



# On the beat in...

## North Shropshire

Market Drayton

Wem

Whitchurch

Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

August 2024

Current statistics on calls to police and crime recording for your neighbourhood can be found at [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk). If you wish to discuss further, please contact a member of your Safer Neighbourhood Team.

### Market Drayton – Team contact details:

**Team email:** marketdrayton.snt@westmercia.police.uk

**Safer Neighbourhood Officer:** PC Iain McIntosh **Mobile:** 07811 748 732

**Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO Andy King **Mobile:** 07870 163 116

**Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO Tara Carruthers **Mobile:** 07971 050 442

**Police Community Support Officer:** **Mobile:**

### Wem – Team contact details:

**Team email:** wem.snt@westmercia.police.uk

**Safer Neighbourhood Officer:** PC Jack Harper **Mobile:** 07817 885 113

**Police Community support Officer:** PCSO Lizz Walmsley **Mobile:** 07967 303 567

**Police Community support Officer:** PCSO Olly Morris **Mobile:** 07970 879 117

### Whitchurch – Team contact details:

**Team email:** whitchurch.snt@westmercia.police.uk

**Safer Neighbourhood Officer:** PC Ben Jones **Mobile:** 07973 885 557

**Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO Graeme Baines **Mobile:** 07890 511 320

**Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO Dave Andrew **Mobile:** 07971 395 050

**Police Community Support Officer:** PCSO Jamie Robinson **Mobile:** 07967 301 147

## On the beat in... North Shropshire

### Market Drayton – Wem – Whitchurch

Our North Shropshire Parish Councils and their chosen priorities:

Market Drayton		Wem		Whitchurch	
<b>Market Drayton Town</b>	Drugs	<b>Wem Town</b>	Speeding	<b>Whitchurch Town</b>	Drugs
	ASB		ASB		ASB
	Not provided		Thefts		ASD
<b>Adderley</b>	Farm thefts	<b>Wem Rural</b>	Rural Crime	<b>Whitchurch Rural</b>	Speeding
	Speeding		Drugs		Thefts (Outbuilding)
	Not provided		Speeding		Other Traffic Offences
<b>Cheswardine</b>	ASB	<b>Hadnall</b>	Speeding	<b>Prees</b>	Other Traffic Offences
	Dwelling thefts		ASB		ASB
	Not provided		Thefts (Out bldg)		Thefts (Farms)
<b>Hinstock</b>	Speeding	<b>Shawbury</b>	Speeding	<b>Whixall</b>	Not provided
	Thefts		ASB		Not provided
	RTC		Drugs		Not provided
<b>Hodnet</b>	Speeding	<b>Clive</b>	ASB	<b>Ightfield with Calverhall</b>	Not provided
	Not provided		Traffic offences		Not provided
	Not provided		Thefts (Other)		Not provided
<b>Moreton Say</b>	Thefts (Farms)	<b>Grinshill</b>	Not provided		
	ASD		Not provided		
	Speeding		Not provided		
<b>Norton In Hales</b>	Not provided	<b>Myddle, Broughton &amp; Harmer Hill</b>	ASB		
	Not provided		Criminal Damage		
	Not provided		Speeding		
	Speeding	<b>Lee Brockhurst</b>	Farm thefts		
	Thefts (Farm)		Speeding		

## On the beat in... North Shropshire

### Market Drayton – Wem – Whitchurch

<b>Stanton Upon Hine Heath</b>	Not provided		Other Traffic Offences	
<b>Stoke On Tern</b>	Speeding	<b>Loppington</b>	Not provided	
	Thefts (Farms)		Not provided	
	Wildlife Crime		Not Provided	
<b>Sutton Upon Tern</b>	Speeding			
	Thefts (Farms)			
	Thefts (Commercial)			
<b>Woore</b>	Speeding			
	Farm thefts			
	ASB			
<b>Childs Ercall</b>	Not provided			
	Not provided			
	Not provided			
<b>Weston Under Redcastle</b>	Not provided			
	Not provided			
	Not provided			

Please encourage your parishioners to sign up to Neighbourhood Matters.

**Sign up to Neighbourhood Matters...** your brand-new community messaging service



Neighbourhood Matters enables residents, businesses, and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can choose exactly what type of alert you wish to receive and how you receive them; whether that be by email, text or telephone.

Sign up now at: [www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk)

## Hello Parish Councils,

This is your North Shropshire Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Newsletter for **August 2024**. Please see the link above to [police.co.uk](https://www.police.co.uk) for crime recording stats for your area, or any other area in the UK should you wish.

Please get in touch if you would like to discuss anything further, if we can provide more information we will, our contact details are above. If there is anything specific that is affecting your parish area above and beyond the three priorities you have nominated, again please let us know and we will endeavour to support you.

The official West Mercia Police website [www.westmercia.police.uk](https://www.westmercia.police.uk) has a wealth of information and includes dedicated sections in relation to **News, Recruitment, Watch Schemes, Neighbourhood Matters, Crime Prevention Advice, Support For Victims, other Advice and Information and Thanks & Complaints**.

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Our North Shropshire SNTs work in a very challenging and varied role and no two days are the same, naturally there are many requests for our time, support and assistance. Obviously, much of what we do we can't tell you too much about, but rest assured that much of our daily direction and focus is on the three Parish Council Priorities that you provide us with quarterly.

Much of the good work that SNTs engage with are posted in the following places:

- Parish Council reports in person or Newsletters
- Neighbourhood Matters – [www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk](https://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk)
- Facebook - [www.facebook.com/shropshirecops/](https://www.facebook.com/shropshirecops/)
- Twitter – [www.twitter.com/NorthShropCops](https://www.twitter.com/NorthShropCops)

Below is just a small snapshot of the good work North Shropshire SNTs have been involved with recently...

## On the beat in... North Shropshire

### Market Drayton – Wem – Whitchurch

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## On the beat in... North Shropshire

### Market Drayton – Wem – Whitchurch

 **Shropshire Police**  
10 July at 12:26 · 🌐


ROAD SAFETY | Whitchurch

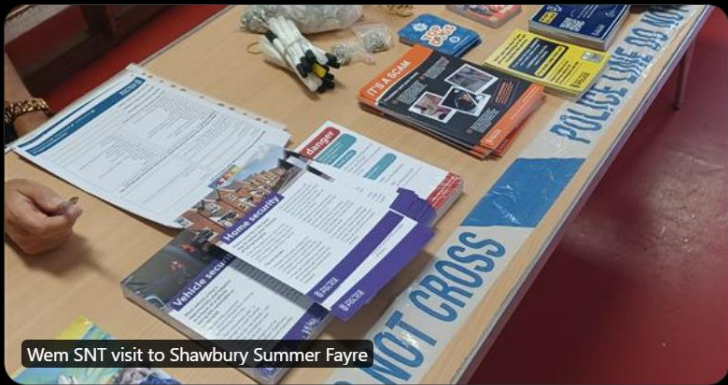
As part of our Local Policing Community Charter, in partnership with Whitchurch Town Council, Whitchurch SNT have identified Safer Roads as one of the Policing Priorities in the area. Over the last week 2 vehicles have been seized from within the Town for motoring offences.

Alongside this Whitchurch SNT requested support from the Motorcycle Traffic Team with speed enforcement along routes identified by members of the public for causing them the most concerns.

On Monday officers attended Whitchurch spending time on Wrexham Road, where 9 motorists were reported for driving above the 30mph limit with the highest being 57mph and Chester Road where 8 motorists were reported for driving above the 30mph limit with the highest being 46mph. Time was also spent on Tarporley Road with 0 offences recorded.



 **North Shrops SNT** @NorthShropCops · Jul 6  
Wem SNT visit to Shawbury Summer Fayre



Wem SNT visit to Shawbury Summer Fayre

From neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk



Whitchurch SNT & Trading Standards visit to vape shops

Yesterday, 25th July, Whitchurch Safer Neighbourhood Team spent the morning working alongside Shropshire County Councils Trading Standards. Two business premises were visited in Whitchurch and after checking their stock they were found to be selling illegal vapes and tobacco. These items were seized by Trading Standards officers.



Road Safety Work

As part of our Local Policing Community Charter, in partnership with Whitchurch Town Council, Whitchurch SNT have identified Safer Roads as one of the Policing Priorities in the area. Over the last week 2 vehicles have been seized from within the Town for motoring offences.

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## On the beat in... North Shropshire

### Market Drayton – Wem – Whitchurch

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No Tax

Vehicle has been seized tonight for Nobel Street, Wem for no Tax after complaints of the vehicle being abandoned have been received from members of the public.



North Shropshire SNT visit Wem Vehicle Of Interest Show

Sgt Liam Heathcote and PcsO Andy King from North Shropshire Safer Neighbourhood Team attended Wem Vehicle Of Interest this morning. It was great to see and engage with lots of people that were in attendance. It was also lovely to see such a variety of vehicles on display, all of which were in fantastic condition. There was one in particular that stood out to us!





## On the beat in... North Shropshire

### Market Drayton – Wem – Whitchurch

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 **Shropshire Police**  
7 July at 14:38 · 🌐

Market Drayton Safer Neighbourhood Team have received reports of individuals on mopeds / scooters riding around parts of the town in a dangerous and anti social manner. Reports are being received relating to these issues in the Maer Lane, Fairfields, Rowan Road and Berrisford Road areas of town. We are working to try to identify the individuals responsible and are seeking the assistance of the local community.

Reports of such behaviour can be reported on 101, on the report section of [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) or via 999 in the case of an emergency.

Any information can also be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or via their website: [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)



Urgency: [3] [0] [1]

Vehicle seized in Whitchurch for no tax.

Yesterday Whitchurch SNT seized a vehicle on Rosemary Lane, Whitchurch for having no tax since December 2023.



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As part of the monthly Newsletter, we will be adding trending and/or appropriate crime prevention advice and information. Along with any recent updates from our other policing departments and partners.

This month's Newsletter contains sections on **'Ask For Angela', Preventing car and vehicle theft and Protect your motorcycle, moped or scooter from theft**

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### **'Ask For Angela'**

Ever heard of "Ask for Angela"?

Ask for Angela is a safety initiative for bars, clubs & licensed premises. If you ever feel uneasy or in an uncomfortable situation, ask for "Angela" at a bar, club or licensed premises. This code-phrase will indicate to staff that you require help and you will receive assistance. A trained member of staff will then look to support and assist them. This might be through reuniting them with a friend, getting them to a taxi, or by calling venue security and / or the police.

More information can be found here: [Home - Ask For Angela](#)

### **About Ask for Angela**

Ask for Angela is the not for profit scheme that aims to ensure that anyone who is feeling vulnerable or unsafe is able to get the support they need. This could be on a night out, on a date, meeting friends and other situations. Ask for Angela is needed because:

- 97% of women aged 18-24 and 80% of all women said they had been sexually harassed in public spaces in the UK  
([UN Women UK](#))
- 53% of women experience sexual harassment in a pub, club or bar  
([YouGov](#))
- One in five LGBT people have experienced a hate crime or incident because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity  
([Stonewall](#))

The scheme works by training staff in vulnerability management and what to do when someone Asks for Angela.

The trained member of staff will understand the person asking is in need of help and support and will be able to respond in an appropriate, discreet way. They might call security, lead the person to a safe space, or help them leave the premises unnoticed.

It supports venues to keep their customers safe, which in turn improves perceptions of safety and patronage in the night time economy. A recent YouGov survey on feelings of safety in the night time economy found that 49% of people and 63% of women would be more likely to visit a venue that had measures in place to improve women's safety.

Ask for Angela is not for profit, any money raised is reinvested into activity to improve feelings of safety and reduce vulnerability. We are funded purely by public donations and brand associations, covering running costs and helping us to develop new safety initiatives.

The Ask for Angela initiative is now being picked up worldwide, most recently in [Toronto, Canada](#), where Victim Services Toronto has rolled out the scheme.

## **Preventing car and vehicle theft**

Don't let thieves get an easy ride. Follow these simple rules to protect your vehicle from thieves.

### **1. Lock your vehicle**

Locking your vehicle, even when filling up or parked on your drive, greatly reduces the possibility of it being targeted by an opportunist thief. Even if you have locked your vehicle, check you haven't left any windows or the sunroof open.

It is actually illegal to leave your vehicle running unattended while you de-ice it or warm it up in cold weather. If someone takes it while it's left like this, your insurer won't pay out because you won't be covered.

If your vehicle has wing mirrors that fold in automatically when locked, make sure you lock it properly. Criminal gangs are looking for vehicles like these where the wing mirrors are still out because it is clear to them that the vehicle has been left unlocked.

### **2. Keep the keys safe**

Vehicles today are by and large more difficult to steal than ever, unless the thief can access your key or fob to clone them. Keep your keys safe, out of view when at home, and away from your front door. It's not uncommon for car keys to be stolen from inside your home by thieves fishing for them with a stick and hook through the letterbox.

If you're selling your car and you meet up with a potential buyer, do not allow the keys out of your sight. Your keys may be cloned by thieves and used later to steal your vehicle.

### Keyless entry

Cars with keyless entry unlock automatically when the key comes within a short distance of the car. This can be from inside a pocket or bag. If you have to push a button on your car key to open your car, you don't have keyless entry.

Keyless car theft or 'relay theft' is when a device is used to fool the car into thinking the key is close by. This unlocks the car and starts the ignition.

Thieves only need to be within a few metres of your car key to capture the signal, even if it's inside your home. This means that even if your car and home are secure, thieves can still unlock, start and steal your car.

### How to protect your keyless entry car

When at home keep your car key (and the spare) well away from the car.

Put the keys in a screened or signal-blocking pouch, such as a Faraday Bag and check if the bag or pouch is still working every few months.

Reprogramme your keys if you buy a second hand car.

Turn off wireless signals on your fob when it's not being used.

Additional physical security such as locks and immobilisers are still highly recommended. Section six on this page has more information about this.

## **3. Be aware of carjackers**

The fact that you're in the car isn't always a deterrent to someone trying to steal it.

In traffic, drive with the doors locked and when queuing leave enough space in front of your vehicle to enable you to get out of a tight spot. If your vehicle is bumped from behind, wait to pull over – somewhere safe and preferably where there are people. After all, you don't know the person who has collided with you; they could well be hijackers. If you're at all suspicious, consider calling the police.

If someone threatens you, it's better to hand over the keys to the vehicle than become a victim of assault. Then call 999 as soon as possible, and ask for the police.

If your car is stolen, some modern vehicle alarm and tracker systems have the facility to isolate or shut down fuel systems, bringing the vehicle to a halt and leaving the thief high and dry.

## **4. Park responsibly**

It's always advisable to avoid parking in dark and secluded areas. It's worth an extra five or ten-minute walk if it means your vehicle is left in a well-lit and busier street.

And if possible, always try to park in illuminated and staffed car parks or those with a Park Mark safer parking award. To find one, simply check out Park Mark.

### **5. Watch for illegal tow trucks**

Thieves often attempt to lift vehicles from the street, literally. So, if you see a towaway crew acting suspiciously – especially if their vehicle isn't branded or if they're not in uniform – then please report it immediately.

As with every report of suspicious behaviour made in good faith, we'll never blame anyone for calling us if it proves unfounded.

Car parks with height-restricted entrances help prevent illegal tow trucks and removal vehicles. And fitting a Thatcham rated category 1 or 2 alarm system with tracking, immobilisation, anti-grab and movement sensors can help protect and trace your vehicle.

### **6. Fit good in-car security locks**

Additional physical security can help to prevent your vehicle being driven away even if a thief gains entry. There are a range of security rated products tested by Sold Secure that can help, such as steering wheel locks, pedal boxes and gear stick locks.

Some of these products, tested to Sold Secure Diamond, can even resist a small hand-held angle grinder.

It's also worth speaking to your vehicle dealership about installing an aftermarket immobiliser approved by the manufacturer.

Immobilisers prevent a vehicle from starting unless the correct fob, key or activation process is used. They can be personalised so that you're the only one who knows how to unset it via a number of dashboard controls.

### **7. Double-check electronic locking**

Electronic devices can be used to jam the electronic signal from your key fob to lock your vehicle. Always manually check your vehicle has locked before walking away.

If unsure, lock it manually, then scan the immediate area for anyone hanging around. If a potential thief who's watching feels they've been spotted, they'll probably move off.

### **8. Before owning, check for cloning**

Changing the identity of a vehicle, known as vehicle cloning, can be as simple as adding stolen number plates. When buying a vehicle, always check the DVLA V5 document and make sure the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the vehicle is the same as on the document.

Make sure you check more than one of the VINs as well as the engine numbers on the vehicle (see diagram).

Check a used vehicle you're buying.

### **9. Secure your port**

Many modern vehicles are fitted with engine management diagnostic ports, which can unlock and start your vehicle. If your vehicle has this type of port, consider fitting a lockable cover.

### **Protect your motorcycle, moped or scooter from theft**

Thieves only need a matter of seconds to steal a moped, scooter or motorcycle - especially if they are left with poor security - but our tips will help reduce the chance of theft.

Lock, chain, cover

Reduce your risk of becoming a victim by taking steps to layer your security.

#### **Lock**

Use a disc lock to help secure the front brake disc, or a grip lock to secure the brake and throttle controls. You could also use a D lock on the front wheel to stop it being wheeled away.

#### **Chain**

Thieves often steal a bike by breaking the steering lock and wheeling it away. Use a chain lock through the back wheel (the front wheel can be removed). Secure your bike, with the lock taut to an immovable object such as a ground anchor or street furniture. This will stop thieves from cutting a lock trailing on the ground using an angle grinder. If this isn't possible, thread the chain through your bike frame and back wheel.

#### **Cover**

Thieves often 'shop' for particular bike models. Using a cover instantly makes it less attractive to them. A cover also provides another time consuming obstacle for the thief.

Unfortunately security measures can't guarantee your bike won't be stolen but, by using multiple security measures, you can make it harder and less attractive for thieves.

For security products for your scooter, motorcycle or moped search the 'Accredited products' page on [Secured by Design](#) (a police-approved website).

Remove the keys

Thieves are often opportunists and so they will look for bikes that are quick and easy to steal first.

- Always use the steering lock and remove the ignition keys, even if you are close by or away for a few minutes. It only takes a few seconds for a thief so don't make it easy for them.
- Never rely on just using your steering lock to secure your bike as thieves can break the steering lock and simply wheel the bike away.

Fitting an alarm can be a deterrent to thieves

- Consider fitting a Thatcham-rated 1 or 2 alarm system with tracking, immobilisation, anti-grab and movement sensors can help protect and trace your vehicle.
- A quality Thatcham approved, professionally fitted alarm system will not only put off thieves, but could also reduce your insurance premiums.

Property mark the parts

- Marking as much of your bike as possible will make it more difficult for criminals to sell parts on, and therefore less attractive to steal. It will also help police identify parts and return recovered stolen bikes.
- There are a range of bike marking providers that you can use.

When at home the best place to keep your motorcycle, moped or scooter is in your garage or shed

- Fit a garage door defender or upgrade garage door locks.
- Garage and shed alarms as well as low level dusk to dawn lighting will also enhance security. Fitting a ground anchor also provides extra security.
- Motorcycle lockers are also available to store your bike at home.

[Find out more about shed and garage security.](#)

No shed or garage? Park in the safest place you can

- Park it in an area near to your home where it's well overlooked with good lighting.
- A [Park Mark](#) approved car park has a higher level of security than other car parks.

If your bike is stolen, never put yourself at risk. Call police immediately on [999](#) if you see it being stolen or [report a crime online](#) if you discover it has gone.

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**Are you aware of Community Speed Watch, and is it relevant to your parish?**

With Community Speed Watch now in its eighth year of operation within West Mercia, local communities are being reminded about the scheme and how volunteers can get involved in speed monitoring and improve the quality of life in their area if speeding traffic is causing concern. Community Speed Watch is a community driven road safety initiative, coordinated by West Mercia Police but managed and run by volunteers in the community. It involves trained volunteers from the community monitoring the speeds of vehicles with approved, hand-held speed measurement devices. Where vehicle speeds are found to be inappropriate, a letter is sent to the registered keeper by the police with the aim of encouraging them to reduce their speed when driving in the future. The scheme was introduced within West Mercia in 2014 and has gone from strength to strength over the last 8 years with over 40 active sites currently operating. It was introduced to enhance the force's speed enforcement strategy, by addressing community concerns in areas that do not meet either speed or collision criteria for police-led enforcement.

A Community Speed Watch scheme is initiated when 'speeding traffic' has been identified as a community road safety concern by a parish council or Safer Neighbourhood Team. However, several criteria must be met before a scheme can be established:

- The area must have a 30mph or 40mph speed restriction.
- Speed data collected by West Mercia Police must show that speed levels in the area do not meet the national industry requirements for police enforcement.
- No other enforcement activity is currently in place.
- There must be at least six volunteers in each Community Speed Watch scheme.
- Speed checks must be conducted by at least three volunteers at any one time.





The contacts below may be of interest to those in the parish who may be more comfortable reporting crime or giving information to the police, anonymously:

**CrimeStoppers.**  
Speak up. Stay safe.

**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.



**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

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### Are your parishioners aware of Action Fraud?

If you've been the victim of a scam, fraud or online crime (cybercrime) you can report it to Action Fraud:

- Action Fraud website
- on **0300 123 2040** (Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm).

Action Fraud is the national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime. It collects reports about fraud on behalf of the police in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. For fraud in Scotland please report it directly to Police Scotland.



# INTRODUCING SMARTWATER®



## WHAT IS SMARTWATER?

SmartWater is a sophisticated security system that protects property, deters thieves and helps the police to convict criminals. It can be directly applied to valuables or it can be used to spray criminals committing a crime. SmartWater contains a unique forensic code that is registered to an address or location. Anything marked can be traced back to where it came from, allowing the police to identify stolen property and link criminals to crime scenes. SmartWater is almost invisible in natural light but glows brightly under ultraviolet (UV) light.

## WHERE IS SMARTWATER USED?

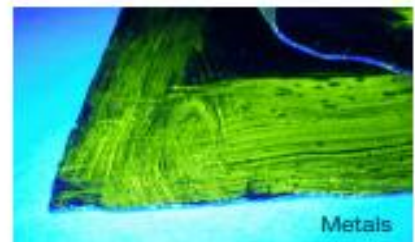
- Homes use SmartWater to protect electrical goods, jewellery and other valuables.
- Many businesses protect IT equipment, infrastructure and tools.
- Shops and banks use it to deter robberies.
- Railways are marking trackside cable.
- Cars, vans, bikes, boats, and other vehicles can all use SmartWater.
- Farms and rural communities are protecting machinery and stoneware (including paving and dry stone walls).
- Many schools protect their IT and sports equipment.
- Utility firms apply SmartWater to metals and cables.
- Thousands of Churches use SmartWater on lead roofing.
- Many Cash-in-transit cashboxes are fitted with SmartWater.
- Retail chains are using SmartWater to reduce pilferage and internal theft.



Valuables



Criminal activation on skin



Metals

Photographs taken under UV light.

## WHY DO CRIMINALS AVOID SMARTWATER?

If a criminal is marked with SmartWater or caught with SmartWater-marked property, they face an increased risk of prosecution. SmartWater has helped to convict hundreds of criminals and has a 100% conviction rate. Police Forces nationwide, along with many second hand dealers, scrap merchants and recyclers are all looking for SmartWater.

For further information, please go to [www.smartwater.com](http://www.smartwater.com) or call: **0333 320 7797**



In partnership with



Secured by Design



Official Police Security Initiative

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Registered in England, Company Number 02875523.

SmartWater Technology Limited is an ISO 9001, ISO 27001 & ISO/IEC 17025 accredited company.

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# HELP US TO REDUCE CRIME IN YOUR AREA



## SMARTWATER® HOME SECURITY PACK: SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL PRICE

SmartWater is manufactured right here in the West Midlands. They are a local company working in partnership with your local police to reduce crime in your communities.

Thanks to West Mercia and Warwickshire Police's **WE DON'T BUY CRIME** project, you can purchase SmartWater for your home at a special promotional price of **£19.95\*** with no annual fees.



Photographs taken under ultraviolet light.

### HOW SMARTWATER WORKS:

- SmartWater has a **unique forensic code** that, once applied, makes equipment traceable back to their owner
- SmartWater is **easy to apply** and only visible under UV light\*\*
- Each application is guaranteed to last **5-years\*\***
- Recognised by criminals - SmartWater **THIEVES BEWARE®** deterrent signage sends out a powerful warning to thieves
- Responsible for convicting hundreds of criminals, with a **100% conviction rate** in contested court cases
- Only a speck the **size of a pinhead** is required to convict
- When deployed by police, SmartWater has helped reduce burglary by up to 85%.

### HOW TO BUY:

Please visit: [www.smartwater.com/redeem](http://www.smartwater.com/redeem)

Or call: **0333 320 7797**

Use discount code: **WDBCRIME25**



\*\*When applied in accordance to the application instructions



**FIND OUT MORE**  
Scan the QR code to learn more about our products and services



Secured by Design



Official Police Security Initiative

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[www.smartwater.com](http://www.smartwater.com)