

Shard End Neighbourhood Policing Team



Working in the Shard End, Tile Cross and Kitts Green Communities

APRIL 2021

Welcome

Welcome to the latest newsletter from Shard End Neighbourhood Policing Team.

The end of March brought some welcome easing of the Covid restrictions and we know there is much anticipation for the further easing. It is still very important to follow the rules and guidelines that have been set out. We will be continuing our community patrols to ensure they are being adhered to.

With the easing of the restrictions there will be more opportunities for us to run community engagement sessions in person again. We're certainly looking forward to being able to speak in person about how you've been getting on, what's been going on in the community and what the future holds. It will also be a chance for our volunteer street and speed watch groups to return. Final plans are being made for how all this will happen and we'll let you know as soon as there is some confirmation. Make sure you're signed up to WMNow (www.wmnow.co.uk) and following us on Twitter @ShardEndWMP for the latest information.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to discuss a specific issue before you can see us in person please don't hesitate to get in touch. In addition to WMNow and Twitter you can send the team an email using shardend@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk.

Crime Headlines

We highlighted in the March newsletter that there has been an overall reduction in crime over the last year and as previous we thank the community for continuing to report so we can tackle our local issues.

PCSO's Brotherhood and Ghulum can visit you to give crime prevention advice and if a particular issue is highlighted can conduct re-assurance patrols in any area so keep feeding this into us.

As mentioned in previous newsletters we have continued to see some rises in domestic violence and knife crime figures in line with national trends and we have made specific plans for how we will tackle these issues. If you have any concerns or information that you would like to share to help us please get in touch with the team, call 101, use LiveChat on the West Midlands Police website or if you wish to remain anonymous you can contact CrimeStoppers.



Serving our communities, protecting them from harm

Priorities

The force priorities for West Midlands Police remain Covid-19/Community Safety, tackling domestic violence and reducing youth violence. As a team we support these priorities on a daily basis while working in our local communities in addition to these issues we also have our local priorities:-

- Domestic Abuse – tackling longer term issues and high demand / early intervention
- Under 25 violence – working with youths and families to identify vulnerabilities – early intervention / diversion tactics
- Anti-social behaviour - (motorbikes and off road Quad / bikes, speeding and parking)

Domestic Abuse

If you suspect that an instance of Domestic Abuse is happening in the community we urge you to report it to us. It can take the victims themselves a long time to come to the police or go a different agency to ask for help. Understandably the situations and circumstances that people find themselves in are complex and it's not always easy to seek help. You can help us to have conversations earlier and intervene to prevent further harm.

If you or someone you know is suffering from domestic abuse there are a number of organisations in addition to West Midlands Police that can provide emotional and practical support and advice to help.

- National Domestic Abuse Helpline - <https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/> - 0808 2000 247
- National Centre for Domestic Violence - <https://www.ncdv.org.uk/> - 0800 970 2070
- Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid - <https://bswaid.org/> - 0808 800 0028
- Men's Advice Line – <https://mensadviceline.org.uk/> - 0808 801 0327

Under 25 Violence

A West Midlands policing priority is to tackle Under 25 violence. It is a priority across the force and also in Shard End.

Action behind the scenes...

PS Jenkins and team arranged on line partnerships meetings in April 2021 to discuss some of our local youths so we can really work in partnership to tackle youth crime but also to get the right help to our local families who may have particular vulnerabilities – Police, Social Services, Youth offending teams, Education, Housing etc... we are tackling this together and any updates we will put onto our monthly document.

We do not want to criminalise children ... Diversionary tactics, mentoring, help in school ... but we will not allow the community to be in fear and enforcement action will be taken.

Some of the parents have been very supportive and appreciative of the help & guidance we have been giving them and one parent called us to report their child had a weapon in their bedroom.



PARENTS... PLEASE support your local Neighbourhood Teams to tackle this issue... we want a bright future for our local children... help us to help you....



LOCAL YOUTH FACILITIES

We encourage all youths to attend these 2 great facilities totally independent of the police and confidential.

The Pump (East Birmingham) Ltd

286 Kitts Green road
Birmingham
B33 9SB
T: 0121 675 8381
W: www.thepump.org.uk

Shard End community Centre

Jules @ the community centre is arranging some new groups starting shortly, we will advertise these on our next document at the end of May. The football pitch is out of action and needs a good few thousand pounds to fix...

Your local neighbourhood team wants to join the local youths in some sporting activity but with the football pitch out of action we will look at other options...

UK YOUTH NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS



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- St Giles “turning a past into a future”
- More talk more action...
- Children’s society
- BEST
- Princes Trust

Exploited children and young people don't always look vulnerable and may not act like victims.

LOOK CLOSER

If something doesn't feel right, it may not be.

Public spaces like bus and train stations, fast food outlets, shopping centres, hotels and roadside services can be where young victims of child exploitation are most visible.

Help us protect children and young people from exploitation. **Don't wait. Report it:**

If you are concerned about a child and think it's an emergency, dial **999** or **101** if it's not an emergency.

On a train text British Transport Police on **61016**

Otherwise contact Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**

#LOOKCLOSER

childrenssociety.org.uk/lookcloser

Public spaces like bus and train stations, fast food outlets, hotels and roadside services can be where young victims of child exploitation are most visible.

If we all learn to spot the possible signs of a young person being exploited, we can all help to keep them safe and stop this abuse from happening.

Please take a few minutes to learn a little about child exploitation and what to do if you are concerned about a young person or group of young people you see.

WARNING: Don't wait. Report it.

Young people who have been exploited:

- Don't always look vulnerable
- Don't always act like victims
- May not understand they are being exploited
- May have a distrust of police/adults in authority
- Can feel scared about what might happen to them next
- Need to feel safe and heard, so that they feel comfortable talking about what might be happening to them

Young people can be exploited anywhere, but these locations are particularly common sites where you may be able to spot the signs:

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Train, trams, coaches and buses are all methods of transport used by organised crime groups to traffic children for exploitation.

PETROL SERVICE STATIONS: Children and young people being trafficked for exploitation may often stop at service and petrol stations to use the bathroom or get food.

FAST FOOD OUTLETS, GAFES AND SHOPPING CENTRES: These provide familiar environments, affordable food and access to wifi. Some outlets are open 24 hours a day.

HOTELS: Exploiters often use hotel rooms to groom and exploit children and young people for sexual abuse or criminality. Hotels can be used as a base by organised crime groups to store, prepare and distribute drugs.

Taxis & Ride Shares: Taxis and private ride share apps can be used to transport exploited children and young people.

SCHOOLS, COLLEGES & UNIs: Young people who are exploited may struggle to maintain their education. Changes in their behaviour, appearance and attendance can be signs that something is not right.

If something is worrying you about a young person's behaviour or appearance and it is safe to do so, ask them if they are ok – it could make a difference.

Some ways to start a conversation:

"You look lost. Do you need some help?"

"Hi. Are you alright? Where are you off to today?"

"Where have you travelled from today?"

"Would you like some help with it?"

"I hear you don't need me saying, but you seem a little upset? Can I help?"

B.E.S.T.

THE Breakthrough Enterprise Skills Training PROJECT

Reaching 50 years of combined experience of empowering people towards career success, AVision for Empowerment CIC and Unique Partnerships in conjunction with PeoplePlus present The B.E.S.T. Project.

Are you **18 - 35** years old with convictions?
Are you thinking of becoming your **OWN BOSS**?
Or are you looking for **SUSTAINABLE WORK**?

Funded by:
west midlands police and crime commissioner

PeoplePlus Enterprise

UP Unique Partnerships Ltd

AVision for empowerment

The BEST project will empower you with the intensive support needed for you to achieve career **SUCCESS**!

Our dynamic team will provide you with:

- Specialised one-to-one sessions
- Self-empowerment, motivation and well-being support
- Your unique and personalised career plan
- Help to improve your employability and business skills

You will be offered job opportunities, tailored 'in-work' support and specialised business start up guidance

Access to the People Plus Enterprise Hub and experienced advisors to support you to grow your business!

"Once you believe in yourself, there's nothing you cannot achieve!"

Let us bring out your **BEST**!

Please contact:
AVision for Empowerment CIC
T: 07775 888 809
E: lorraine@avision.co.uk
R: best.referrals@avision.cism.net



Shard end Allotments

Sad news that the local allotments were vandalised. PCSO Brotherhood has met with some of the allotment community for re-assurance and has referred the location to our design out crime team. Our CID investigation colleagues at Stechford are investigating and we will keep you informed of any arrests. As it is an active enquiry I cannot give any further information at this time but I assure you that the shard end team will continue to assist the local community.

Beggars / Aggressive begging

We have had continuing issues with begging and sometimes aggressive begging at some of our larger local shops, we know who the beggars are and as well as taking action we are working with homeless charities to re-home them. We would ask the local community not to give money to the beggars as this hinders them in getting the help they really need from the homeless charities to get their lives back on track.

PC Ellis-Mayes has been working hard on this matter and has successfully re-homed a local beggar and we wish him the best for the future. Well done Maya!

QUADS

If anti-social behaviour is committed by a vehicle, please submit any intelligence of registrations of the vehicles, warning letters can be sent to the keepers, it doesn't matter if different people ride it, the vehicle is the offending ASB issue and can be seized. This is a continuing issue for residents and for us in Shard End, OIC is PCSO Ghulum who is collating all relevant information, every weekend we prioritise off road vehicles.

ASB

PCSO Brotherhood and PS Jenkins met with housing officers, council rep and representative from our Kitts Green residents association at the shops at Kitts Green to discuss safety and other local issues. If you are from the Kitts Green area and want to join the local residents group to assist with local issues please contact them via their facebook page, we always need more active citizens.

Getting Involved

Very soon it will be possible to volunteer to work with the team again and support us in making our communities a safer place. The two main activities that you can get involved in are Street Watch and Speed Watch.

Neighbourhood watch – If you are interested in knowing more about setting up a local neighbourhood watch please contact us and we will get you up and running.

Street Watch involves teaming up with other local residents to go on a patrol of the local area, sometimes in the company of one of the team, sometimes just as the group of volunteers. These patrols identify if there are any issues and concerns that we can then get involved with resolving. PCSOs Brotherhood & Ghulum have contacted our local street watch groups and will be organising covid compliant activity in May 2021 looking forward to seeing the team out and about with our local groups.

Speed Watch involves working with some of the team and other volunteers to conduct a speed check operation on roads identified as having issues with speeding. Details of speeding cars are taken so we can get in touch with the driver to address their behaviour.

PS Goldsmith will be organising a speed watch very soon watch this space....
For more information on any of these activities please do get in touch.



Local ward meetings.....

Forthcoming councillor Ian Ward public meetings.... chaired by Ian Ward. Links can be found on the council website nearer the time...

- Tues 11th May, 6pm
- Tues 22nd June, 6pm
- Tues 27th July, 6pm – tbc
- Tues 7th Sept, 6pm
- Tues 5th Oct, 6pm
- Tues 23 Nov, 6pm
- Tues 14th Dec, 6 pm

Funding

We have applied for some small funding for local initiatives, will update you if we are successful. We will also submit a funding application when the next Police and crime commissioner's application is out...

Team Activity.....

It has been a busy month for the team... very proud of their initiative, hard work and dedication... We have a new team member, Trainee Detective Constable Winter who is with us for 5 weeks...

PCSO Activity

Faith forum – early stages of developing a faith forum in the local community. More details to follow.

Police Cadets – Socially distanced cadets has returned, anyone interested please contact us.

Patrols and re-assurance visits to all burglary and vulnerable victims of crime.

ASB graffiti patrols & patrols targeting where drug dealing may be taking place & Visits to shops in Lea Village and lots of other work in the background...

Other activity

- Warrants x 4 - see our haul below!
- Numerous arrests...on a daily basis arrest attempts are made for domestic abuse offenders
- Lots of stolen cars recovered
- Tackling begging
- Tackling graffiti



Activity.....

Warrant...

Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 12 Apr

We appreciated the irony that the male responsible for this (badly) set up cannabis grow is, in fact, a gardener. He will be interviewed in due course and his crop - such as it is - destroyed. [#anytips](#) [#drugs](#) [#community](#)



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Warrant...

Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 21 Apr

Out early doors this morning to conduct a drugs warrant. Officers acted on local intelligence in order to obtain and execute this warrant. 1 in custody for production. Cannabis will be seized and destroyed. [#yousaidwedid](#)



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Warrant

Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 30 Apr

Warrant executed bright and early this morning with the support of [@OSU_WMP](#). Cannabis funds organised crime, and the owner of this grow is now cut off from mains electric with a heavy fine for abstracting electricity and endangering his neighbours. [#notjustdrugs](#)



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Warrant...

Nothing recovered on this particular drugs warrant this month... but keep the intelligence coming!



Arrests.... Team had a foot chase and caught the offender – great result!



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Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 7 Apr

Officers have arrested a male for a domestic related assault this afternoon. After making off from the address, he was located a short distance away from the address and arrested. [#saferShardEnd](#) [#thisworkmatters](#)



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Patrols...

PC Poole out on patrol meeting some of our locals!

Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 13 Apr

We have been out on foot this morning patrolling higher demand areas of the patch. It's a beautiful day, if you see us come and say hi. [#community](#) [#saynotoasb](#) [#saferShardEnd](#)



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PC Preston with PCSO Brotherhood out on ASB patrols...

Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 14 Apr

It is another lovely evening today. We have been out assessing some of the local asb issues in the area. If you have an information regarding the graffiti that keeps appearing around The Heathway flats & shops drop us a DM. [#communitypolicing](#)



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Recovery of stolen vehicles.....



Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 26 Apr

#stolencar

Vehicle hasn't moved for weeks ✓

The number plates keep changing ✓

It is an expensive car with no local owner ✓

If any of these sound familiar you may have a stolen car on your road.
Please continue reporting so we can get them back home!

@WashwoodWMP



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Shard End Police @ShardEndWMP · 11 Apr

Officers out on patrol spotted this car which looked sus. After a few checks, the car was found to be displaying false number plates and has now been seized. #seized #taxitorloseit



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PS Orla Jenkins, PS Matt Goldsmith & The Shard End Neighbourhood Team

Call '101' or E-mail shardend@west-midlands.police.uk



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