



## **Locally Identified Priorities Survey Outcome South Northants Neighbourhood Teams**

### **South Northants You said, we did . . . .**

#### **Dear Resident,**

Following consultation with you, the public, we set three local policing priorities – Drug Dealing and Misuse, Acquisitive Crime and Road Safety.

These were based on what local people told us concerned them most in their neighbourhood, as well as local crime statistics and information from our partners (such as the local council).

These priorities have been the focus of much of our work over the last few months and below is an update about some of the work we have been doing to tackle them.

#### **You said, we did .... Drug Dealing and Misuse**

On 13<sup>th</sup> April and following information from members of the public relating to unusual behaviour officers visited a unit on Buckingham Road Industrial Estate in Brackley and found a cannabis factory in the process of being set up. The building contained over 300 immature plants and was under construction to facilitate the future growth of potentially thousands more. This matter is still being investigated however all of the growing compost was donated to Brackley Town Council to benefit legal planting within public areas of the town. A large number of food items were also recovered within the building, items to be used to sustain persons who would ultimately farm the cannabis. These food items, worth hundreds of pounds, were donated to the local food bank.

On 24<sup>th</sup> April officers from South Northants Neighbourhood Policing Teams working alongside handlers with passive drugs dog from ICTS, attended a drugs awareness day at Magdalen College School in Brackley. Officers and dog handlers engaged with the majority of the 1500 pupils across the school's two sites in the town. The children were aware of the drugs awareness day however the provision of the dogs was not announced prior to the event.

Officers from within the teams are currently investigating 5 separate offences of possession with intent to supply illicit drugs. One of these investigations has now received authority to charge by CPS and a female from Deanshanger will appear in court over the coming months to answer this charge. The other investigations are ongoing and are generally awaiting forensic analysis of products and mobile phones found. We will provide an update on this as soon as we are able.

## **You said, we did .... Acquisitive crime**

On 4<sup>th</sup> April a local male committed a robbery at Brackley Co-op on High Street. During this incident he brandished a knife at the cashier and stole an amount of money from the till. The male was identified from CCTV enquiries and arrested. He has since been charged and remanded into custody to appear at court in June.

Over recent months we have seen an increase in thefts of agricultural vehicles and trailers, tools stolen from vans and rural burglaries. Several vehicles have been sighted using multiple different number plates. Our Rural Crime Team colleagues have been working closely with officers from Bedfordshire, Thames Valley and Warwickshire to target these individuals. With significant support and sightings from members of the public a vehicle was tracked down by officers from our Road Crime Team on 29<sup>th</sup> April and 5 persons arrested. These people will now be subject to further investigation between all of the forces aforementioned and are currently on bail. Following these arrests, we have seen a dramatic decrease in rural crime offences locally.

Similarly, on 11<sup>th</sup> May a vehicle that was suspected of being involved in the theft of tools from vans was successfully stopped and 2 males arrested on suspicion of theft from motor vehicles. The vehicle was seized, and enquiries are ongoing while the suspects have been released with conditions not to enter South Northamptonshire.

## **You said, we did .... Road Safety**

Road safety has now rightly been a priority on the area for a long period of time. We have based our Policing response on the 'Fatal Four' offences:

1. Inappropriate Speed.
2. Use of a mobile phone.
3. Not wearing a Seat Belt
4. Drink / Drug driving

We have regularly carried out speed enforcement checks across the area both in the towns of Brackley and Towcester and in the villages – the selection of sites has been based on your feedback.

Officers have been involved in a Task and Finish group in conjunction with Brackley Town Council, Highways and Community Speed Watch to address speeding issues within the town and the provision of additional 20mph zones. The group will also look at options to design out speeding issues by use of landscaping or alternative prevention devices.

All local schools have received a letter to pass to parents giving advice on appropriate parking and manner of driving during the daily school run. A copy of this can be found at the end of this report.

## **Your Neighbourhood Team and how else we can help:**

Please use the following link to the South Northants Neighbourhood Team Page on the Northants Police Website, this lists the Officers and villages within your Ward area: [Policing in your area | Northamptonshire Police \(northants.police.uk\)](https://www.northants.police.uk/policing-in-your-area)

### **Crime statistics**

For some time we have signposted our Parish Councils, NHW Co-ordinators and Community Members to [www.police.uk](https://www.police.uk) where you are able to get an overview of crime and antisocial behaviour in your Ward area

You can also use the following website as a research tool to have an overview of issues affecting your Ward area: [www.streetcheck.co.uk](https://www.streetcheck.co.uk) is an alternate site where you can view information about crime in your area.

Northamptonshire Police uses a variety of platforms to update the community with information that includes key arrests, successful warrants, matters of priority, information appeals. **You can use the below platforms to view this information:**

**Northants Police Website:** [www.northants.police.uk](https://www.northants.police.uk)

**Twitter:** @NorthantsPolice

**Facebook:** Northamptonshire Police

Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Alert has been set up as a free service for the people of Northamptonshire who want to hear directly from the police about crime, issues and the actions taken by officers in their community.

Sign up here: <https://www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodalert.co.uk/#signup-section> or alternatively scan the below QR code with your phone.



**South Northants Neighbourhood Teams also use social media to update the community on a variety of issues and encourage you to follow the below accounts:**



**Facebook:** Daventry and South Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Policing Team

 **Twitter accounts:** @SthNorthantsNPT and @BrackleyNptSgt

directly via email:

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

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

Alternatively, if you wish to remain anonymous you can provide information via:  
[Crimestoppers](#) or [Fearless](#) (Fearless is more youth orientated).

### **Crime Prevention**

[Crime prevention advice | Northamptonshire Police \(northants.police.uk\)](#)

## SCHOOL PARKING LETTER FOR REFERENCE:

Your Neighbourhood Policing teams regularly undertake public consultation to determine the most significant concerns within the local community. A recurring theme is road safety and virtually all schools experience traffic congestion issues during drop off and pick up times. As such we appeal to you to consider the following during these periods:

- Park with consideration to residents – **do not** block or overlap driveways
- **Do not** park on the corners of junctions as you reduce views making it awkward for vehicles to safely turn into or out of a street
- **Do not** stop on or park across pedestrian crossings or school zig-zag markings
- **Do not** drive along pavements when the road is blocked – be patient and wait for traffic to clear
- On congested routes **plan-ahead** and **do not** proceed unless there is a clear space to use to give way to oncoming traffic or to allow traffic to give way to you
- If possible; join with other parents and share journeys to reduce the number of vehicles used and/or avoid congested routes
- Please be patient where a car must cross a pavement to exit a carpark. The driver's view may be limited; and this will be further reduced by pedestrians congregating whilst waiting to pass
- Be aware that **children do not easily judge the speed of traffic** and may step out into the road. 30mph is a limit, not a target and much slower speeds are often required to negotiate busy roads safely
- Pedestrians, especially with young children, should use the side of the road with the widest pathway and wherever possible protected from flowing traffic by barriers or parked cars.

**“Why should we have to cross and use the other side of the road?”** – If it is the safest option in any situation then it is worth doing! Large numbers of children using narrow paths will always be at risk from traffic no matter how busy the road.

The above list is not exhaustive and there will be occasions where drivers or pedestrians will make errors of judgement, especially under pressure. We are all human so please be patient. South Northamptonshire has many schools and officers will complete ad-hoc checks and challenge people where appropriate. Persistent obstructive parking may result in drivers receiving a fine and this is easily avoidable with a little more thought as to where to park or wait.