

Welcome to the Quarterly Warwickshire Business Watch Newsletter 2019

This quarterly newsletter will keep you up to date with our activities, and provide you with the latest crime prevention advice for Warwickshire businesses.

NEWS! Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe, alongside Business Crime Advisor Bogdan Fironda and OPCC Development and Policy Lead Debbie Mullis met representatives from the Association of Convenience Stores (ACS) to look at ways to support businesses in Warwickshire.



This organisation is the voice of over 33,500 local shops, supporting its members through lobbying, advice and networking opportunities. The ACS was impressed with the range of initiatives that take place in the county around business crime and discussed the police's problem solving approach.



IT WON'T HAPPEN TO ME Tour of Warwickshire

'It won't happen to me!' is a partnership based awareness campaign in Warwickshire to help and support businesses and the general public providing latest crime prevention tips and raise awareness of the most prevalent crimes and frauds.

Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police and Regional Organised Crime Unit have done a Tour of Warwickshire engaging with businesses and the general public and raising awareness of business and cyber crime, by talking to people about the latest crime trends and protection advice.

It has been a busy week engaging with over 3,000 people from various parts of Warwickshire, including Atherstone, Coleshill, Nuneaton, Bedworth, Rugby, Southam, Warwick, Leamington and Stratford-upon-Avon. **We will be on the road again in late November in Rugby, so make sure you pop by and say hello!**

The local Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams were on hand to help and support the event and engage with the public, answering various questions and provide advice.



FREE! Crime Prevention Workshop for Warwickshire SMEs – BOOK NOW!

Quarterly business crime training events have been put together by Warwickshire County Council, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), Warwickshire Police and partner agencies to support businesses in Warwickshire by sharing best practice and raising awareness of the latest crime trends, enabling businesses to protect themselves from crime.

Visitors will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive advice from various partner organisations. Topics explored will include traditional Crime Prevention elements, Cyber Crime, General Data Protection Regulation, Modern Slavery, Extremism and Terrorism and Business Continuity. Our aim is to work in partnership with the business community and provide support where needed.

There are no costs involved for these events, however places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. More information about the events is available on the Business Watch website News page.



Find Us Online

Visit the Warwickshire Business Watch website on www.warwickshirebusinesswatch.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter [@WarksBusiness](https://twitter.com/WarksBusiness)

Contact us via communitysafety@warwickshire.gov.uk



Rugby Town Centre Engagement



Crime Prevention Training Event



Kenilworth Show

What We've Been Up To

Modern Slavery continues to be a priority for the Police and Crime Commissioner in Warwickshire. There is ongoing work as part of the Warwickshire Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Task and Finish Group led by the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office to develop a Modern Slavery Pledge for Warwickshire SMEs. Further information and updates will be shared on our website's Modern Slavery page.

As mentioned before, we are on the road again in November! **Come and say hello!** 'It won't happen to me!' Xmas Engagement Event will be held at **Elliott's Field Shopping Park in Rugby on Friday 29th November 2019**. This is focusing on an early intervention ahead of the Black Friday, Cyber Monday and the upcoming Christmas season. Visitors will have the chance to talk about any concerns and will get a Xmas awareness pack including relevant crime prevention advice.

We love to get out and about, talking to local businesses. If you have an event you would like us to support, please contact us on: communitysafety@warwickshire.gov.uk.



Top Quarterly Crime Prevention Messages For Businesses

Here are our top crime prevention messages for Warwickshire businesses for this quarter based on the latest crime trends!



- Cyber Crime continues to be a challenge, especially for small and medium businesses. Be aware of phishing emails targeting your business. **Do not** click on any links or attachments associated with bogus email addresses. **#SocialEngineering**



- Be aware of thefts and burglaries associated with the upcoming Christmas season. Ensure your business is secured and alerts are on in the event of a potential burglary. Report any suspicious activity to the Police on **101**. If there is an emergency situation always call **999**. **#KeepYourBusinessSafe**



- Avoid working alone. Get your more experienced staff to work with inexperienced and more vulnerable staff.



- Prevent fraud by routinely checking credit and debit cards in line with the guidance from card issuers. Also make sure you check notes for forgery.

- Do not keep large amounts of money in your till. Leave tills open and empty overnight. Vary your routine when going to the bank.

- **#StayInTouch** with your local Business Crime Advisor and/or your local Safer Neighbourhood Team and discuss any concerns you and your business might have. We are here to support and provide tailored advice based on your individual needs.

- Sign up to our weekly **alert system** and also keep an eye on social media for more **#updates**.



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Counterfeit (NPORS) Operator Cards Alert

What you need to know

Action Fraud, the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau and the North East Regional Specialist Operations Unit (NERSOU) are warning people about counterfeit National Plant Operators Registration Scheme (NPORS) cards being offered for sale on eBay.

The NPORS Operator Card is a record of the training or assessment an individual has completed to prove their competence to prospective employers in the construction, utilities, distribution and warehousing, ports and marine, rail and agricultural sectors.

NPORS is one of the most recognised and accredited training schemes in the UK and the card proves a person's ability to safely operate or drive an item of plant machinery or equipment. The implication could be the fraudulent use of any such card or certificate in order to gain employment, and the possible knock on effect to a company of the Health and Safety liabilities connected with employing untrained persons to operate plant machinery.

There are other accredited training bodies and recognised operator card schemes and hundreds of training companies, so it can be difficult for employers and recruitment agencies to know if someone is properly trained to operate plant.

What you need to do

Tips for employers to check if an Operator Card is genuine

- Who issued the certificate / Operators Card? Search online to see if the company who issued the **certificate is legitimate**.
- Is the training company **accredited**? (e.g. RTITB, ITSSAR, AITT or NPORS)
- Does the certificate include **particular details** such as the dates of training and when the test was passed, as well as the type of machine the operator has been trained on?
- Has the **certificate been altered**?

Every Report Matters

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to us at [Actionfraud.police.uk](https://actionfraud.police.uk), or by calling 0300 123 2040.



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