

News and appeals

Police launch summer crackdown on drink and drug drivers

Today, 1 June, sees the launch of Surrey and Sussex Police's summer drink and drug driving campaign - also known as Operation Dragonfly. The month of action will see the counties' joint Roads Policing Unit carry out dedicated patrols to put the brakes on any motorists who take to the road while under the influence of intoxicating substances.

The initiative is being supported by the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership, DriveSmart in Surrey and the independent charity Crimestoppers. As well as RPU officers a number of Special Constables from Sussex will also be out on roads network to help target drink and drug drivers.

Approximately 300 officers across the force are now fully qualified to test motorists for drugs on the roadside. This is in addition to the hundreds more already able to test suspected drink drivers, making it even harder for motorists to get away with offences.

Superintendent Chris Moon, Head of Surrey and Sussex Roads Policing Unit, said: "In the summer months when the weather tends to be nicer people will often stay out drinking later into the evening. There are some who find the temptation of driving home after a few drinks all too appealing and we want to share the message that this is not acceptable and drink or drug driving of any kind won't be tolerated in Surrey or Sussex. Our advice is simple – go cold turkey or do not drive.

"Driving with drink or drugs in your system impairs your judgement and ability to drive safely. Not only can you cause injury or death to others, being caught drink or drug driving can also have other consequences such as a criminal record, a heavy fine, losing your job and licence and an increase in insurance premiums. It's also worth remembering that it's not just about planning your journey home, you may still be over the limit the following morning.

"Passengers should not accept lifts from drivers who they know have drunk alcohol or taken drugs. We also ask that you refrain from offering an alcoholic drink or drugs to someone you know is planning to drive."

Anyone caught drink or drug-driving will be dealt with robustly – offenders face a minimum 12-month disqualification, up to six months imprisonment and a fine of up to £5000. If a death is caused through dangerous driving while over the limit, a sentence of up to 14 years behind bars can result.

Members of the public are also being asked to play their part by reporting anyone they suspect to be driving under the influence.

People in Sussex can text officers on 65999 with the details of people they suspect of drink or drug driving or visit [Operation Crackdown](#).

You can also contact the independent charity [Crimestoppers](#) anonymously on 0800 555 111.

If you know someone is driving while over the limit through drink or drugs, call 999. Follow us on social media for further campaign updates throughout the month.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/police-launch-summer-crackdown-on-drink-and-drug-drivers/>

High visibility patrols continue

Surrey and Sussex police will continue its high visibility reassurance patrols.

However enhanced patrols by armed officers, seen at train stations and other locations, will stand down today (Tuesday 30 May) with the threat level having returned to severe.

Head of Operations Command Assistant Chief Constable Steve Barry said: “The public can be reassured that our high visibility patrols continue and where we have reviewed and enhanced security at some events taking place in Surrey and Sussex, we will maintain that presence.

“They will also continue to see high visibility patrols in Shoreham where a 23-year-old man was arrested on Monday by counter terrorism police.

“The actions we are taking follows a decision by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre that a terrorist attack may no longer be imminent and the threat level being lowered from critical to severe on Saturday.

“I would like to thank the public for their continued support during this challenging time. They should remain alert and report any suspicious activity. If you see something or are worried about something do not hesitate but contact police in confidence on the anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789321 or in an emergency call 999.”

For further information about reporting suspicious behaviour visit our [Counter Terrorism pages](#).

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/high-visibility-patrols-continue/>

Alerts/Press Releases sent out this week click the link to see full details.

Crime summary

Other burglaries of note;

Other than Dwelling

Reference: 0324 of 26/05/2017

Location: Kings Barn End Steyning

Date and time: Overnight 25/05/2017 – 26/05/2017

Details: Garage broken into by breaking the lock unknown what has been stolen

Reference: 0325 of 26/05/2017

Location: Kings Barn End Steyning

Date and time: Overnight 25/05/2017 – 26/05/2017

Details: An attempt was made to break into a garage no access gained

Help us keep Sussex safe

If you saw or heard anything, or have any information about any incident in this message please [contact us online](#), email us at 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or call **101**, quoting the reference number provided.

Alternatively you can contact the independent charity **Crimestoppers**, anonymously, on **0800 555 111**, or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Your local teams

[Visit our Website](#) to contact your local team, view local news and follow our social media accounts. Simply type your post code in the **'Find a Local Area'** box located in the top right of the web page.

Links and attachments: Sussex Police will only ever link you to secure Websites we trust. We will only send you attachments where we believe it is absolutely necessary.