

WESTHILL AND NORTH LAINE WARD UPDATE MARCH 2025

RECENT ENGAGEMENT

Officers attended the NLCA - North Laines Community Association, updates were given regarding William Collier House, which has gone from high support to medium support. Officers have seen an overall positive change in Anti-social Behaviour and drug related incidents in the roads within proximity to the accommodation.

BURGLARIES

There have been 3 burglaries in the North Laine and West Hill Ward in the last month. There are numerous ways to secure your home or business:

- Choose burglar-proof doors and windows
- Use secure doors and key fobs to keep property safe
- Increase CCTV in the area
- Close and lock all your doors and windows
- Double lock any doors
- Remove valuables out of sight
- Keep handbags away from the letter box or cat flap and hide all keys including car keys.

LONDON ROAD

Officers have attended the London Action Team meeting and talked about a current community issue – excessive noise disrupting the overall well-being of businesses and residents who reside on the adjoining streets. We are in communication environmental health who would take ownership of sound related issues and will update at the next LAT meeting, date TBC.

Regular patrols at our local charity shops have increase due to an increase in thefts being reported by managers. Officers have discovered that a male has been targeting the shops, and this is currently being investigated.

We request that any suspicious behaviour be reported to police, and for the public to stay vigilant when it comes to theft. Unfortunately, it seems to be of the opinion of many that stealing from charity shops is “ok” because the items are donated, this is simply not the case, and these thefts can negatively impact staff and the charities.

Our youth teams are working closely with schools and parents, to continually get early interventions in place, to mitigate anti-social behaviour and safeguard our young people within the community. This work directly impacts the level of Anti-social behaviour and youth disorder that we had been seeing on London Road. Officers are seeing a decrease in reports in and around the areas of London Road.

Officers are working towards conducting days of action where the sole focus will be to seize E-Bikes and E-Scooters. We have had a recent incident whereby a male was assaulted by the owner of an E-Bike, it is advised to not directly intervene or put yourself in a position that you could be at risk. Please continue to report police.

ZION GARDENS

We are pleased to say that issues on Zion Gardens have dropped massively, there has only been 2 reports of anti-social behaviour on Zion Gardens since the middle of January. Patrols have been conducted by Police Community Support Officers and Police Constables throughout with no issues reported from the last 6 weeks.

NORTH STREET

North street has seen a recent spate of burglaries and shoplifting. Groups of youths are a big problem in this area due to them regularly targeting vape stores and off-licenses.

We are working hard with the Brighton Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP), and the Business Improvement District (BID), to identify suspects whilst also safeguarding those involved who may be vulnerable or more at-risk. We like to be active in the area with our multi-daily high visibility patrols and working closely with the BID to respond to active-shopliftings and other jobs that may require police attendance.

Most of the businesses on North Street have a radio which links in with the town security guards as well as other stores in the vicinity. If you see anybody acting suspiciously in shops or in the street, you can flag one of us down, speak to a shop security guard or one of the BID Ambassadors who will be happy to help.

THE LEVEL

As the weather's gotten warmer and the summer getting closer, we are trying to manage the upcoming issues we will be soon facing with anti-social behaviour and issues with youth groups especially through the summertime.

As one of the largest open public spaces in Brighton, it is no doubt there will be large amounts of people using the park's many facilities. Please be courteous to those using the park, whilst also ensuring it remains a safe and useable space for everybody.

If you come across groups of people playing loud music, please report this to Environmental Health and the council and the individuals can be dealt with as per their policies. Please ensure you are not lighting fires in the park and making sure you are taking pre-caution in walking dogs without leads.

There was recently an incident involving a group of people using fireworks in the park, nobody was injured however was there no intervention somebody could have been. To spread awareness for those who may not know, it is an offence under Section 80 of the explosives act to light fireworks in a public place. If you don't know how to use fireworks safely it can have detrimental effects on anybody involved, and even bystanders and passers-by.

If you see anybody in the possession of fireworks and they have not been permitted by local authority for the purpose of a firework display, please let us know by calling 999 immediately.

NEW ROAD

We are still working hard towards tackling the last of the anti-social behaviour along the benches. The Hot-Spot policing Pod combined with our routine and daily patrols, has proved effective in managing the expectations of the public and the businesses in the area. We are aware that the issues will rise throughout the summer months so we are already preparing what we can implement to lessen the issues seen to the public and businesses.

PCSOs Ford and Bates spent a morning working on cleaning graffiti from the Hot-Spot Policing Pod after it was covered in black paint and a variety of stickers. We urge people to report any damage or graffiti that has been done to the pod to enable us to clean it as quickly as possible. These reports can be made through 101 or the online webform.

BEFORE



AFTER



RESIDENTS OF THE NORTH LAINE AND WESTHILL WARD

Whether you are already a resident, or somebody who's visiting friends or family, be cautious when entering and exiting your building or accommodation. Tailgating has been brought to our attention as an already ongoing issue.

If you find anybody who is sleeping rough residing in or outside your building, you can either report this to [StreetLink - Connecting people sleeping rough to local services](#), or can contact us on 101 or 999 to report this to us, so we can work with partner agencies to find them somewhere more permanent to stay.

Officers attended the North Laine Community association and had positive engaging conversations with residents and businesses regarding local issues and crime prevention advice.