

# Worthing NHW Newsletter



September / October 2024

**Your Committee:**

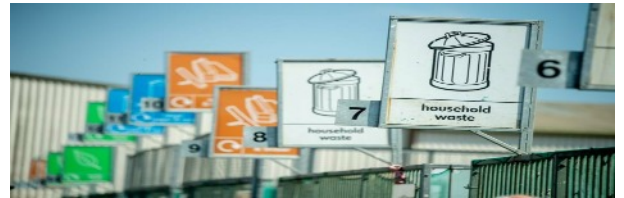
Timothy Drew	SECRETARY
Alan Murrell	COMMITTEE MEMBER
David Wakefield	COMMITTEE MEMBER
Pauline Reymond	COMMITTEE MEMBER
John Nutt	COMMITTEE MEMBER

Email: [worthingnhw@gmail.com](mailto:worthingnhw@gmail.com)

## West Sussex Recycling Centres switch to winter opening hours from October 1st

Recycling Centres across West Sussex will switch to autumn and winter opening hours from from 9am to 4pm, starting Tuesday 1 October 2024 through to Monday 31 March 2025.

*Worthing* - Monday to Wednesday, Friday to Sunday



## Town Central Neighbourhood Police Meeting

Increased seasonal pressure, the early release of prisoners following the arrests in the wake of the recent riots, domestic violence and drugs were all discussed at the Town Central Neighbourhood Police Meeting on Thursday evening 19<sup>th</sup> September. Sergeant Craig Burgess reported that summer was traditionally the force's busiest season with calls up considerably but, though demand on its services remains heavy, this is starting to relent. The riots associated with the Far Right meant that every force nationwide had to provide Police Support Units (whose members have undergone specialist tactical training in public order and riot control) to be deployed as required, and this meant that many Police staff were diverted from routine tasks.

In addition, Brighton Pride is getting bigger every year and now takes place over four days, further impacting Police resources, as also does Glorious Goodwood.

As has already been well documented, prisoners are being released early due to the lack of room within the prison system, which has left the Police feeling very frustrated, especially when it comes to the release of prolific offenders, whose incarceration does at least provide their victims some respite from their depredations. Many of these criminals now feel that they can offend with impunity, but this is a situation that has been in the making for at least a quarter of a century and only time will tell what the impact will be.

Dealing with domestic violence accounts for up to 30% of Police time and the latest Crime Survey for England and Wales estimated that 2.1 million people aged 16 years and over experienced domestic abuse in the year ending March 2023.

With a population of over 111,000, Worthing has about 2,000 known drug addicts, which is not considered unusual for a town of this size. There is not much cuckooing, but drug gangs are increasingly using young children to sell their drugs; if found by the Police in possession of a large supply of drugs, this puts them at acute danger of reprisals by the gang organisers, so meanwhile the onus is on the Police to ensure that they are kept safe.

Tim Drew

Web Site : <https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/>

## Vaccinations update

A new vaccine to help protect against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is now available on the NHS. It will be offered to those aged 75 to 79 and women who are over 28 weeks pregnant. RSV is a major cause of respiratory illness, particularly dangerous for infants and the elderly. Find out more about this new vaccine which will help to prevent severe illness in those most vulnerable, helping to protect lives.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv>

The Covid-19 vaccine will be offered this autumn to those at high risk of serious disease and who are most likely to benefit from vaccination. Find out more about eligibility.

<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/02/whos-eligible-for-the-2024-covid-19-vaccine-or-autumn-booster/>

The flu vaccine helps protect against flu, which can be a serious or life-threatening illness. It's offered on the NHS every year in autumn or early winter to people at higher risk of getting seriously ill from flu. For more advice about the flu vaccination, speak to your GP, practice nurse, pharmacist or school immunisation team.

<https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine/>

## Criminal Justice Act 1988

The Government's zombie-style knife and machete surrender and compensation scheme, which is part of the amended Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapon) Order 1988, commenced on Monday August 26th and ran until September 23rd. From the following day, it became illegal to possess, sell, manufacture, and transport these dangerous weapons, which testifies to the Government's ongoing commitment to tackle serious violence - given that knife crime has risen by 76 per cent in the UK over the past 10 years, with 247 deaths in the year to June 2023.

The Home Office defines a zombie-style knife as "any bladed weapon over eight inches in length with a plain cutting edge and sharp pointed end that also has either a serrated cutting edge, more than one hole in the blade, or multiple sharp points like spikes."

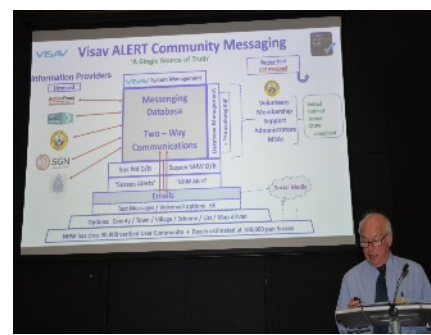
Since these knives were originally banned in 2016, manufacturers have been evading the law by altering their design, meaning that similar large knives with serrated edges continue to be sold as "hunting" or "fantasy" knives. In addition, the current law means that, although these weapons are illegal to carry in public places, they can still be kept at home, leaving police powerless to seize them even when they believe they could be used in future acts of violence. Under the terms of the new legislation, any knife (including kitchen knives) can be seized from private property by the Police if they are there lawfully and have reasonable grounds to suspect that the bladed article will be used for serious violence or other crime.

See the latest Alerts at : [https:// worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/](https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/)



## Sussex Neighbourhood Watch Conference 2024

7<sup>th</sup> September at Haywards Heath College.



Proceedings started with a video presentation followed by a welcome & introduction by John Wright MBE Chair & Derek Pratt MBE Deputy Chair.

A video message from Katy Bourne OBE Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner was viewed.

**Presentations then continued with :**

- Mervin Dad and Simon Morris - Office of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner.
- Jason Lemm - Fraud Prevention Working Group - Digital Safety and Fraud - West Sussex County Council.
- Bernadette Lawrie BEM - Financial Abuse Safeguarding Officer, Sussex Police.

*Latest information on Fraud and cybercrime.*

- Peter Wood - Chair, Horsham District Neighbourhood Watch.

*Fraud & cybercrime - How to stay safe.*

**Following a refreshment break proceedings followed with :**

- Jo Clarke Deputy CEO Age UK
- Derek Pratt MBE - Deputy Chair Sussex NHW.
- Martin Funnell MBE - Head of Resilience & Emergencies Team, WSCC.
- Chris Scott - Assistant Manager - Resilience & Emergencies Team, WSCC.

*Community Resilience.*

- Insp. David Derrick, Mid Sussex NPT Inspector.

*The realities of Policing today.*

Sussex Neighbourhood awards were then presented followed by a brains trust involving the audience and the speakers plus Daniel Sykes, Cyber Protection Officer, Surrey & Sussex Police.

## Money Mules

Around 23% of money mules are under 21 (some as young as 11), and 65% are under 30. They are often groomed in person and online (including on social media and gaming platforms popular with young people) by criminal gangs, who inveigle vulnerable people into committing the offence of money laundering by offering them the prospect of making easy money. Once they are in the system, the gangs will then coerce them into committing further offences, including blackmail, debt bondage and sextortion. The consequences of a conviction for money laundering include the closure of your bank account; inability to access student loans, to apply for credit and to get a phone contract; and a term of imprisonment of up to 14 years.

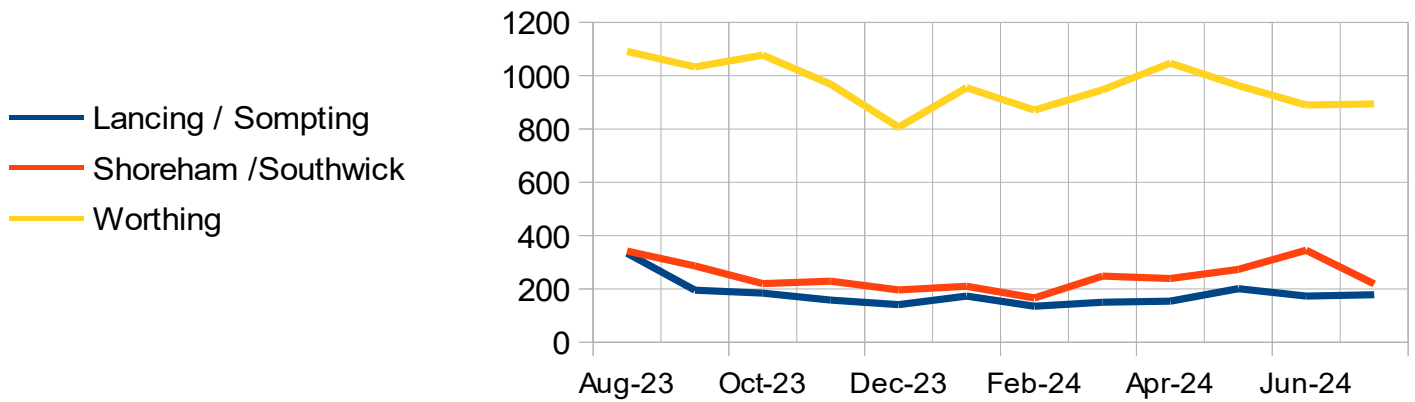
Money muling facilitates many kinds of crime and allows fraud to flourish. Fraud is the most common crime in England and Wales, accounting for almost 40% of all offences.

In March this year, the Government announced a 22 point action plan, including a newly funded post at The Children's Society whose holder is spearheading the education of bank employees, teachers and the police. This, in conjunction with the work of the National Economic Crime Centre, is aimed at ensuring that thousands of children and younger adults, who are at risk of being exploited by criminal gangs, get the support they need to prevent them from getting involved.

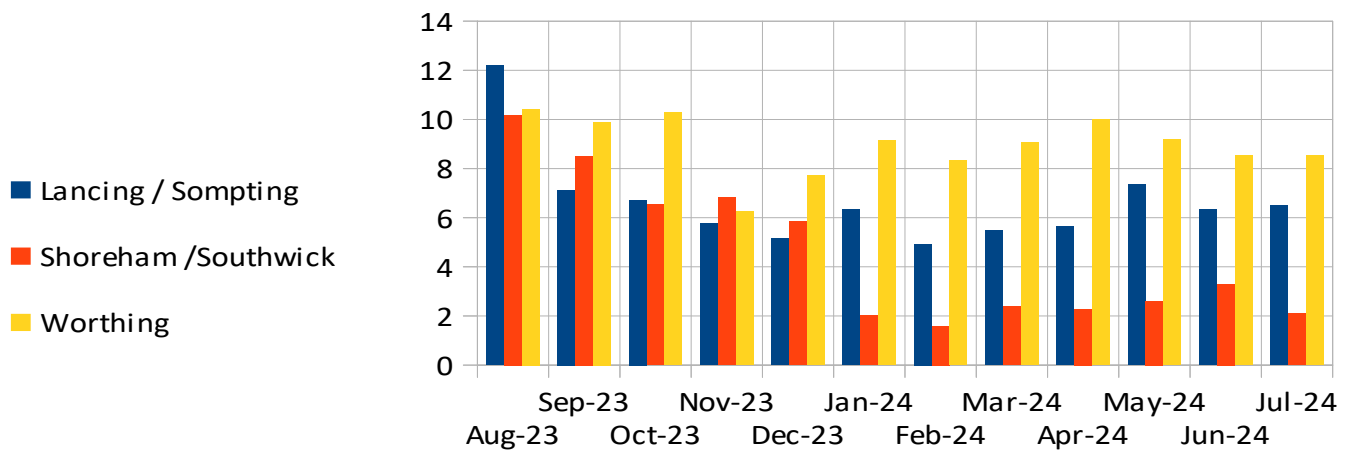
# Crime Statistics for July 2024

July 2024	Broadwater	Castle	Central	Durrington	Findon	Gaisford	Goring	Heene	Marine02	Northbrook	Offington	Salvington	Selden	Tarring	Sub Total
					BN										
Antisocial Behaviour	11	10	45	3	1	12	6	14	2	16	7	4	8	8	147
Bike Theft	0	1	7	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	13
Burglary	0	3	3	1	1	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	0	21
Criminal Damage	6	7	15	3	5	6	2	7	2	7	1	5	4	2	72
Drugs	0	1	5	1	0	0	0	3	1	5	0	0	1	0	17
Other Crime	3	1	4	1	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	2	17
Other Theft	2	6	14	0	1	3	3	4	2	4	2	0	1	2	44
Weapons	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	10
Public Order	6	5	24	1	1	5	2	6	4	10	15	4	10	1	94
Robbery	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Theft Shop	4	3	41	1	0	0	2	8	2	0	18	0	7	1	87
Theft Person	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Vehicle Crime	2	2	3	1	2	6	5	6	3	1	3	4	2	3	43
Violence & Sex Offences	21	19	110	8	5	20	5	26	13	29	5	20	23	14	318
Totals	55	58	284	21	16	56	29	79	33	77	54	40	58	34	894

## Crimes August 2023 to July 2024



## Crimes per 1000 of Population



See the latest Alerts at : [https:// worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/](https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/)