

Priorities

Rural Crime – We have still been receiving reports of hare coursing and poaching and we ask people to be vigilant when in the rural areas. If any suspicious activity is seen please call either 101 or if it is a crime in progress 999. We continue to carry out rural patrols day and night to deter and detect those offenders.

We have still had some incidents at the beauty spot car parks where vehicles have been broken into. We have managed to recover some property. Please ensure that nothing is left in your vehicle when leaving it in these locations. We continue to patrol these areas.

ASB (anti-social behaviour) – There have been 23 calls during August however these have all been isolated incidents and have not been repeat locations. We are continuing to patrol previous hotspot areas. Please continue to report all ASB incidents by calling 101.

Pubwatch

Following some disorder on the evening of 10th August in the town a meeting was held by many of the publicans and Thames Valley Police to discuss the incident. Following the meeting the Pubwatch members added 16 people to the list banning them from those pubs. There is zero tolerance regarding any such behaviour.

Crime prevention advice - burglary

Following some basic crime prevention advice can reduce your chances of you becoming a victim of burglary:

- Ensure that all windows and doors in your home are locked and secure – double lock UPVC doors using the keys.
- Remove keys from reach of the letterbox – they can be fished out and used to gain entry to your home.
- Property mark your valuables to help identify them if they are stolen.
- Don't advertise your home to burglars - Use Timer switches to make your home look occupied when you are out – a house left in darkness shows no one is home.
- Leaving windows and doors open in the warm weather gives thieves an opportunity to enter your property. It only takes a few seconds to grab your handbag through the kitchen door!
- If you are in your garden ensure windows and doors out of view are secure. Close windows even if you are just popping out for a few minutes.
- The Wantage and Grove Neighbourhood Police team are able to offer crime prevention surveys on your property. If you would like one please get in touch.
- Would the emergency services be able to find your house easily and quickly in an emergency?
- It really does help if your house number or name is displayed as clearly as possible, particularly if you have a long drive way. By displaying it clearer or nearer to the road it could save vital minutes.

Doorstep scams and rogue traders

Please protect yourself from Doorstop Crime and Rogue Traders:

- If you are not sure then please don't open the door.
- Use a door chain to check who is calling and ask for ID.
- Ask a trusted friend or family member for advice on reputable traders.
- Always report any suspicious activity. You can report it by calling Citizens advice on 03454 04 05 06
- If you feel threatened in anyway please call the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Contacting us and reporting crimes online

Did you know that you can now get in touch with us online as well as by calling 101? Please visit www.thamesvalley.police.uk where you can:

- Provide more information or request an update on a crime report
- Tell us if you recognise a face or description from one of our witness appeals
- Contact an officer or department directly, for example our Fixed Penalty Support Unit. This also helps you reach an officer or PCSO who may be working unsociable hours.

You can also use our new online reporting form on our Website to report any type of crime, traffic collisions involving an injury, a missing person and anti-social behaviour. If you click on the REPORT link it opens up a form which takes you through all the questions that you would be asked if you called 101 and is picked up by our dedicated team in the Contact Centre.

Knife surrender bin at Abingdon Police Station

Operation Sceptre is a campaign to raise awareness of knife crime that is running from the 18th – 25th September. Thames Valley Police will be visiting some of the schools in the area to talk to the children about the dangers of knives. We are placing a surrender bin at the front counter at Abingdon police station during this week where you can safely dispose of any unwanted knives.

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email WantageandGroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today.

