

# Harborough Newsletter

Issue 20: October 2020

### **Latest News Updates**

Last month, a closure order was granted for a flat in Market Harborough which had been linked to a number of reports of antisocial behaviour.

The order, for 32 Edwin Court, was granted on Thursday 10 September following an application by officers from the Harborough and Wigston Neighbourhood Policing Area (NPA).

It forbids anyone from entering the property for a period of three months. This includes the current occupants. A copy of the closure order is displayed outside.

Inspector Siobhan Gorman, commander for the Harborough and Wigston NPA, said: "We've received a number of reports concerning antisocial behaviour at this address in recent months.

"By obtaining the order, we've been able to take necessary action to stop it from happening.

"I would like to thank the people living in our local community for the information that they have passed on to us, which has

allowed this order to be granted. I hope they will now be able to live in peace without having to tolerate such unacceptable behaviour."



## **County Lines Crackdown**

visit leics.police.uk/countylines

Leicestershire Police arrested 40 people as part of enforcement activity to target and disrupt 'county lines' drug dealers.

Run from Monday 14 September to Sunday 20 September, the operation formed part of a national week of action led by the National Crime Agency (NCA) which saw police forces up and down the country taking part.

County lines gangs export drugs into other areas of the country, often small towns, using dedicated mobile phone lines. They also exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store drugs and money, sometimes using coercion, intimidation and violence.

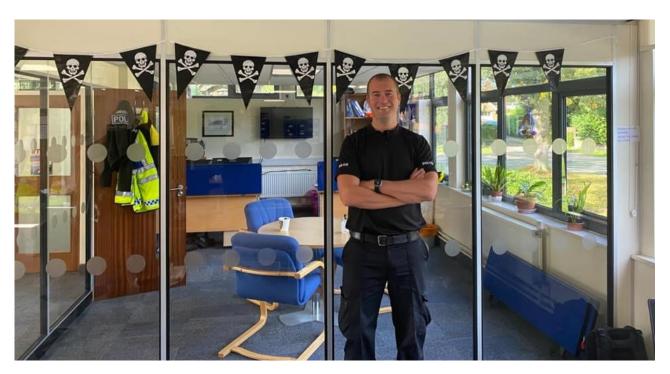
As part of the week of action local officers executed a number of search warrants at Harborough addresses, they also carried out proactive patrols and visited Market Harborough train station with a knife arch, these are used to reduce violent crime.

To find out more about county lines and what signs to look out for please

#### First boat chase in local police officer's career

Last month saw a first in an 18 year career for one of our beat officers when a canal boat was reported as stolen, officers were also provided with a suspected direction of travel as it left the marina.

With a four hour head start on the waterways, the officers found that the best lock for an interception point would be in the Northamptonshire village of Watford so officers were able to gain ground quickly on the road network. As officers from Harborough were en route, they called neighbouring offices from Northamptonshire Police to support, luckily they also had an officer who was skilled in the art of driving a canal boat!



When officers arrived at the lock, it was clear their Skoda was much faster than the canal boat and there was a queue of boats waiting to pass through the lock. With a photograph of the canal boat and a description of the suspected offender, officers deployed on foot and walked along the several miles of tow path.

When officers sighted a likely suspect, they couldn't see the markings they were looking for on the boat, however, being able to walk alongside the stolen boat enabled officers to spot the freshly applied paint, further raising their suspicions.

A boarding party led by Sgt Archer landed on the barge and the suspect was arrested for theft of the boat. He was conveyed back to Leicestershire custody (in the car and not via the canal network!) and was ultimately charged with three criminal offences.

#### **Beat Surgeries:**

In line with government guidance around Covid-19, we have postponed our community consultations and beat meetings. Our officers will continue to be active in your community. We will re-arrange events as soon as we can. Remember you can always report crime by:

- Reporting online via leics.police.uk/report-online
- Calling 101
- Sending a private message to Leicestershire Police on Facebook or Twitter