

Brackley AGM Report for 2025



We have seen some changes in staffing this year; PC Andreia Mackenzie has left the team to join our Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit and PC Frankie Smith has taken on an extended secondment as a Dog Legislation Officer. Both officers still work closely with us within their new roles especially Frankie due to the increase in reports of dogs being illegally held, in breach of regulations or out of control.

PC Matt O'Brien has joined the Silverstone Beat as PC Mel Carter has moved over to cover the Towcester area. PC Owen Sturgess has joined us on the Brackley Town Beat and PC Sam Dyson will be joining the team in May.

Staffing changes do bring some challenges in building and maintaining community contacts, and this will always be a work in progress however the team have already made inroads into some complex neighbour disputes that have required a multi-agency approach.

These and safeguarding issues do take the lion's share of our time after attendance at emergency incidents. As a community team we have the capacity to work on longer term problem solving for issues that don't have an immediate resolution available.

Officers have been welcomed into local schools to assist in tackling drug, knife, online safety and violence issues. We work with teaching staff, pastoral staff and parents with an education and safeguarding first approach rather than looking to criminalize children. Where there is no choice but to consider a more formal step then we look to utilize Immediate Justice as an initial option.

Immediate Justice Introduction

The Immediate Justice scheme was launched in 2023 for Northamptonshire through OPFCC funding. The scheme means those found committing anti-social behaviour or low-level crimes, can be made to repair the damage they inflicted on victims and communities. This could see them being made to pick up litter, remove graffiti or carry out other work to make environmental improvements in the community.

In 2024 the scheme lowered the participant age down to 12 and extended the funding. This allows officers to tackle young people who are committing low-level offences with outcomes that are impactful but will not harm their future with a criminal record.

In the Brackley beat area, we have made 5 x Immediate Justice Referrals which have totalled 26 hours unpaid work in the community. We have a further 2 referrals awaiting completion with 18





hours unpaid work. These referrals have been for offences of theft, criminal damage and drug possession. The hours have been used to clean up the churchyard at Kings Sutton (photos below). The response from offenders and the public has been very positive.



Operations

Throughout the year, the team have been involved in various targeted operations in the community.

Op Lapland – (December – January) Patrols to disrupt shoplifting during a higher risk time of the year for retailers.

Op Sceptre – (All year round) Intelligence led sweeps to search for potential hidden or discarded knives, provision of amnesty bins and knife crime inputs at schools from our Early Intervention Team.



Op Limit – An annual campaign that runs every November – January to target drink/drug driving. This year, we visited all of our local pubs/bars and delivered free beer mats, bar mats and posters to raise awareness of the consequences of drink driving. The team completed intelligence led patrols for drink drivers and carried out various stops and breath tests in South Northants.

Officers have also been present at numerous community events where the public can come and chat with us.





Street Watch & Volunteering

Brackley's **Street Watch Scheme** has lost members over the last few years and are actively recruiting for new members. If you know of anyone that would be interesting in supporting us, please contact <u>rhiannan.turner@northants.police.uk</u> or alternatively your local Sergeant Michaela Simons <u>micki.simons@northants.polic.uk</u>

You can see the Street Watch Recruitment video which features Towcester and Sergeant, Lorna Clarke via this link: <u>Street watch</u>

We have a large team of **Special Constables** that cover the Daventry and South Northants area. These officers give up their time free of charge to assist the community. The officers have the same powers as regular officers and contribute a large amount of hours in support of local teams. If you are interested in becoming a Special Constable, then please visit:



Volunteering opportunities | Northamptonshire Police for more information.

Thank you from South Northants Neighbourhood Teams





