way process and offers you a chance to respond to information provided as appropriate. If the majority of the community sign up then we can create a virtual network of additional eyes and ears, watching out for suspicious activity, looking out for vulnerable friends, family and neighbours and receiving information about local events and activities that can help alleviate fear of crime and promote a safe and secure lifestyle.

**You can join the Northants Talking Messaging System easily via this link:**

[Northamptonshire Talking](#)

Your Neighbourhood Policing Teams are based within the Community at Brackley and Towcester Police Stations. These are Police bases so don't have an open front office to visit but officers are there daily. We would like to attend as many events, local groups, warm spaces, community ladders as possible to allow you opportunities to meet us and share your concerns, we can offer information and advice and tackle community issues with your support.

Please do follow us on social media where possible (Twitter: **@SthNorthantsNPT** and Facebook: **'Daventry and South Northants Neighbourhood Policing Team'**). We try and promote as much of our day to day activities as we can however if there is anything else that you would like to see us report back on then let us know. Your feedback is important to us and you should be part of any changes we implement. There are some aspects of our work that we cannot report back on due to the vulnerabilities of the persons involved, and their right to privacy but we will try and let you know as much as we can about the type of work that we get involved with.



We work closely with our Rural Crime Team and you can follow their work via Twitter:  
**@hutch472 & @NorPolRural.**

We have previously reported a rise in issues associated with the use of social media to send offensive messages and/or images. This has especially been an issue with children of school age from school years 6 upwards (ages 10-16). Thankfully work between Police and schools seems to have reduced the amount of reports. We will always focus on safeguarding, education and intervention as first choice but there have been occasions where this type of behaviour has had to be tackled at a higher level with Youth Offending Team intervention to prevent children entering the Criminal Justice System. Officers will be undertaking further assemblies and class inputs with schools over the coming months.

Should you wish to discuss a particular issue that is of concern to you or meet a member of your Neighbourhood Policing Team then please contact either team via:

[NT-SouthNorthantsBrackley@pnn.police.uk](mailto:NT-SouthNorthantsBrackley@pnn.police.uk) or [NT-SouthNorthantsTowcester@pnn.police.uk](mailto:NT-SouthNorthantsTowcester@pnn.police.uk)

### **PLEASE DO NOT REPORT CRIMES VIA THESE EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Reporting an issue or crime to the Police can be made in a number of ways. This includes ringing 101 or online. Northants Police's new website offers a reporting system for

- A road traffic incident
- Missing person – no immediate harm
- Terrorist activity
- Fingerprints appointments – this could be asked for when travelling abroad
- Hate Crime/ Incident

So that your report can be managed as quickly as possible, it's important to consider the following information and have it ready to provide:

- the date and time the crime happened
- the location, such as address or road name along with the town or village
- a description of any people involved
- the details of any witnesses or suspects
- if you think there's any other evidence such as forensic evidence or mobile phone footage
- if there is clear CCTV footage of the offence being committed

The above reporting tool can be reached via:

<https://www.northants.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>



## USEFUL LINKS

Northamptonshire Police Website: <http://www.northants.police.uk/>

Check if a vehicle is taxed or untaxed and report if necessary: <https://www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-tax>

Useful link for all matters related to driving: <http://think.direct.gov.uk/>

This link will provide you with useful information to help protect yourself from scams:  
<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/>

Trading Standards – Advice and help for consumers: [West Northants Trading Standards](#)

Contact Crime Stoppers anonymously about crime:  
<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

Fearless - a site where young people can access non-judgmental information and advice about crime:  
<https://www.fearless.org/>

Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Watch:  
[www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)

Report to South Northants Council - Fly tipping, dog fouling, Litter, noise pollution and other issues: [West Northants Council](#)

Advice on boundary disputes with neighbours:  
<https://www.ricsfirms.com/residential/legal-issues/boundaries/rics-consumer-guide-boundary-disputes/>

Street Doctor – reporting Highways issues:  
<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/northamptonshire-highways/roads-and-streets/Pages/report-highway-problem.aspx>

**Thank you from South Northants Neighbourhood Policing Teams**