

Neighbourhood Watch signs, window decals and public liability insurance

Police registered Neighbourhood Watch schemes are covered by public liability insurance and authorised to use the Neighbourhood Watch logo.

Neighbourhood Watch window decals are free to police registered Neighbourhood Watch schemes (two per home).

Groups can buy a Neighbourhood Watch sign if they wish. There is specific guidance about where you can erect a sign.

Request decals and sign order forms from cheshirewatch@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

What is a Neighbourhood Watch area/village scheme?

A group of volunteer Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, who represent a cluster of roads in a geographic area and who network together to share information, promote community safety and develop the Neighbourhood Watch network. The group may have a Lead/Village Coordinator and may meet occasionally.

Helping a neighbour to access the internet and e-mail

You could help a member to set up their own e-mail account at the library if they don't have a home computer. This could benefit them in many ways e.g. accessing council services, NHS, pension, benefits advice, etc.



Cheshire
Constabulary



Advice and Best Practice for Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators

Building community safety awareness
and promoting neighbourliness

Sharing information safely

- Encourage everyone to be aware of cyber-crime and visit www.cyberstreetwise.com for advice.
Your council run some helpful courses covering the internet and other computer related subjects.
- If you have set up a separate e-mail account for your watch scheme e.g. oakmerewaywatch@xxx, you could also use this to set up a Twitter account to enable you to follow your local neighbourhood police team tweets.
Alternatively you can read their tweets by logging onto the Cheshire Police website www.cheshire.police.uk
- Not everything circulated may be relevant to your group, the coordinator decides what to forward to members but everything is in the public domain.

Community information and how it may become police intelligence

Encourage members to pass suspicious information directly to the police.

- Unusual? - Make a note
- If you feel concerned? - Dial 101 to report

Never put yourself or others at risk.

The police are responsible for the evaluation and dissemination of intelligence and follow a statutory code of practice.

Intelligence reports must not contain details which could identify where that information has come from. The data must be searchable and retrievable by others.

Intelligence is regarded as 'actionable' when it can be applied to help to:-

- Solve crimes.
- Target resources and set priorities for local policing. E.g. crime and anti-social behaviour hot spots.
- Information to be shared with other forces and agencies.

It could be many weeks or months before individual pieces of intelligence link together to become fully actionable.

Anonymous reporting

Anyone can pass information anonymously by phone (or e-mail) to Crimestoppers 0800 555 111.



Crimestoppers are an independent charity. Their number will not show on an itemised phone bill, nor can you retrieve it by using 1471. Your details are untraceable.

Cold callers

Encourage neighbours not to buy from the door.

- Note down details of suspicious vehicles and report to 101.
- Remind neighbours... 'If in doubt to keep them out.'
- Ask for identification.

Electoral Role 'Opt Out' Form

Contact your council for an 'opt out' form. This will ensure your personal details are not included in the edited electoral register which can be purchased for marketing purposes.

Anti-social behaviour

You can also look on your council website for advice and information about:-

- contacting community wardens
- lighting
- dog fouling, littering, fly tipping, graffiti
- anti-social behaviour
- licensed street collection (includes scrap metal collection).

Keeping your property safe

Consider holding a **Property Marking** evening at home. Ask your local PCSO for information. Details about property marking are also in your pack.

Home Safety Assessment - Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service

You can request a visit by Cheshire Fire and Rescue, for a home safety assessment and advice on how to make your home safer. Go to www.cheshirefire.gov.uk or call 01606 868700 for more information.