



**NEIGHBOURHOOD  
WATCH  
WORTHING**



**Sussex Police**



## Adur and Worthing Weekly Bulletin

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018**

### **News and appeals**

#### **Police continue action against drug dealers across Sussex**

Police action against drug dealing in Sussex continues, including the execution of drugs warrants at addresses in Eastbourne and Worthing on Friday (26 January).

The raids are part of steps being taken to combat drug dealers who operate from London by operating special phone lines and taking homes of vulnerable people locally, in order to use as a supply base.

An address in Marine Parade, Eastbourne, was searched and three men were arrested, in a car parked nearby, on suspicion of possession of drugs with intent to supply. After being interviewed they were arrested under investigation.

£1000 cash and five mobile phones were seized.

Two addresses in Worthing were searched, one in Queens Road and one Christchurch Road. Five people, three women and two men, were interviewed but not arrested. Another man, aged 25, was arrested on suspicion of possession of cannabis and cocaine, and after being interviewed was released under investigation.

A further ten addresses, eight in and around Eastbourne and two in Worthing, were visited to check on the welfare of occupants and ensure they have access to sources of support, following information that they may be vulnerable to having their homes used by dealers.

And the police activity developed intelligence which resulted in at least six 'County Lines' drug supply phone line being disrupted across Sussex on the same day.

In a linked operation on the previous day, Thursday (25 January), local officers arrested three people on suspicion of drug offences at another property in Worthing.

Officers entered a flat in Northcourt Road, Worthing on a welfare check and the three suspects were discovered inside.

A 45-year-old man and a 29-year-old woman both from Worthing, and a 24-year-old man from Croydon, London, were arrested on suspicion of conspiring to supply class A drugs (crack cocaine). All three were released under investigation.

Typical 'County Lines' activity involves an organised crime group from a large urban area travelling to smaller locations, such as a county or coastal towns to sell class A drugs in particular cocaine and heroin. The group may challenge an existing group from the local area or another county lines enterprise, which can lead to violence.

The name 'County Lines' is used because the organised crime group establishes and operates a single telephone number for customers ordering drugs, operated from outside the area, which becomes their 'brand'. Unlike other criminal activities where telephone numbers are changed on a regular basis, these telephone numbers have value so are maintained and protected.

The organised crime groups tend to use a local property, generally belonging to a vulnerable person, sometimes drug users, as a base from which to deal. This is known as 'cuckooing' and will often happen by force or coercion. In some instances victims have left their homes in fear of violence.

Detective Chief Inspector Steve Rayland of Sussex Police said: "This is not a new phenomenon and is not confined to Sussex. London affiliated gangs have been seeking to establish drug distribution in Sussex and elsewhere in the South East for several years, although activity has increased in the past two or three years, sometimes involving the use or threat of violence.

"The number of active 'County Lines' changes on an often daily basis, as we disrupt them or when they cease to be active for other reasons.

"Sometimes children and vulnerable adults are involved and we work with local partners to safeguard any vulnerable adults and children, although no children were found during this particular operation. The most successful safeguarding outcomes have involved multiple agencies, including police, housing authorities, town councils, public health bodies, and charities.

"We are continuing to actively target such drug dealing across Sussex on a forcewide and local level wherever it is identified in order to make the area a hostile environment for dealers.

For example across Hastings and Rother local officers have identified almost 30 active addresses as being 'cuckooed' or having the potential to be so misused. Four have been identified since New Year's Day alone."

Anyone with information about 'cuckooing' or drug dealing in their area can contact police online or phone 101, quoting Operation Preclude. In an emergency, always dial 999.

Alternatively please visit the [Crimestoppers](#) website or contact the independent charity anonymously on 0800 555 111.

For further information see the force [website](#).

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/police-continue-action-against-drug-dealers-across-sussex/>

## **Police appeal for more drivers to come forward following Worthing collision**

Police investigating a serious collision between a car and a pedestrian in Worthing are appealing for the three drivers who may have seen it happen to come forward.

The incident happened at midday on Thursday (25 January) in Broadwater Road when a pedestrian collided with a Peugeot was crossing the road. The local man aged 48 was taken by air ambulance to the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton in a life threatening condition where he remains.

Sergeant Alan Spicer of the roads policing unit said: "We have dashcam photos of two dark coloured cars who were stationary southbound in front of the collision and a white car (please see link for photo) which was travelling northbound and would have passed the collision.

"We want to hear from those drivers and also from the driver of the Mercedes Actros lorry which passed moments before the collision happened."

The car drivers and the lorry driver and anyone else with information about the collision are asked to report it [online](#) or call 101 quoting Operation Raynham.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/police-appeal-for-more-drivers-to-come-forward-following-worthing-collision/>

## **Have you seen Dean Mazirel?**

A reward is being issued for the arrest of a wanted Worthing man.

Dean Mazirel is wanted on recall to prison for not abiding by the terms of his release from prison. He served time for burglary, assault and criminal damage and was released in November 2017.

The 33-year-old was last known to be living in Marine Parade in Brighton but has not been seen at the address since December. However Mazirel has connections across the Adur and Worthing areas.

Detective Inspector Dave Grover said: "We are offering £500 for information which leads directly to his arrest. "Anyone who knows where Dean is or with information is urged to call us."

If seen, do not approach him please call 999 or report [online](#) quoting serial 1371 of 12/12.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/have-you-seen-dean-mazirel/>

**Alerts/Press Releases sent out this week click the link to see full details.**

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## Burglary

**Reference: 0510 26/01/2018**

Location: Sullington Way Shoreham

Date and time: Overnight

Details: Entry was gained to an insecure porch nothing was stolen.

**Reference: 0969 01/02/2018**

Location: Clifton Road Worthing

Date and time: Between 13:00-16:50 on the 1<sup>st</sup> February

Details: It is unknown how entry was gained to a property. Cash, I pads and a TV were stolen.

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### Help us keep Sussex safe

If you saw or heard anything, or have any information about any incident in this message please [contact us online](#), email us at [101@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:101@sussex.pnn.police.uk) or call **101**, quoting the reference number provided.

Alternatively you can contact the independent charity **Crimestoppers**, anonymously, on **0800 555 111**, or online at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

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### Your local teams

[Visit our Website](#) to contact your local team, view local news and follow our social media accounts. Simply type your post code in the '**Find a Local Area**' box located in the top right of the web page.

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**Links and attachments:** Sussex Police will only ever link you to secure Websites we trust. We will only send you attachments where we believe it is absolutely necessary.

### Message Sent By

Lindsey Wine (Police, Prevention Support & Engagement Officer, Sussex)

### WORTHING NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Neighbourhood Watch began 30 years ago in response to rising crime, but crime has changed and so has Neighbourhood Watch. Now involved in a wide range of community activities and all aspects of keeping safe for communities and individuals alike.

- We are the eyes and ears of the community
- Working to prevent crime, reduce the fear of crime and improve safety.
- Reporting suspicious and criminal activity and looking out for each other.
- Areas where NHW operate are less likely to be targeted by criminals
- Crime cannot flourish in a community that cares

We want to make sure that no one has to feel afraid, vulnerable, or isolated. protecting communities at risk to health, life, property, or environment.

We need a NHW Scheme in every Street.

Join your Street Scheme or Start a Street Scheme yourself – TODAY

to Join NHW go to our website at: <http://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/>

**IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL 999**