

Washwood Heath Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

November 2024



'Tis the season... to stay safe.

The festive season is here, and it's time to get into the holiday spirit while staying safe. Here are a few quick tips to keep you and your belongings secure:

Vehicle Security

- When parking in public car parks, consider using a secure location with CCTV and good lighting.
- Never leave cash, presents, or designer clothes on display in your car. Lock them away in the glove box or boot.
- Always ensure your car is locked by checking the handle before leaving it.
- If you have a keyless car, invest in a steering lock or Faraday pouch for added protection.

Home Security

- Before leaving your home, even for a short time, ensure all doors and windows are securely locked.
- Close curtains and blinds, and leave a dusk till dawn light on to make it look like someone's home.
- Don't share your travel plans or photos on social media while visiting family.

Personal Safety

- Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings, especially in crowded areas.
- Keep a close eye on your belongings, and avoid carrying large amounts of cash or valuables.
- Avoid keeping your phone loose in your pockets. Always keep money and phones in zip pockets or secure bags.
- Stick to well-lit areas, especially when walking alone at night. Tell someone when you'll be home and keep a list of emergency contacts to hand.
- If you're enjoying festive drinks, keep an eye on your drink at all times. Never accept a drink from a stranger.

If you see or hear something that doesn't feel right, trust your instincts and report it to security where you are or police straight away. Don't wait for someone else to do it.

Washwood Heath officers have been supporting the festive demand in Birmingham City Centre to keep the public safe. Whilst local officers have been abstracted to support wider policing objectives, this has not had an impact on local policing in Washwood Heath.

Please ensure that you be aware of your surroundings, keep yourself safe and personal belongings close by during the festive season.

For those who will be enjoying time off with their loved ones, please remember we will still be working over the Christmas period, so do get in touch if you need any support.

Team Update

PC Paul Weate who has been with the team for just shy of a year has received his substantive posting. Paul will be remaining with the team following the end of his student phase. He brings experience from his former role as a Police Community Support Officer.



Traffic officers have been conducting patrols in the area and on 26 November, they seized 21 vehicles for no insurance and other offences.

A stolen vehicle was located outside a property in Bordesley Green by our PCSO's. Enquiries are ongoing to establish the suspect.

We have carried out speed enforcement operations on Highfield Road and Cotterills Lane through November and will continue to do similar proactive operations to keep the public safe.

Following complaints of untaxed vehicles parked on Bridge Road, suspected to be part of a private traders business, officers have carried out enforcement where untaxed vehicles have been seized. We will respond where possible, however, please report such matters to the DVLA as the primary agency.

You can report traffic offences via Op Snap - [Operation Snap | West Midlands Police](#)



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Virtual Decisions: Influence Launch

We were really excited to be a part of the official launch to a VR film on Thursday 28 November at WMP Head Quarters.

'Influence' was commissioned through the Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) and created following consultant with young people in Washwood Heath, an audition to find local talent and filming nearby. The VR film provides a safe space for young people to make decisions and understand risks/consequences of county lines.



The VR film will be rolled out within Schools in Washwood Heath initially and then nationally. We are thrilled to see this being created under Op Elevate and thank those who attended.



Weapon Sweep

We were joined by former Birmingham City footballer Dele Adebola and community members where we carried out a weapon sweep in Ward End Park. We are pleased to say no weapons were found.

Bleed Kits

We have been pleased to donate eight bleed kits across the area since the inception of Op Elevate. The most recent kits include The Bahu Trust Mosque, Dolphin Womens Centre and Paradise Snooker Club, Bordesley Green.

