

## Crime Prevention Tips



As the weather warms and people take to the outdoors on their bikes once again, here are a few tips on how to keep your cycling equipment safe and secure.

-  Use a good quality chain and lock to secure your bike, even if you are only leaving it for a short time.
-  Chain it to a secure item, like a lamppost or a metal fence.
-  Consider getting a specialist marking kit with stickers, which can act as a deterrent to thieves.
-  Mark your bike with a postcode or unique reference number.
-  Keep a record of the make, model and colour of your bike - this may make it easier for police to return it to you if stolen.
-  Keep your bike in a safe place at night, like a securely locked shed or garage.
-  You could even consider chaining it to another item, like a lawn mower, which will make it harder for a thief to take away.

For more information about registering your bike, visit [www.bikeregister.com](http://www.bikeregister.com)



# 5



Altogether Better Policing

## Good Reasons to be Confident in Durham Constabulary

There have been 4,500 fewer victims of crime in the last year.

Crime has fallen by 14% in the last 12 months.

You can help shape local policing through PACT (police and communities together).

Victim satisfaction is at an all-time high, so you can feel confident in coming to us.

You can contact your neighbourhood team in a range of different ways - either in person, via the 101 number, on the force website, or through Facebook and Twitter.

L26-13



Altogether Better Policing

# Peterlee

## Police News

Issue 6

### PACT - your chance to have your say

It's easier than ever to have a say on how we tackle issues in your area. For some time we've been working with our local councils and developed PACT - Police and Communities Together - to ensure we're tackling the issues which matter to you in your community.

PACT meetings are held in local venues on a regular basis. This could be a community centre or similar, PACT meetings in schools and sometimes PACT meetings in public open spaces (weather permitting).

The Peterlee team also holds monthly online PACT meetings which are informal internet based sessions usually held on a Monday afternoon between 5.30-7.30pm. You can access them through our website ([www.durham.police.uk](http://www.durham.police.uk)) or we can give you advice if you contact the neighbourhood team. Since the introduction of our new force website, online meetings are accessible from Peterlee's neighbourhood page, making it even easier for people to get involved. We have also introduced the facility to take part on Twitter using the hashtag #PeterleePACT, or people can email questions.

What's particularly useful about these events is that people can look back to see what questions have been asked. Often this will be something they had wanted to ask about but were unable to attend traditional meetings and had no personal contact with the police.

At every meeting there's a discussion about local priorities. These are the issues which local people tell us they want their local policing team to tackle. If an issue is made a PACT priority it will be tackled, and there will be an update at future meetings about what has been done about it. The priorities should change all the time, because we aim to sort out the issue and move on to something else.

But you don't have to attend a meeting. You can be part of PACT simply by contacting your local neighbourhood team. You may see one of them out and about in your area, you can ring them using the non-emergency 101 number or you can follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

PACT is your opportunity to influence what we focus on, where you live.

To find out when your next PACT meeting is, call 101 or visit our website at [www.durham.police.uk](http://www.durham.police.uk) and click on your neighbourhood and ward/beat area. You can also find details on our Facebook page (search Peterlee Neighbourhood Police Team) and Twitter feed (@PeterleePolice).

**Dave Coxon**  
Neighbourhood  
Inspector  
Peterlee

## Your PACT Meetings



Have your say about policing in your community by attending one of our police and communities together (PACT) meetings - either online or in person. Check out the 'events' section of your local police team website pages for meeting dates, times and locations.

<http://peterleenpt.coverpage.coveritlive.com>  
[www.durham.police.uk](http://www.durham.police.uk)





## Out and About

We are working with local partners from Durham Heritage Coast to reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour, fly tipping, criminal damage and off-road motorbikes. The coast is affected by these issues but as it is not a residential area it often goes under reported. It is a fantastic local resource that we should be protecting and it attracts visitors and potential investment from across the country, with Blackhall Rocks having recently featured in advertising for the county across national media. We are using the principles of Neighbourhood Watch to recruit those that use the area such as dog walkers, bird watchers and local residents as coordinators. We will be encouraging people to report incidents so that we have the information in real time, and will be asking members of the public to record details of those involved such as registration numbers of vehicles and descriptions of people. The Coast Watch scheme is running the entire length of the County Durham coastline from Crimdon to Seaham and is being considered by neighbouring police forces. If you use the area and want to get involved please get in touch by calling 101.

Our problem solving approach continues to drive down anti-social behaviour (ASB) across the area. In 2012/13 we reduced ASB by 19%, meaning there were over 950 fewer people subject to this type of behaviour. The largest reductions were seen in Horden and Wingate, where reports were down by over a third. We continue to work closely with the neighbourhood wardens to tackle ASB and encourage people to report incidents so that we can further reduce the harm caused by a minority of people.

Don't get in with a loan shark...it will cost you an arm and a leg. Loan shark lending is a crime. Don't be a victim. We can help you. In strictest confidence call 0300 555 2222, text loan (space) shark (space) and your message to 60003, email [reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk](mailto:reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk) or visit the website ([www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks](http://www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks)). We're working with local organisations to raise awareness of this issue and encourage people to find the courage to come forward and report this.

Neighbourhood policing officers in County Durham are working to dismantle organised crime gangs in the force area. And so successful are their tactics that forces across the country are aiming to follow their lead.

Peterlee PC Dave Taylor scrutinises the lifestyles of people suspected of being involved in organised crime. "Organised criminals inhabit an underworld, going about their business without coming to most people's attention because they are not causing an obvious problem for the general public. But, effectively, they have burglars and other criminals at their command because those people commit crime to pay for drugs supplied by organised crime groups," said PC Taylor.

He added: "We need people in our communities to report to us any suspicions they might have about individuals who appear to have lifestyles beyond their means. They can be confident we will address their concerns. You may know someone who drives a very expensive car and lives in a large house but doesn't seem to have a legitimate source of income. We will investigate such reports and if, at the end of the day, suspicions are unfounded, we will inform the person who passed on the information of the outcome."

PC Taylor said his work has developed over the last three years and its reach has extended beyond east Durham across the force area. In support of the force's organised crime unit, his efforts recently contributed to the successful prosecution of two drug dealers, one from Shotton Colliery, the other from Thornley, who were sentenced to more than 10 years and five years respectively.

You can report any suspicions by using the non-emergency number 101, or contact the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Police are warning drivers to steer clear of buying red diesel in a bid to save money.

During the past few weeks there have been a number of thefts of diesel from industrial units and heavy plant machinery within factories in the Peterlee and Seaham areas.

Detective Inspector Dave Cuthbert, of Peterlee CID, said: "We believe thieves are attempting to sell the diesel on to motorists who see it as an attractive option given the high price of fuel. Some of the diesel is classified as 'red' which is tax exempt and is intended for agricultural use only and is not allowed in private motor vehicles.

"It is a criminal offence to drive a private motor vehicle on red diesel, and HM Revenue and Customs has sweeping powers to fine drivers and seize vehicles, so potentially purchasing cheap fuel could be a very expensive option."

He added that motorists are risking damage to their vehicles' engines by using fuel stolen from plant machinery as it is often a poor quality dirty derivative which is likely to be contaminated.

Anyone with information about diesel thefts in east Durham, or who has been offered some should contact police at Peterlee on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

A recent countywide campaign to tackle dog fouling has been a great success. Of the 486 people whose dogs were seen fouling whilst the Neighbourhood Wardens and PCSOs were on patrol, 97% were responsible and cleaned up after their pet. The 3% who didn't were all issued with £80 fixed penalty notices. Because the percentage that are irresponsible is so small, we really need good intelligence from the community to help us catch them. If you can provide any of the following information please report it to the council or at your local PACT meeting (reports can be made anonymously): the name and address of anybody who doesn't clean up after their dog, a description of them and their dog, the areas where they walk their dog, and the times and days they walk their dog in those areas.



... down your way



I am PC Rob Ramshaw and I recently joined Peterlee neighbourhood policing team as a police constable. I have worked for Durham Constabulary for nearly nine years, having previously worked as a PCSO covering Wingate, Station Town, Hutton Henry, Trimdon Station and Shotton. I am local to the area as I was born in Sunderland but raised in East Durham and have a great knowledge of Peterlee and the surrounding villages. I was really happy to get posted back to Peterlee in my new role as Peterlee Town neighbourhood officer. I am a passionate and driven officer and being local to the area I am keen to help improve the lives of local people. I plan to continue to work with external organisations to help with this process. If you have any questions about policing in Peterlee, you can raise them by attending a police and communities together (PACT) meeting, or call a member of the team on 101.

## Your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team

### Neighbourhood Police Team Supervision

Insp 1152 David Coxon  
Sgt 1796 James Peel  
Sgt 385 Steve Hawkes

### Horden South

PC 1416 Glen Davies  
PC 1046 Dave Thompson  
PCSO 7495 David Edson  
PCSO 6627 Kelly Hyde  
PCSO 7521 Nicola Bowman

### Horden North

PC 1416 Glen Davies  
PC 1046 Dave Thompson  
PCSO 7495 David Edson

PCSO 6627 Kelly Hyde  
PCSO 7521 Nicola Bowman

### Heselden, Crimdon and Sheraton

PC 1586 Andrew Holland  
PCSO 6638 Ian Goodwin

### Wingate, Hutton Henry, Station Town and Deaf Hill

PC 1246 Rob Mellenthin  
PC 2682 Adam Jassat  
PCSO 7238 Andrew Robson

### Thornley and Wheatley Hill

PC 2418 Paul Gooden  
PCSO 6481 Amanda Jepson

### Shotton Colliery

PC 1635 Steve Rowe  
PC 2683 Kathryn Martin  
PCSO 7037 Sharon Bowman

### Peterlee Town

PC 134 Gordon Brown  
PC 2689 Robert Ramshaw  
PCSO 7009 Anneka Davis  
PCSO 6943 Carol McCombe  
PCSO 7544 Charlotte Naisby

### Organised Crime Group

Sgt 1621 Kevin Atkinson  
PC 2645 Dave Taylor

### Main Station:

Peterlee Police Station,  
St Aidan's Way,  
County Durham,  
SR8 1QR  
Area Contact  
Telephone: 101  
Fax: 0191 375 2610/2560  
Email: [peterlee@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:peterlee@durham.pnn.police.uk)

### Front counter staffed:

8am to 6pm - Monday to Friday  
10am to 4pm - Saturday and Sunday

Outside these hours an intercom system and CCTV facility is available to link callers to the communications centre.

**DURHAM  
CONSTABULARY**



**101**

**IN AN  
EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS  
CALL 999**



**You can contact your local neighbourhood team on 101**

Your local Neighbourhood Watch coordinator is .....