

RURAL & BUSINESS CRIME UPDATE



Thursday 8 November saw a National Rural Crime Day of Action with policing teams across the Wychavon and Malvern districts engaging closely with the rural community.

The poor weather and heavy rain showers didn't deter the teams and residents from getting together to discuss areas of concern and ways the police can further help reassure, prevent crime and enforce the laws to better protect them across South Worcestershire.



Chief Inspector Sean Kent, Malvern Hills and Wychavon Districts, said "Local Policing Priority Teams (LPPTs) carried out traffic stops and farm site visits which were warmly welcomed by residents. We conducted approximately 25 separate farm visits with meeting with farmers and staff where

possible and receiving really positive feedback from the farmers our officers met. More than 20 vehicles were stopped and several static sites visited with four council trade notices served, three DVSA (Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency) prohibition notices served and the removal of vehicles from the road; one fixed penalty notice was served, one VDRS (Vehicle Defect Rectification) was issued and one drugs stop and search performed. All engagement and enforcement activities were reported widely across social media throughout the day.

"High visibility engagement wasn't where we stopped either, with one officer making dozens of telephone calls to previous victims of rural crime and dwelling burglaries, a number of which are identified as repeat victims. The officer spoke at length with over 30 victims who all appreciated the contact and follow up of both them and their cases. It is very important that as a force we continue to reassure victims of crime that they are not forgotten and to update them as often as possible"

The Rural & Business Officer for South Worcestershire was present as the guest speaker for the



speaker for the NFU mutual AGM held at the NFU offices in Worcester. Pro-active watch schemes, events, communication with our rural communities and partnership working was the

main topic of conversation.

Policing teams in Evesham held a drop in session for members of the community at Cleeve, which was well attended and saw a positive amount of West Mercia Police Community Message Service registrations.

More information on how to register for 'CMS' can be found on the website

Officers were out on high visibility patrols across Wychavon for the majority of the shift. Throughout, appropriate stop checks on various vehicles were carried out, of which a car with no tax in The Lenches was dealt with. Checks on 4x4 vehicles travelling in and around the Kersoe and Elmley Castle area were carried out and in Pinvin three males who were believed to be involved in a suspicious incident at Upton Snodsbury were addressed by officers.

There was an evening session attended by officers at Badsey Cubs followed by a meet and greet session with parents.

Community Support Officers on foot patrol spoke to a few residents in the rural areas of Droitwich about keeping lights on during the darker nights and promoted the 'horse Watch' scheme to local farms.

In the previous week, officers worked with other agencies including Customs & Excise, Vehicle Examiners and Wychavon Council on an operation in and around the Droitwich areas to tackle un-roadworthy and vehicles operating without waste licences. The day resulted with:

- 10 Roadworthiness Prohibition Notices
- 3 Red diesel
- 3 No MOT
- 3 No Insurance
- 6 Vehicles seized



From the interaction and engagement with the local community in the rural areas it was clearly apparent that the high visibility presence had a very real positive effect on our communities.

For ongoing information and updates you can find out more on the West Mercia Police website
<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/myarea>

Or follow our social media accounts on facebook and twitter:

Facebook: West Mercia Police Rural Matters, Droitwich Cops

Twitter: @wmpruralmatters, @malvernops, @eveshamcops, @persshorecops, @droitwichcops

