



Welcome to your Market Harborough police e-newsletter. Here you will find all of the latest news from a Market Harborough policing perspective and crime prevention advice to help keep yourself safe.

News

Current crime trends across Harborough North have seen an increase in car key breaks, this is when houses are broken into simply to steal the car keys, which enables the vehicle to be stolen from the driveway.

Often houses with two vehicles over a value of around £30,000 each are the ones most likely to be targeted. If you have a high value vehicle, fitting a tracker device is recommended, as the recovery rates are extremely high if one is fitted.

Stolen cars are often parked at the rear of blocks of flats, car parks, or other public places, and given a week to see if they are recovered by the police using the GPS tracker. While steering locks are helpful, recent breaks have included such devices being damaged and removed from vehicles.

Housing issues remain part of the ongoing neighbourhood partnership process at Leicestershire Police. While the formal power of eviction remains with the public courts, police and Housing Associations will work in partnership, as part of the evidence gathering process, to put evidential files together for court.

Criminal prosecution for public order, harassment, or damage, are the most commonly cited offences for neighbour disputes. A public prosecution for an offence significantly strengthens the overall case for eviction, because the behaviour has crossed over from anti-social to criminal offending.

Warrants can also be issued by the courts if dealing drugs is suspected from the premises, but corroboration is sought by the courts for claims of dealing, and a single report will generally not be sufficient for a warrant.

Cannabis remains an area of ambiguity, but the guidance tends to remain that a whiff of a joint, is not in itself sufficient evidence for a formal warrant, again without other forms of evidence, to corroborate the suspicion.

On Harborough North at any one time, we generally have about half a dozen addresses that we are monitoring, through a monthly housing meeting process. If issues reduce, then we can take the address off the monitoring list, if they escalate, then the case for conducting an eviction process is strengthened.

Warning letters can be sent to tenants, and issues can often be resolved on an out of court basis using these letters. Mediation can also be offered if it is appropriate, and both parties agree. Eviction is only an absolute last resort, and a combination of methods for dispute resolution, means in most instances of complaint, it does not need to be used for resolution of community concerns.

E Scooters

Yet again we need to remind parents and young people about the use of E-Scooters.

We will continue to issue warnings to anyone we see riding a scooter on a public road. It is against the law to ride an E-Scooter on a public road or pavement and continued use after warnings have been issued will result in the scooter being seized.



We understand that buying an e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

However, the current law is clear

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land.

Why is this?

Electric scooters are classed as a motorcycle as defined in Section 185 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and, because of their low speed, within the subclass of moped.

This means that electric scooters must abide by the same road traffic legislation as mopeds and motorcycles, such as:

- MOT
- Licensing
- Tax
- Insurance

What happens if I've been stopped by Leicestershire Police?

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Road Safety Partnership and Leicestershire Police understand the public's support for environmentally friendly modes of transport. We want to work with the public to make sure the roads are safe for everyone.

The UK Government is currently taking part in 'Future Transport Zone' trials for e-scooter hire, with a view to making them legal to use on the roads.

All local authorities can apply to take part, but at the moment, Leicestershire are not part of the trials.

Section 185 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 provides the power to seize privately owned e-scooters for driving without insurance or a driving licence.

If you are stopped while riding an e-scooter, you may be given a warning by an officer and your details will be recorded.

If you are stopped a second time your e-scooter will be seized and retained by police.

High speed pursuit

A stolen BMW, believed to be linked to criminality, failed to stop for officers in the town centre in early April and reached speeds of over 100mph before it crashed.

The occupants fled on foot, but were quickly arrested with the assistance of a helicopter crew from the National Police Air Service and police dog 'Gru', who tracked the pair for some distance, including through a brook.

An 18-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of burglary dwelling and theft and being in charge of a motor vehicle with a proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit; dangerous driving and theft from a motor vehicle.

A 17-year-old youth was also arrested on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm with intent, driving a vehicle while unfit through drugs, being in charge of a motor vehicle with proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit, theft of a motor vehicle, possession of cannabis, burglary dwelling and theft and failing to stop for police.



On Friday 29 April, Sgt Pete Jelbert was invited to the Market Harborough Sea Cadets at their base in Market Harborough, to celebrate the enrolment of new cadets and the commission of the Royal Marines detachment. It was his honour to show support with an evening of demonstrations and impressive shows of drill.

He was joined by (L-R) Lt Commander Adam Slonecki (aka Leicestershire police's Chief Superintendent Slonecki), and Civilian Instructor Anna Harbidge (aka Leicestershire police's PC Harbidge).



Beat surgeries

Friday 13 May 2022, 1-2pm, Community Hub, Malsbury Avenue, Scraftoft

Monday 23 May 2022, 11-12pm, The Well, 45 High Street, Kibworth Beauchamp

Monday 23 May 2022, 3-4pm, Post Office and general Store, High Street, Great Easton

Monday 23 May 2022, 1-2pm, The Square, Market Harborough

The next edition will be out soon!