



Subject **West Mercia Police Report to Bromsgrove District Council's Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Panel**

West Mercia Police have been asked to provide a report to Bromsgrove District Council's Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel. The report will focus on three main themes.

- Overview of Crime within Bromsgrove District.
- Anti-Social Behaviour interventions.
- Recent successes.

Overview of Crime and ASB

The District's year-to-date figures for the crime types that impact our communities the most, from 1st January 2025 - 31st December 2025 are contained in Appendix A

Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

The Police ASB interventions for Bromsgrove District from the 1st January 2025 - 31st December 2025 are listed below:

Level 1 ASB letters – 22
Cease and Desist letter - 2
Community Protection Warnings (CPWs) - 10
Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) - 1
Sec 59 warning (Anti-social driving) - 1
Personal ASB Risk Assessment (PARA) - Standard score - 19
Personal ASB Risk Assessment (PARA) - Medium score - 8
Personal ASB Risk Assessment (PARA) - High score - 0

Recent Successes

Neighbourhood Policing Expansion – West Mercia

Overview:

During September 2025, West Mercia Police employed additional officers to strengthen neighbourhood policing across Herefordshire, Shropshire, and Worcestershire. This investment supports the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Communities Plan and contributes to the national Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.

New Resources Being Deployed:

- 29 Police Constables, including:
- 5 dedicated Rural Crime Officers
- 2 Sergeants
- 20 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)

County Lines Week of Action

Our crackdown on county lines drug dealing continues as West Mercia Police took part in the recent national County Lines Intensification Week (25th Nov - 1st Dec 2024).

During the week, we arrested 68 individuals linked to county lines drug dealing and seized over £2.5 million worth of drugs, and over £21,000 in cash.

Importantly, we also focused on safeguarding the most vulnerable people in our society who can fall victim to being exploited by county lines gangs. We made 110 cuckooing visits to vulnerable people and safeguarded 29 adults and 19 children as a result.



Op Sceptre Knife Crime Week – November 2025

Nearly 300 knives were surrendered during the recent national Sceptre initiative to tackle knife crime.

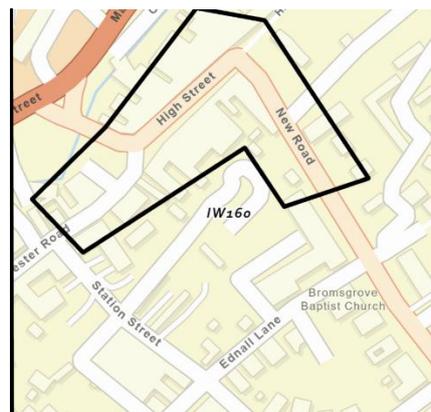
Key activity:

- 202 retail visits conducted to check compliance with knife sale laws.
- 42 test purchases carried out; 15 retailers failed to challenge for ID – advice provided.
- Community engagement, proactive patrols, stop/searches, warrants, and intelligence-led action took place throughout the week.



Bromsgrove Hotspot Patrols

Since 1st April 2025, West Mercia Police launched hotspot patrols within Bromsgrove Town Centre, namely High Street / New Road to address serious violence and ASB. In total, there have been a total of 490 pro-active high visibility patrols (at the time of writing on 5th Jan 2026) recorded in this area as part of our ongoing commitment to increased visibility in the area. A map of the hotspot area is below;



Multi-Agency Targeted Enforcement Strategy (MATES)

West Mercia Police have worked with a number of partners to address some of the local concerns around serious and organised crime, in particular concerns around illegal vape / tobacco sales to young person/s in Bromsgrove.

This has resulted in a number of compliance visits with partners, resulting in illegal tobacco being seized by trading standards. During February 2025, £500,000 was seized by our Economic Crime unit and a further £250,000 in November 2025 as part of a national NCA led called Operation Machinize

More locally, through this partnership, three shops in Bromsgrove have been ordered to close by magistrates after investigators discovered they were selling illegal products.

The closures have been funded by Worcestershire County Council Public Health, Bromsgrove District Council, Redditch Borough Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner. They were

carried out by Worcestershire Trading Standards officers, supported by West Mercia Police and Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS).

The three premises closed include European Mini-Market on The Strand, Zam Zam Shop on the High Street and WK Groceries on New Road. Following court hearings on Thursday 20th November 2025, magistrates issued orders to extend the closures for European Mini Market and Zam Zam Shop for three months.

WK Groceries' court proceedings have been adjourned but the shop will remain closed until a future date is set.

To assist, four press articles are enclosed below for reference;

[Police and partners seize illegal vapes from store | West Mercia Police](#)

[More than £500k seized in West Mercia Police fraud raids - BBC News](#)

[Organised crime raids uncover firearms and £250K in illegal cash | West Mercia Police](#)

[Three shops ordered to close for selling illicit products](#)

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