

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Week ending 6th December 2020

Cheshire News & Appeals



Latest Cheshire News

Commissioner praises Chief Constable as Cheshire's top cop announces retirement

Cheshire Constabulary Chief Constable Darren Martland has announced his intention to retire in the Spring of next year.

PCC David Keane praises his dedication to policing in Cheshire and for more than three decades of service as a police officer. Darren started his policing career in 1990, having graduated from Sheffield University. The initial part of his career was spent in the Knowsley area where he completed a number of uniform and CID postings. In 1999 he joined Cheshire Constabulary where he worked in a number of areas, in mainly uniform operational roles in Halton and Macclesfield. He was later posted to the Eastern Area as the uniformed Chief Inspector. Following his spell in Cheshire, he has served in senior roles at both Merseyside and Cumbria. He successfully completed the Strategic Command Course in 2013 before finally returning to Cheshire in the start of 2017.

CC Darren Martland said: *"It has been an honour and privilege to serve the public, as a police officer, for more than 30 years, and I have made the very difficult decision to retire from policing in order to enable me to spend more time with my family and pursue other personal interests. I am immensely proud to have led such a wonderful organisation, and I have no doubt that, given the professionalism, care and commitment demonstrated by our staff and volunteers, Cheshire Constabulary will meet the current and future policing challenges, and will continue to 'Make Cheshire Safer'."*

Praising Darren for his work both as Chief Constable and across his policing career David Keane said: *"I want to thank Darren personally for more than 30 years of service to the public as a police officer, and in particular for his commitment to making Cheshire safer during his tenure as our Chief Constable. As Chief Constable, Darren has served through one of the most challenging times in living memory, overseeing the policing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and delivering operational policing against a backdrop of severe financial challenges. Despite these challenges, Darren has been able to see through the introduction of Cheshire's new community policing model, as part of our ambition to make Cheshire the best in the country at community policing. In addition, his commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion has seen Cheshire Constabulary ranked 12th in the Inclusive UK Employers Awards 2020/21. It has been a privilege to work with Darren and together we have created a strong foundation on which to build. It is a huge honour and responsibility to appoint the next Chief Constable of Cheshire Constabulary and I am confident that with these foundations in place, it will be possible to find an exceptional candidate to build on our substantial achievements. In the meantime, I will continue to work with Darren, on behalf of the public of Cheshire, to build on our successes and to make Cheshire safer. I intend to start the process of recruiting our next Chief Constable early in the New Year. Details of the procedure will be announced in due course."*

Two people charged following theft of delivery van in Northwich

Detectives from Northwich CID investigating the theft of a delivery van in Hartford have charged two people.

James Simms and Kayleigh Bradley were both arrested on Tuesday 1 December following an incident on The Crescent in Hartford. Simms, of Elsie Road, Liverpool, has since been charged with taking a vehicle without consent and driving without insurance. The 36-year-old has also been charged with four counts of shoplifting relating to the theft of items from stores in Broughton and Northwich. Meanwhile, Bradley, of Robarts Road, Liverpool, has been charged with taking a vehicle without consent, driving without insurance, driving without a licence and use of threatening and abusive language. The 32-year-old has also been charged with four counts of shoplifting relating to the theft of items from stores in Broughton and Northwich. The pair have both been remanded in police custody and are set to appear at Warrington Magistrates Court on Thursday 3 December.

Police roll out security measures to protect homes in Bewsey and Whitecross

Police are rolling out security measures to residents living in Bewsey and Whitecross to help protect homes from burglars.

From 30 November officers will be knocking on homes in the area to provide homeowners with free security check of their house. Door and window locks, CCTV door bells and door alarms will potentially be offered.



(Pictured, Police Community Support Officer Hannah Shaw, Elliot Atherton from Warden and local resident Michelle Peers)

The equipment is being provided to residents as part of grant funding worth more than half a million pounds to tackle burglary and acquisitive crime. The funding is also an opportunity to find innovative solutions to improving community safety and make a difference to the area. The £550,000 grant was secured by PCC David Keane from the government's Safer Streets Fund which was set up to prevent crimes in certain areas.

Insp Ruth Atherton, from Warrington Local Policing Unit and leading on the project, said: *"Over the next few months we will either be visiting residents directly at their home to discuss their security. If you are interested in getting involved then we ask you to fill in our survey and get in touch with us either by phone or email. This really is a fantastic opportunity which we hope will drive down crime in the area, and deter thieves from targeting residents here."*

David Keane, PCC for Cheshire, said: *“This is a big step forward to make Bewsey and Whitecross safer for all its residents and help protect their homes from offenders. It is also important for officers to involve residents in the project and find out what issues are impacting the area to help make a difference to the community.”*

[Visit our safer streets page on our website](#) to find out more, and fill in a survey. Alternatively please email safer.streets@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or call 01606 364040. You can keep up to date with the project by following Bewsey and Whitecross on Facebook and @BewseyWcrossPol on Twitter.

Think twice before you drink/drug drive on Cheshire’s roads this Christmas

Cheshire Police, Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service and the county’s Police and Crime Commissioner are urging the public to stop and think before travelling on the roads after having a drink this Christmas.

Officers across the county will be out throughout December cracking down on those who think it is acceptable to travel on the roads whilst under the influence as part of a national operation. They will also be targeting motorists in the mornings who could still be over the limit. Firefighters will be raising awareness of the dangers of taking to the roads after drinking or taking drugs throughout the month in a bid to reduce the number of serious and fatal collisions.

Insp Steve Griffiths from Cheshire Police’s Serious and Complex Collisions Unit, said: *“This year has been a tough year for many and with Christmas round the corner, some people may be inclined to see the year off with a drink or two. We are not trying to bring down the Christmas spirit, we absolutely want everyone to have the best time they can celebrating within the government restrictions, but it is so important that road users understand the seriousness of their actions and how the consequences can be fatal. It is important to remember that even one alcoholic drink can significantly affect a motorist’s ability to react to their surroundings. We do not go out policing the roads for the sake of it – we are doing it to save lives. I am urging anyone who suspects somebody is driving under the influence of drink or drugs to report it to us. We take any road traffic reports from the public very seriously and will take positive action on any information we receive.”*

Station Manager Andy Gray, Road Safety Manager for Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service said: *“During December we actively engage with the public, educating road users on how to drive safely. We explain and show the consequences that drink/drug driving can have, yet people still put their lives, and the lives of innocent road users, at risk. If you are planning on having a drink this Christmas, leave your car at home. Plan your journey home before you go out, chose a designated driver who stays on the soft drinks and doesn’t take drugs, or pre-book a taxi so you can get home safely. Think about who will be waiting for you to come home, and think about everything you would leave behind if the worst was to happen.”*

PCC for Cheshire, David Keane, said: *“People are well aware that driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol is incredibly dangerous, yet we still see motorists take to Cheshire’s roads after taking illegal substances or when they are well over the drink drive limit. The reality of drink and drug driving is clear with potential life changing consequences that will have far reaching impacts on many families at Christmas and beyond. Cheshire Police officers will be very busy patrolling the roads during the festive period to protect the public from these selfish and careless drivers so please be in no doubt, severe action will be taken against those who drive under the influence of drink or drugs.”*

If you suspect anyone of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol report it to Cheshire Police via 101. Alternatively you can submit dashcam footage [via our website](#). In an emergency always dial 999. You can also make a report anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Road safety operation to educate drivers and riders in Cheshire East

Cheshire Police and Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service are taking part in a road safety operation in a bid to educate drivers and riders and help keep people safe on the roads.

The operation will take place on Thursday 3 December between 9am – 2pm along West Road, Clayton By-Pass Rood Hill, Congleton and Nantwich Road, Crewe. Officers are running the operation alongside their partners, including colleagues at the Fire Service who will demonstrate to drivers and riders how to stay safe on the roads with close pass mats and other road safety aids. Covert officers will ride along the identified hot spot areas while wearing body worn cameras. Uniformed officers will then be stopping any drivers identified as having driven too close to the covert officers. The drivers will then be educated on how to pass riders safely and why this is so important – with officers enforcing the law where necessary. Riders will also be invited to stop as part of the initiative and talk to officers and the Fire Service about how to keep themselves safe on their journeys, the importance of being visible to other road users and the significance of courteous riding.

CI for Cheshire Police's Roads and Crime Unit, Rob Dickinson, said: *"There has been a large increase of cyclists on the roads throughout lockdown and there has been an increase in the number of reports of 'close passes' where the safety of cyclists has been put at risk. This operation is about educating drivers to the vulnerability of cyclists and others riding on two wheels such as motorcyclists, and explaining the reasons why it is so important to leave enough space when overtaking. Everyone has the right to use the roads safely and we want all road users to be more considerate of each other, regardless of their chosen mode of transport"*

Station Manager Andy Gray, Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service's Road Safety Manager, said: *"I am really pleased to be working in partnership with Cheshire Police with this initiative as making Cheshire's roads as safe as possible for all is vitally important to the people who use our roads. We will be offering education and advice to both drivers and cyclists, and will be demonstrating why it is crucial for both to be more aware of each other on the roads. Cyclists can feel extremely vulnerable when being overtaken by another vehicle, and we want everyone to feel as safe as possible on their journeys and to share the space."*

PCC for Cheshire, David Keane, said: *"Since the national lockdown, we have seen a big increase in the number of people who have taken up cycling and there has recently been a number of fatal collisions involving cyclists in Cheshire. One life lost on our roads is one too many. I want cyclists in Cheshire to feel safe on the roads and for drivers to have the right knowledge. Together, I hope we can reduce the number of lives lost and prevent another family from losing a loved one."*

Cycling and Walking Champion for Cheshire East, Councillor Suzie Akers Smith, said: *"Safety on Cheshire East roads is cited as the main reason why many people do not cycle, I am delighted that Cheshire Police have instigated this close pass initiative, the first step in helping the residents feel safer cycling on the roads. By cycling every day for short journeys, as well as it being fun, we will reduce congestion and improve our fitness - so everybody benefits."*

All We Want For Christmas is for you to stay safe say Cheshire Police

2020 has been a challenging year for us all. With that in mind, we at Cheshire Constabulary are saying 'All We Want For Christmas' is for you to keep safe, whether that's online, at home or out on the roads.

Our 'All We Want' campaign launches today (December 1) with safety messages and advice to help keep Cheshire residents safe throughout Christmas and New Year. Throughout December the campaign will cover fraud safety advice, how to stay safe online using our 5Cs guide to online safety, domestic violence and

serious acquisitive crime (robbery, burglary, car crime etc). Drink and drug driving will also be highlighted with the Constabulary working in conjunction with Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service. We'll also be sharing relevant information about the coronavirus situation.

Father Christmas, recognising the Force's commitment to being here for justice, returns to help officers trace some of the county's most prolific offenders with his Most Wanted messages. Over the next few weeks, photos will appear on the Constabulary's social media channels, featuring faces of those on his list. It is hoped that people will recognise these offenders and provide vital information to officers. The photos will be posted on the Constabulary's Facebook and Twitter pages, while the 'naughty list' will also be placed on the Constabulary's website.

Supt Laura Marler, who is overseeing the Constabulary's Christmas operation, said: *"At this time of the year, thieves do their own brand of shopping, and this year they are more likely to target people online. We also regularly appeal to the public for information that can help us as we try to track down our most prolific offenders who seem determined to evade us. These individuals who try to evade the courts are denying victims their chance to see justice done and this can often leave many of those affected by crime unable to move on with their lives. We remain resolute in our pursuit of those who believe they are above the law and to ensuring they are held to account for the crimes they have committed."*

PCC for Cheshire, David Keane, added: *"I know that this year has been a real challenge for many residents, and I hope this Christmas period will provide some much-needed cheer. Officers and frontline staff will be on duty helping to keep their communities safe over the festive period. Please help them to help you by following their safety advice and information."*

The safety advice and guidance will be delivered through a combination of videos, gifs and images. To make sure you don't miss any of the messages, follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) - and look for the hashtag #AllWeWant, or [visit our website](#). If you have any information regarding someone you know who is wanted by police please call Cheshire Constabulary on 101. Alternatively you can email public.contact@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or speak to your local PCSO. Information can also be left anonymously, via Crimestoppers, on 0800 555111.

Man charged in connection with new build burglary series

Detectives investigating a series of burglaries at new build homes across Cheshire have charged a man in connection with the incidents.

Wayne Atack, of Milner Street, Swinton, Greater Manchester, was arrested on Monday 30 November by Detectives from Northwich CID. The 37-year-old has since been charged with eight counts of burglary and theft. The charges relate to the theft of boilers and appliances at seven building sites in Northwich, Warrington and Sandbach. The total value of the thefts is believed to be in excess of £30,000. Atack has been remanded in custody and is set to appear at Warrington Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 1 December.

Residents in Chester urged to be vigilant following shed break-ins

Police in Chester Local Policing Unit are advising residents to increase the security of their sheds and valuables following a number of incidents in the area.

Officers are currently investigating three shed breaks in Top Road and Church Road Frodsham, one in Furne Road, Chester and one in Chester Road, Kelsall between 28 and 29 November. In some cases nothing was taken and in others, power tools, quad bikes and a metal detector were taken.

Insp Nick Henderson said: *“While we continue to investigate these burglaries we would urge residents to think about their security and review how they can improve it. In some instances, the locks were forced in order to break into the sheds so if you do have valuable such as bikes or quad bikes in outbuildings or sheds you may want to think about extra ways to secure them - and with Christmas round the corner, it’s particularly important not to give thieves the chance. You can help us make it difficult for thieves by following a number of steps and denying them the opportunity to steal your hard earned property. I’d like to reassure you that as well as making a number enquiries in the area to find those responsible, we’ve also increased patrols to deter thieves. By working together we can make Chester LPU a no go area for those who commit crime.”*

Tips on preventing shed or outbuilding burglaries:

- Check outbuildings, sheds and garages are locked and secure
- Keep windows shut when unoccupied
- Keep personal items such as bikes and gardening tools stored away and out of sight
- Invest in strong padlocks to fit to sheds and/or garages or have them fitted with an alarm
- CCTV is also an option to consider, or security lights which come on when someone walks toward it
- Look out for yourself and neighbours by reporting suspicious activity to police.

More advice can be found by visiting our website <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary/> If you see suspicious activity contact police on 101, or 999 in an emergency, or if a crime is in progress. If you have any information on the shed breaks in Frodsham, Chester or Kelsall contact police on 101 or via www.cheshire.police.uk. Alternatively information can be given anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Latest Cheshire Appeals

Appeal for information following suspicious incident in Warrington

Detectives are appealing for information from the public following reports of a suspicious incident in Warrington.

At around 12.10am on Saturday 5 December officers were called by a concerned member of the public who reported being awoken after hearing shouting on Enfield Park Road in Fearnhead. The caller stated that they had looked out of their window and witnessed a disagreement involving two men and a woman near to the entrance of Tweedsmuir Close. Following the argument, one of the men and the woman got into a dark coloured estate car, and drove off into Tweedsmuir Close; the second man followed the vehicle on foot. The witness believed that the woman may have potentially been forced into the car. However, officers are keeping an open mind as to what happened.

The first man is described as white, approximately 25-years-old, around 5’ 10” tall with short dark hair. He was wearing a dark coloured jumper. The second man was also described as white, approximately 35-years-old, around 6’ tall, he was bald with broad shoulders and of stocky build. He was wearing a two tone

coloured top. The woman was believed to be 30-35-year-old, she was white and had brown hair which was tied in a ponytail. She was wearing a light coloured waterproof top. Enquiries in relation to the incident have been ongoing and so far officers have been unable to identify any of those involved.

DI Ian Robinson said: "Officers have conducted a number of enquiries including speaking to local residents and examining CCTV footage. Despite our efforts so far we have been unable to identify any of those involved. To date we have not had any potential victims come forward, nor have we had any reports of any missing people. Enquiries in relation to the incident remain ongoing and I would ask anyone with any information which may aid our investigation to get in touch. The same goes for any nearby residents with CCTV footage which may assist our enquiries."

Anyone with information or footage that may be relevant to the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 866380, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following aggravated burglary in Warrington

Detectives are appealing for information and footage from members of the public following an aggravated burglary in Warrington.

The incident occurred at around 9pm on Thursday 3 December. Three men wearing balaclavas and dark clothing barged their way into a house in Wellington Street after an occupier had opened the door to them. One of offenders, who was armed with a machete, grabbed the occupier and pushed her against a wall. After managing to break free from him, she ran out of the house and knocked on neighbouring doors. As she was doing so the three offenders also ran out of the house. They fled on foot in the direction of the Star Moon Chinese takeaway. When she returned to her home the victim discovered that a quantity of cash had been stolen. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone who was in the area and saw anything that may help their investigation to get in touch. They also want to speak to anyone who believes they may know who the offenders are, or have dashcam or CCTV footage of them.

DS Alison McLoughlin, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: "This was a terrifying incident that has understandably left the victim extremely shaken up. I would like to reassure residents that this is believed to be an isolated incident and we are doing everything we can to establish the identities of the offenders and bring them to justice. Enquiries are ongoing and we want to hear from anyone who believes they may have relevant information or footage concerning the aggravated burglary. Perhaps you were in the area and saw the offenders, either before they entered the house or as they were fleeing the scene. Or maybe you have CCTV or dashcam footage of the men, or believe that you may know who they are."

Anyone with information or footage that may aid the ongoing investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 865433, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal and call for vigilance following catalytic converter thefts in Warrington

Officers investigating catalytic converter thefts are appealing for information from members of the public and urging them to be vigilant.

Catalytic converters were stolen from four hybrid cars in Warrington between 3pm on Tuesday 1 December and 12 noon on Thursday 3 December. The locations and times of the incidents are:

- Fisher Avenue, between 3pm on Tuesday 1 December and 7.30am on Wednesday 2 December
- Hastings Avenue, between 6pm on Tuesday 1 December and 9am on Wednesday 2 December
- Longshaw Street, between 9.30pm on Wednesday 2 December and 12 noon on Thursday 3 December
- Howson Road, shortly before 7am on Thursday 3 December.

Two men dressed in black were seen stealing the catalytic converter on Howson Road. They arrived and fled in a grey Mini Cooper. Enquiries in relation to catalytic converter thefts in Warrington are ongoing. Detectives are urging anyone with any information or footage that may aid their enquiries to get in touch.

DS Tom Hall, of Warrington Local Policing Unit, said: *“The cars were targeted whilst parked at the side of a road or on a driveway. Offenders use specialist tools to remove catalytic converters from vehicles. If you saw anything suspicious in the areas that the catalytic converter thieves struck please call the team here at Warrington Police Station on 101. The same goes for anyone who believes that they may know the identities of the thieves, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.”*

Insp Anton Sullivan, of Cheshire Constabulary’s Roads and Crime Unit, added: *“Catalytic converter thefts are on the rise across the country, with offenders predominantly targeting hybrid vehicles. I would like to reassure residents that we are doing all we can to tackle catalytic converter thieves operating in Warrington or anywhere else in Cheshire. We respond to any report of a catalytic converter theft as a matter of urgency and ensure that all subsequent lines of enquiry are carried out. In addition, we react swiftly to any information we receive regarding people suspected to be involved in the thefts of catalytic converters. We have made several arrests in relation to catalytic converter thefts in Cheshire over the past year and recently secured charges regarding such thefts in the Warrington area. Car owners can play a significant role in tackling catalytic converter thefts by being vigilant, reviewing any security measures they have in place and calling the police on 101 as soon as possible if they see anyone removing catalytic converters or acting suspiciously in car parks, on driveways or anywhere else where vehicles are left. In addition, we urge scrap metal dealers to be mindful if they are ever offered catalytic converters or exhaust systems and to contact us if they suspect that they could have been stolen.”*

Cheshire Constabulary’s tips on how motorists can reduce their chances of becoming a victim are:

- If possible, park your car in a garage
- If your car is at high risk, consider marking the metal shell of the converter with a unique mark, so that if it is stolen it will be easier to trace back to your vehicle
- If your catalytic converter is bolted on, the bolts can be welded shut – this would not stop a determined thief but would slow them down
- Giving some consideration to the way your car is parked could reduce the chances of your catalytic converter being stolen – high and low clearance vehicles being parked close together make it more difficult for a thief to gain access to converters
- Good quality lighting will improve natural surveillance and make a thief less likely to be able to remove a catalytic converter without being seen
- Leaving your car in an area covered by CCTV may also deter thieves – CCTV systems should be well signed.

Anyone with any information or footage regarding catalytic converter thefts in Warrington or elsewhere in Cheshire is asked to call 101, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following arson incident in Widnes

Detectives investigating an arson incident in Widnes are appealing for information from members of the public.

A fire was started in a brick outbuilding attached to a block of flats in Baron Close on Monday 30 November. The incident was reported to firefighters shortly after 8pm. They extinguished the fire before it had chance to spread beyond the storage facility that it was started in. Fire investigators have established that it was started deliberately. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with any information or footage that may help their investigation to get in touch.

DC Gary McClatchey, of Widnes CID, said: *“Fire spreads quickly and can put lives as well as properties and possessions in danger. The fire caused damage to items within the storage facility. Smoke from the fire caused moderate damage to the outbuilding. Thankfully the fire did not spread beyond the storage facility and no-one was injured as a result of the fire. The consequences of this incident could have been much worse. I would like to reassure members of the community that this believed to be an isolated incident and we are doing all we can to establish who started the fire and make them face the consequences of their actions. As part of our ongoing enquiries we want to speak to anyone who was in the area and believes that they saw something that could aid our investigation. We also want to hear from anyone who thinks they may know who started the fire, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them.”*

Anyone with information or footage that may be relevant to the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 863269, give the details via <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/ro/report> or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal after two off-road motorbikes are stolen in Widnes

Detectives are appealing for information from members of the public after two off-road motorbikes were stolen in separate incidents in Widnes.

On both occasions, the victim brought their bike to the town to deliver it to someone who had seen it advertised for sale online and agreed to buy it if it was delivered to him. In the first incident, a 30-year-old man from the West Midlands took his orange and black Sur-Ron Light Bee electric motocross bike to Hampton Court Way at around 7.30pm on Thursday 26 November. He called the buyer when he arrived. The buyer then appeared from around a corner. He was wearing pyjamas so the victim presumed that he had come out of a house in the close. They discussed the bike and the buyer was given a demonstration. He then sat on it, started the engine and fled on it through bollards leading to Islington Green. He never returned. The thief was a white man who looked to be in his 30s. He was around 5' 10" tall and had a large build and a shaved head. The offender had a grey or brown dressing gown over his pyjamas and also had black trainers and a brown face mask on.

In the second incident, two 19-year-old men from Hertfordshire travelled in a van to bring a white, blue and yellow Husquavarna TC 250 motocross bike to Eltham Close in Widnes. They arrived at around 10pm on Wednesday 2 December. Again, a man in pyjamas appeared after the owner of the bike had called the buyer. After inspecting the bike, the man asked to test ride it. When the seller insisted on being paid for the bike first, the man threatened to stab him unless he handed it over. The offender then gestured towards an alleyway, where a group of five or six people were standing. He subsequently jumped on the bike and rode off on it. The people in the alleyway ran away with him. The victim and his friend did not see any weapons at any point. The robber was a white man who looked to be in his mid-30s or early 40s and between 5' 8" and

5' 10" tall. He had a slim build and thin dark hair and was wearing a brown dressing gown over the top of brown pyjamas. The offender also had a grey face mask and glasses with round lenses on, and he spoke with a Liverpudlian accent.

Detectives investigating the incidents, which occurred close to each other, believe that they may be linked. Enquiries in relation to the incidents are ongoing and the detectives, who have released images of the stolen bikes, are urging anyone with any information that may be relevant to come forward.

DS Henderson Pierre, of Widnes CID, said: *"We are determined to establish who stole the bikes and bring them to justice. We are also determined to find the stolen bikes and have them returned to their rightful owners. My message to the public is to be vigilant and get in touch if you have any information or footage that could help our enquiries. Perhaps you witnessed one of the incidents or think that you saw an offender or offenders before or after it had taken place. Or maybe you have CCTV or dashcam footage of an offender or offenders. We also want to hear from anyone who believes they may know the identities of any of the offenders, or information regarding the locations of the stolen bikes. The bikes are quite distinctive. If you have been offered, or are offered, the chance to buy either of the stolen bikes, please let us know."*

Anyone with information or footage regarding the incidents should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 860412 (Hampton Court Way) or IML 864817 (Eltham Close), [give the details on our website](#) or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Police appeal for information after Huntington burglary

Police are appealing for information following a burglary in Huntington, Chester.

Sometime between 3pm and 6pm on Wednesday 2 December an address in Mercia Grove was burgled. Thieves left with a designer handbag but it appears nothing else was stolen. Police are appealing for information or dashcam footage.

DS Andy Smith said: *"I would urge anyone who has seen suspicious activity in the area recently or on the day of the burglary to contact us so that we can find those responsible. If you have any CCTV or dashcam, or if you remember seeing something that didn't quite seem right in the Mercia Grove area of Huntington, call us or go to our website."*

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police on 101 or via www.cheshire.police.uk quoting IML 864680. Alternatively information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

E-fit released in connection with serious sexual assault in Knutsford

Detectives have released an e-fit of a man they want to speak to in connection with an investigation into a serious sexual assault in Knutsford.

Shortly after 12am on Thursday 27 August a 19-year-old woman was walking home alone, when she became aware of an unknown man behind her. As the teenager approached Hollow Lane, the man spoke to her before punching her in the face and then subjecting her to a serious sexual assault. Following the incident the man left the scene in the direction of Brenton



Drive. The teenager alerted her family who immediately informed police. An investigation was launched and enquiries have been ongoing since then. As part of their investigation detectives want to hear from anyone who recognises the man in the e-fit and believes that they may know who he is.

DI John O'Driscoll, from Cheshire Police's Public Protection Directorate, said: *"Since the incident was reported a dedicated team of officers have been carrying out a number of enquiries to establish the full circumstances. As part of that we think that the man in the e-fit may have vital information in relation to our investigation. I would urge anyone who may recognise the man to come forward and I am also appealing to him directly to get in touch. The incident took place in a residential area and I am encouraging anyone who may have been in the area or lives there and may have seen or heard anything unusual at around 12.10am to get in touch."*

The victim is continuing to be supported by specially trained officers. Anyone with information about the incident is urged to contact Cheshire Police on 101 quoting IML 79050 0. Alternatively information can be provided anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following attack by large group in Ellesmere Port

Detectives investigating an incident in Ellesmere Port are appealing for information from members of the public.

At around 7.30pm on Monday 30 November a large group of males approached a silver Vauxhall Astra at Whitby Park in Stanney Lane. It was in a car park near to a skate park. Armed with crowbars, metal bars and baseball bats, the group demanded that the driver get out of the car. They opened his door and then assaulted him with their hands and feet. The group also smashed up his car, causing extensive damage to the windows and bodywork. The front passenger sustained a hand injury as a result of her window being smashed with a crowbar. The group also fired a firework at the car before running off in multiple directions. The incident left the victims with minor injuries. The young man and the young woman, who are both from Ellesmere Port, did not go to hospital. The offenders were wearing dark clothing and face coverings. There were approximately 20 people in the group and they all looked to be young men or boys in their late teens. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with any information that may help their investigation to come forward.

DC Tim Cope, of Ellesmere Port Local Policing Unit, said: *"This was a terrifying incident that has understandably left the victims extremely shaken up. It has also left them with minor injuries. I would like to reassure members of the community that this is believed to be a targeted attack and an isolated incident and we are determined to establish the identities of the offenders and make them face the consequences of their actions. Enquiries are ongoing and I urge anyone who was in the area and saw anything that may help our investigation to get in touch. Perhaps you witnessed the incident or believe that you saw the offenders, either before they attacked the driver and smashed up his car or as they were fleeing the scene. We also want to hear from anyone who thinks they may know who the offenders are, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them."*

Anyone with information or footage that may aid the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 863247, or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal following robbery incident involving a dog being walked in Widnes

Detectives investigating a robbery incident in Widnes are appealing for information from members of the public.

At around 4pm on Sunday 29 November a woman in her 50s was walking her dog on the field between Wade Deacon High School and Widnes Rugby Union Football Club when she was approached by two men. They grabbed the dog's lead and pulled it away from the woman from Widnes. The offenders then ran off with the dog to an alleyway that leads onto Lynton Crescent. The victim followed them onto Lynton Crescent, where she found her dog abandoned without its lead. Both of the offenders were white, slim and looked to be in their early 20s. They also both spoke with a Widnes accent and had white soles on the bottom of their trainers. One of the offenders was also wearing a blue Pyrenex coat with the hood up. He had mousey hair that was short on the back and sides but had a long fringe. The other man had short dark hair and stubble on his face. He was wearing a full navy blue Under Armour tracksuit. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and detectives are urging anyone with any information or footage that may aid their investigation to get in touch.

DC Rob Catterall, of Widnes CID, said: *"The victim is hugely relieved to still have her dog, but she has understandably been left extremely shaken up by this incident. I would like to reassure members of the community that we take incidents of this nature extremely seriously and are doing all we can to establish who targeted the victim's dog and make them face the consequences of their actions. Enquiries are ongoing and I urge anyone who was in the area and saw anything that may help our investigation to come forward. Perhaps you witnessed the incident or believe that you saw the two offenders, either before they snatched the dog or as they were fleeing the scene. We also want to hear from anyone who thinks they may know who the men are, or have CCTV or dashcam footage of them."*

Anyone with information or footage that may help the investigation should call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 862397, give the details via the report option at the top of our website or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal renewed following theft of eight puppies in Radway Green

Detectives investigating the theft of eight puppies from an address in Radway Green are renewing their appeal for information.

Between 12.30pm and 12.45pm on Tuesday 24 November an unknown person broke into an address in Butterton Lane. Once inside they ransacked the property and stole a jewellery box, along with six three-day-old Cane Corso puppies and two seven-week-old English Bull Terriers. A four-year-old French Bulldog is also missing from the address.



As part of their ongoing enquiries detectives are keen to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time of the burglary and saw anything suspicious. They are particularly keen to speak to anyone with any dashcam footage of a silver car which was seen near to the property.

PC Ceara Marsh, of Crewe Local Policing Unit, said: *“This is a particularly distressing incident and we are doing all we can to trace the people responsible. The puppies stolen during this burglary are all too young to be taken from their mums, so the owners are desperate for them to be returned as soon as possible. We urge anyone who has any information or is offered the chance to buy any of the very young puppies to call us on 101. We would also like to hear from anyone with information in relation to a silver car which was seen acting suspiciously near to the address at the time of the incident. The same goes for anyone with dashcam footage of the vehicle.”*

Anyone with information or footage that may be relevant to the investigation is asked to call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 858804, give the details via the report link at the top of our website or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Appeal for information and footage following three-vehicle collision on the M6

Officers are appealing for information and dashcam footage following a collision involving three vehicles on a motorway in Warrington.

The incident on the Thelwall Viaduct between junctions 20 and 21 of the M6 northbound involved two cars and a pickup truck. The cars - a Mercedes-Benz A-Class 200 and a Kia Stonic - and the Mitsubishi Canter pickup truck were all white. The pickup truck was on its side following the collision that occurred shortly before 4pm on Wednesday 25 November. Thankfully only minor injuries were sustained as a result of the collision. Enquiries in relation to the incident are ongoing and no arrests have been made. Officers want to speak to anyone who witnessed the incident. They also want to hear from any motorists who captured relevant footage on their dashcams. Anyone with information or dashcam footage that may aid the investigation is asked to call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, quoting IML 859550, or [give the details via our website](#).

To find out further information about the Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association, to log into your account or for Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Literature please visit our website: www.cheshirenw.org