

Here is your monthly update, direct from the Police Community Support Officer for Wish, PCSO Page.

Ward Update

I am pleased to report that overall crime figures for the Ward remain low.

You can see quarterly crime figures, (by month), for yourself, by visiting the Sussex Police website, (www.sussex.police.uk), and entering your post code into the 'Find Your Area' box on the front page. Current figures are up to and including October.

Current Issues

Key issues that I am aware of at present are:

- Anti-social behaviour in connection with suspected illegal drug use in some housing areas.
- Illegal drug dealing
- Ongoing issues with shoplifting in Portland Road, although these have been somewhat mitigated by recent use of security staff.
- Motorists not adequately abiding by the restrictions imposed by the School Streets initiative.
- Crowding at Hove Beach Park and concerns that failure to patrol the area could lead to increased crime.

I have continued to conduct frequent foot patrols at various times of the day, as well as patrols in and around Wish Ward, especially concentrating on those areas where the most concerns have been raised.

Wherever possible, I have personally attended to any police reports in the Wish area, which have been flagged for the attention of the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

At the time of writing, Sussex Police are currently engaged in operations, including tackling illegal drug supply and distribution, with a view to curbing associated crime and social effects. This has involved both covert and overt activity and arrests have been made.

Community Meetings & Beat Surgeries

Going forward, the next Surgery is intended to be sometime in Late January 2025.

What3Words

If you are not already aware of it, I highly recommend What3Words. It is a proprietary geocode system that divides the world up into 3 metre squares, which each have a unique identifier of 3 words.

It can be used to identify any location, even a given spot in an empty field! It is entirely free for individuals to use. It is ad-free. It is available as a mobile app, and there is also an online map if you prefer not to use an app.

What3Words has been embraced by UK emergency services including Sussex Police. If you describe a location to us using What3Words, we can find it!

The Importance of Reporting

For matters to receive appropriate police attention, it is very important that they are reported through the proper channels.

In some cases, I have heard from residents about issues, but found no police reports to corroborate them. It is difficult to make a case for allocating police resources, or time spent patrolling an area, for example, if there are no reports to justify police involvement. I would like all matters to get the attention they are due.

How to Contact Sussex Police

Please report any incidents to Sussex Police by telephoning 101, or by using the internet portal at the Sussex Police website, (www.sussex.police.uk).

In an emergency, please call 999.

If a crime is in progress or someone is in immediate danger, then that constitutes an emergency.

Should you wish to report anonymously, there is the Crimestoppers hotline: 0800 555 111.

By reporting through these official channels your concerns can be recorded, and resources allocated.

Crime Prevention Advice

Please look at www.sussex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention for effective crime prevention advice that anyone can use.

The run up to the festive season is an excellent time to think about your safety and security!