

Alcester Police SNTs. Latest Weekly Report. Sunday 16th July 2023

Based at Alcester Police Station, The Safer Neighbourhood team's primary roles are around crime prevention, problem solving both long standing or emerging issues of community concern and community engagement. We are supported at Alcester by colleagues from Patrol teams whose role is to respond to incidents and investigate crimes that occur in the area 24/7. The SNT is supervised by Inspector Hembry who leads on Neighbourhood Policing for Stratford District and Sgt Ebbs who also oversees neighbourhood Policing in the Shipston on Stour area. Alcester SNT currently consists of 2 Police officers and 5 Police Community Support Officers, and our contact details are shown above.

Hello all.

This is our latest combined weekly report and prompt to see if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns for the Alcester Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Thank you to those that have contacted the Teams this week. If you would like to be removed from this local email circulation list, please let me know asap. This report will also be sent out on the Warwickshire Connected alert system.

For operational and privacy reasons not all the incidents that occur on the Alcester area are listed in this report, although they are recorded on police systems. Please remember to report any antisocial behaviour, suspicious activity, or crimes to us as soon as possible - this can be done via the 101 and 999 telephone numbers or if not an emergency via our online reporting forms that can be found on our website. If you have any information or cctv footage that may relate to the incidents listed, please contact us.

Incidents of note from the last week: -

BIDFORD

• Vehicle Damage. Victoria Road. Window of car smashed and tyre on another vehicle deflated. Found morning of Tuesday 11th July. 0038 11/07/2023

PRESTON BAGOT

Burglary. Farm premises. Two quad bikes stolen from outbuilding. Red Suzuki King Quad 750 and a
 Honda TRX 90 kids Quad taken. Between 11pm 10th & 7am 11th July. 0050 11/07/2023

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BISHOPTON

1st of July. 0111 12/07/2023

STRATFORD BORDERS

0373 12/07/2023

HOCKLEY HEATH

Burglary. Bishopton Lane, near to Heron Close. Three boilers stolen from new builds. Around the July. 0111 12/07/2023

FFORD BORDERS

Burglary. Harrow Lane. Two boilers stolen from new builds. Possibly at 5am on Monday 10th July. 2/07/2023

LEY HEATH

Burglary. Tithe Barn Lane. House entered and search made. Cash stolen. Between 12 midnight and Vednesday 12th July. 0071 12/07/2023 6am, Wednesday 12th July. 0071 12/07/2023

Is it illegal to park on zig-zag lines outside schools?

Yes, it's always illegal to park on yellow zig-zag lines anywhere. Rule 243 of the Highway Code Yes, it's always illegal to park on yellow zig-zag lines anywhere. Rule 243 of the Highway Code indicates a range of places where motorists must not park, including on a bend, a dropped kerb or the brow of a hill. It also states that drivers must not park near a school entrance, anywhere that would prevent access for emergency services or near a bus stop, tram stop or taxi rank. Again, the rule will often — but not always — be made obvious with yellow zigzags on the road.

Parking outside a school specifically may obstruct visibility for parents and children trying to cross the road and is thus highly dangerous.

What about when signs are in place?

When yellow zigzags are accompanied by a sign indicating the hours of operation, it means that between those hours parking wardens or local authority civil enforcement officers have the power to issue motorists with penalty charges for parking in the area.

Parking on a yellow zigzag without a sign or outside the indicated hours of operation does not mean that it's legal to do so; it just means that it's a matter for the police rather than the local authority to enforce.

Can you park opposite zig-zag lines?

Yes, but be sure to use both your own good judgement and to ensure that the place you park does not run afoul of the Highway Code in other ways, such as parking too close to a junction, next to a dropped kerb, on the brow of a hill or causing an obstruction.



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Rise in silent 999 calls: Please don't just hang up - let us know you're safe

Rise in silent 999 calls: Please don't just hang up — let us know you're safe

We're asking members of the public to tell us you're safe if you accidentally dial 999. It follows a significant rise in the number of 'silent 999 calls' to our force control room over the past few weeks. A 'silent call' is where one of our call handlers answers the phone and there's no response on the other end. Although it can be done purposefully — such as in the case where someone is experiencing domestic abuse and can't speak — much of the time, it is accidental with the person not realising they've called us.

Demand for our 999 service has gone up and in June we received 10,754 999 calls.

But more than a quarter (26 per cent) of these — 2,181 — were silent calls.

Below Chief Superintendent Mike Smith, who is responsible for the force's Public Contact team, talks about the impact silent calls have on the force.

Ch Supt Smith said: "Although summer is traditionally a time of higher demand for the force, we're getting more than 100 silent calls per day on average, and some of these are preventable. "We never ignore silent calls, and our call handlers will need to spend time establishing whether the call was intentional.

"If you do dial 999 accidentally, please don't hang up. Stay on the line and let our call handler know it was a mistake and you don't need our help. "This will save them valuable time - time that could be spent dealing with a genuine 999 emergency."

Emergency services nationally are currently experiencing record high 990 call volumes and a contributing factor is believed to be an update to Android smartphones. The update, which has added a new SOS emergency function, means you can call 999 by pressing the power button five times consecutively.

You can watch our simple video on how to change your smartphone settings here: https://youtu.be/C1pOQDEBBvg

Ch Supt Smith added: "Although the Android update has had an impact on the number of silent 9s we're getting, we know it's possible to dial 999 accidentally fro