

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.

NATIONAL THREAT LEVEL UPDATE

Following the recent attack in Liverpool, the threat level in the United Kingdom has been raised by the government to 'severe', due to the belief that some form of attack is believed to be likely. We have no reason or information whatsoever to believe there is a threat to our town centre, but nonetheless, officers have gone through additional recent training following these events. As always, we urge that local businesses and members of public alike should follow the long standing advice: If you see something, say something, as it is the easiest way of keeping ourselves and all those around us safe.

Whilst this change in threat level may worry some people, it is worth noting that the threat level has fluctuated between 'substantial' and 'severe' since September 2017, and has likely only changed due to the attempted attack in Liverpool. Should anyone wish to read any further information about the threat level and what it means for everyone, further information can be found on the MI5 website.



ARRESTS MADE FOLLOWING AFFRAY ON TOWN CENTRE

Officers attended Duchess Parade on the afternoon of Monday 22nd November following reports of a disorder outside a store, with reports of multiple youths fighting with one another. Officers detained 3 people at the scene after they were identified as the parties involved in the disorder by several eyewitnesses. It was observed that all three youths had suffered injuries consistent with a fight, however, all three refused to engage with officers. Due to this, and the events described by eyewitnesses, all three were arrested for affray, and have since been released from custody under investigation.

TRAPPED TEENS RESCUED FROM SANDWELL VALLEY PARK

Following a call on Tuesday 23rd November from a distressed member of public, reporting that she and her partner had been locked in a building in Sandwell Valley, officers attended the farm in Dartmouth Park in order to rescue the trapped teens. After spending a short amount of time looking for the pair in the darkness, officers and farm staff found the area that they had been inadvertently locked inside, unlocking the door and freeing the young couple. They were given some words of sensible advice by officers before they left the farm, whilst two rather bemused reindeer looked on at the couple!

Drugs

Under-25 Violence

Demand

Domestic Violence



OFFENDER IDENTIFIED AND ARRESTED FOLLOWING INDECENT EXPOSURE

A male was arrested on the afternoon of Monday 22nd November following an offence of indecent exposure against a young woman and her infant child. The day before, the male had approached the window of the victim's flat, at which point he had exposed his genitals to her and her child before running away. Whilst there was limited footage showing the male when he committed this offence, she saw him again in a food outlet on the 22nd November, identifying him and taking photos of the male. These, combined with CCTV footage, allowed officers to make a positive identification of the male before he was promptly located and arrested. The male is due in court tomorrow (24th November) for this offence.

RECENT TACTICS EMPLOYED BY OFFICERS PATROLLING THE TOWN CENTRE

Due to a recent rise in theft and shoplifting offences, officers from West Bromwich Neighbourhood Team have been conducting increased numbers of foot patrols around the town centre. These have been conducted by both uniformed officers and members of the team in plain clothes, with these plain clothes officers serving as spotters for any shoplifting offences, in order to allow prompt and effective stops, searches and arrests. In addition, we may also deploy Project Guardian officers or other specialist units to assist officers from the neighbourhood team, should the need arise.

Furthermore, increased patrols have been carried out around West Bromwich due to recent incidents of antisocial behaviour on the evenings. Some businesses around Duchess Parade have experienced various issues with youth groups, causing disruption and criminal damage on multiple occasions. We have obtained CCTV footage from affected businesses in an effort to identify the youths involved, which we intend to circulate to local schools and colleges. One further measure that was used to combat this behaviour was the signing off of a Section 35 dispersal order, which was live on the afternoon of Monday 22nd November, running until midnight on Tuesday 23rd November. This granted officers the power to disperse any groups we suspected to have been involved in this antisocial behaviour, with the power to arrest them should they refuse to comply.

By having an increased presence around the town during hours of business, we aim to directly combat these behaviours whilst also providing a degree of reassurance and increased sense of safety to shoppers and local residents alike.

