

West Bromwich Neighbourhood Policing Team

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Entries in this publication generally relate to events that have occurred over the previous 6 days. Personal details of individuals related to our dealings are not disclosed, in compliance with the Data Protection Act (1998). If you have any further queries, please email the team, and we will get back to you.

COVID-19: TIER 4/NATIONAL LOCKDOWN UPDATE

Given how the distribution of vaccines is continuing on a mass scale, a 'roadmap' has been published by the government, covering how the return to schools, work and places of leisure will unfold – with a gradual ease on the restrictions regarding the mixing of households occurring, between 8th March and 21st June. Yet whilst the plan is in place for the easing of the lockdown, the current restrictions remain in place, until we reach the dates highlighted by the roadmap. As such, the following guidance is still to be adhered to, until these dates:

You must not leave or be outside of your home except for where you have a 'reasonable excuse.' This is the law. The police can take action against you if you leave home without a 'reasonable excuse', and issue you with a fine (Fixed Penalty Notice).

Whilst the guidance is extensive, it is also relatively self-explanatory. Unless you absolutely need to leave your home for a reason, be it work, essential food shopping, attending a location for medical reasons, or anything else that ABSOLUTELY requires you to go outside, you must stay indoors. Failure to comply will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued, which starts at £200. Further offences result in this fine doubling each time – up to a maximum fine of £6,400. Further Fixed Penalties can also be given; for those who hold, or are involved in holding, an illegal gathering of fifteen people or more, can now be issued with fines of £10,000. Furthermore, any persons found to be attending any indoor gathering can also now receive a larger fine than standard, with attendees of such events eligible to receive fines of £800. This also applies for persons attending indoor gatherings where there are fewer than fifteen people present.

Remember: Stay at home. Protect the NHS. Save lives.

CRACKDOWN ON UNINSURED DRIVERS

It proved to be a busy night on Thursday 4th March, as in the span of just two hours, officers on patrol managed to seize three vehicles for being driven without insurance! Between 1900 and 2100, officers took three vehicles off the road, with the driver of one of the vehicles also being charged for driving whilst disqualified. Although this may seem trivial, by seizing these three vehicles, all of which were being driven in close proximity to the town centre – it helps to make our roads safer. Across the country, uninsured drivers cost other road users hundreds of millions of pounds each year, in the form of lost premiums and other incurred costs to policies due to incidents caused by uninsured drivers, so we are always keen to take an uninsured motor vehicle off the road.

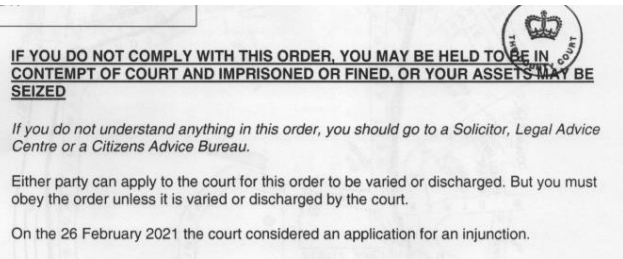


PROLIFIC OFFENDER ISSUED WITH AN INJUNCTION

Following months of hard work alongside Sandwell Council’s ASB team, we are proud to announce that a prolific offender that has caused a whole host of problems on Duchess Parade, High Street and the surrounding area, has been served with an injunction.

The male was issued with an injunction by Birmingham County Court on Friday 26th February, with the injunction going live from Wednesday 3rd March 2021. The injunction runs for two years, and has four terms – three of these terms bear the power of arrest, if the male should breach them. We believe this will prove to be an effective way to deter him from future antisocial behaviour, drug use and begging offences in the area.

In order to effectively enforce this injunction and record any breaches, the injunction has been sent to our partner agencies for their awareness.



COVID ENFORCEMENT DAY

On Tuesday 2nd March, the entire neighbourhood team were deployed on foot for the day, to conduct Covid enforcement patrols around West Bromwich Town Centre and Carters Green. This involved work alongside Environmental Protection Officers and Sandwell Council’s Covid Marshalls. Businesses in the area were visited, with customers not wearing masked challenged/directed to leave if they refused, and checks related to social distancing, PPE, availability of sanitizer and other requirements, conducted at these premises. Thankfully, the vast majority of businesses and patrons were acting in accordance of the government guidelines, so only a handful of Directions to Leave and Fixed Penalty Notices were issued that day.

MALE ARRESTED FOR... WELL, QUITE A LOT OF OFFENCES

On Tuesday 2nd March 2021, officers on patrol stopped a suspicious vehicle, after initial checks showed it to be registered over a hundred miles away. Upon conducting further checks, it was found that the male driving the car was not insured to be doing so – meaning the vehicle would be seized for this. Upon checking our systems for the male’s driving license, it was noted that the male did not hold a license – as he had been disqualified. But that’s not all - The car he was driving had been taken without owner’s consent, an offence that the male would be arrested for. This led officers to conducting immigration checks on the male, as he is a foreign national – only to find that he has been residing in the country illegally for eleven years! As such, the male was taken into custody and referred to Immigration – and officers were left with a substantial amount of paperwork.

