

Hello all

Please see your December ward update for Whitehawk and the Marina completed by PCSO Hall.

Patrols:

This month we have been conducting patrols throughout the ward paying particular attention to the areas of: Twineham Close, Graffham Close, Manor green, Manor Hill, Manor way, Manor Road, Manor Paddock, Whitehawk Road, Swanborough drive, Wiston Road, Wiston Way, The Marina and East Brighton park. Mark has also been completing through and extensive foot patrols in the area of Sheepcote valley.

Recent incidents of note:

Over the last 14 days we have had 2 separate vans that have been broken into. The vans were parked in different areas of the ward, however in both cases items such as tools were taken from the vans. Because of this I would like to remind residents to remain vigilante and contact police should they have any concerns regarding vehicles being broken into. Also, its important for the owners of vehicles to ensure they leave no valuables unattended in cars/vans, and to check their vehicles are secure. I will be carrying out patrols on my late shifts in order to deter such criminal activity.

Across the city there has been a new emerging group of youths who are operating electric powered bicycles in an antisocial manner. These bikes can normally be seen being ridden in reckless ways and often have multiple people riding on a single bike. The riders are usually wearing balaclavas and intentionally try to goad police into chasing them. Due to the risk to the rider of a pursuit we have not been directly pursuing the riders and have been trying to identify them through other means. 2 of these bikes are regularly being sighted in Whitehawk and it's believed that at least one of the riders is local to the ward. Any additional information would be greatly appreciated in our efforts to both protect the public and safeguard the riders themselves.

Recent meetings:

Earlier in the month I attended the Met college with some PC colleagues where we completed some workshop style talks with two different classes of students. It was a chance for the students to speak about any concerns they have, ask police questions and for us to provide safeguarding advice to students about crime types they would be vulnerable to. Students also were able to get hands on with some of our equipment during some practical activities. Other than just standard carry equipment we spoke about water safety and taught everyone to use a throw line. These sessions ran well and appeared to be well received by both the students and the staff.

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone reading this enjoyed the festive period and managed to celebrate with those close to them, and I offer my best wishes to everyone for the new year.

I do however understand that this time of year can be difficult for people; As such I would like to remind those that may be struggling that there are still many people and services out there, who can offer their support to help you get through difficult or emotional times.