

SAFE & SOUND

Summer Edition 2020

Community Safety Principal Officers



Sian Morris Takes Early Retirement

As many of you would know, Sian Morris has worked for NPTCBC in Community Safety roles since 1992, and has decided that now would be a good time to spend with her family and at her holiday home in Samos.

Sian was the Principal Officer at Community Safety for over 10 years of her time working at NPTCBC. The Community Safety Team would like to wish Sian a very happy Retirement.

New Community Safety Principal Officer

Elinor has worked in the authority since 2007 within Housing Options and Change Management, and she has worked within the Community Safety Team for the past 4 years as the Corporate Policy Officer for Domestic Abuse and Prevent.

Elinor is really looking forward to the future within this role and continuing to work alongside a great team and all partner agencies.

“It has been an interesting start due to changes to our team arrangements with lockdown, but I am very pleased and proud that the team have been able to maintain a consistent service despite all of the recent challenges”



Email: e.wellington@npt.gov.uk

Tel: 01639 889163

NITROUS OXIDE (LAUGHING GAS) CYLINDERS



There are increasing amounts of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) Cylinders being dumped in parks and on our streets. They might look like just another part of the growing rubbish problem, but the sheer amount illustrates how they are becoming an increasingly popular way for people to get high.

The silver canisters might look innocent enough but there are serious health concerns linked to taking the drug. Nitrous Oxide has several legitimate uses but when inhaled it can cause unconsciousness or death due to a lack of oxygen. Mixing alcohol with nitrous oxide can be fatal.

Its legal uses include as an anaesthetic in hospitals, or in the hospitality industry to charge large canisters of whipped cream, but despite it being banned in 2016, many people continue to use it.

Health problems can include memory loss, disorientation and disassociation, but one of the most serious is the degeneration of the spinal cord. Nitrous oxide can also cause dizziness and affect your judgement, creating a risk of accidents, which adds to the issue if people drive to the meeting point.

If you know of anyone that maybe using nitrous oxide please educate them and encourage them to stop immediately. Further information and help is available from your local Welsh Centre for Action on Dependency and Addiction **WCADA** on the following numbers. Neath—**01639 620222** Port Talbot—**01639 890863**.

If you come across large quantities of these cylinders, please contact South Wales Police on 101 or your local PCSO.

Safer Neath Port Talbot Business Crime Reduction Partnership

Our objective is to use an intelligence led approach to manage business crime. In liaison with retailers, businesses and authorities including South Wales Police, we seek to identify and deter the most persistent offenders across the region, and reduce their opportunity to commit crime within your trading area, which impacts on your business profitability.

The Stornet or Nitenet radio is an easy to use 2 way communications system which enables the rapid dissemination of information on criminal activity throughout your trading area, all your staff can be made fully aware of offender movements, descriptions and direction immediately.

In the event of a staff member being attacked the system has a built in panic button which, when activated, alerts other users as to who is in difficulty. The microphone is then automatically activated allowing the user to have a 'hands free' facility allowing them to fully deal with the situation.

The Business Crime Reduction Partnership works by collating intelligence, information, sightings and deters from member businesses, other BCRP's and police, analysing the details and providing information and photographs back to members. Prolific, travelling, professional offenders are identified and then targeted.

As member of the BCRP you will have access to a state of the art password protected website which provides accurate intelligence and up to date images of all offenders subject of a current exclusion hosted by Littoralis Disc.

Benefits to your Business:

- ◆ Inclusion in Exclusion Order Scheme.
- ◆ Regular intelligence, photographs and descriptions on excluded offenders.
- ◆ Be forewarned of violent offenders.
- ◆ Ability for you to have your unknown offenders identified by other users.
- ◆ Intelligence bulletins on prolific travelling offenders.
- ◆ Instant contact with all other businesses.
- ◆ Warn and be warned of trouble makers.
- ◆ Re-assurance for lone or young workers.
- ◆ Makes premises a harder target for lifestyle offenders'.
- ◆ Assistance with lost people and children.
- ◆ Demonstrates a high visible commitment to assisting the local police in their duties

The Partnership is looking for Volunteers to assist the Neath and Port Talbot Members exclusion panels.

The Volunteers would need to be available for 1 hour meetings once every month.

Training given for Independent Volunteers.

Contact Grant Botterill : 01639 889162

If you would like more information about joining the scheme contact:

Grant Botterill Telephone: 01639 889162 Email: saferbcrp@gmail.com



What is County Lines?

- ♦ **Gangs** from **large urban areas**, travel to **county locations** to sell heroin and crack.
- ♦ Gangs enforce **loyalty** through **violence, fear** and **intimidation**.
- ♦ Low level runners **travel** to South Wales on a **regular** basis to **deliver drugs** and **collect cash**.
- ♦ **Local properties** belonging to a **vulnerable** person used as a base. Often acquired by **force** or **coercion** known as **Cuckooing**.
- ♦ Children **exploited** to deliver drugs, often using **intimidation, violence, debt bondage** and/or **grooming**.
- ♦ Although not a driving factor there is a clear link

REPORT IT

We all have a role to play in keeping our local areas safe from drug dealing, and associated gang exploitation and violence.

If you suspect drug dealing is taking place or you are concerned that a young person or vulnerable adult may have been targeted by an organised crime group,

please tell the Police. You don't have to be certain, just concerned.

Call the Police on 101 or if you prefer, you can also contact

Crimestoppers to report anonymously online.

www.crimestoppers.org.uk or by calling 0800 555 111.



Wales Illegal Money Lending Unit (WIMLU)

The Wales Illegal Money Lending Unit (WIMLU) targets illegal money lenders, more commonly known as loan sharks. The unit looks into illegal lending and any related crimes as well as supporting victims. The perpetrators range from small time loan sharks to violent and organized criminals. Illegal lending (loan sharking) is a criminal offence. Illegal money lenders operate without a license, often targeting vulnerable people.

Most loan sharks start out friendly, but their behaviour changes when payments are missed. Few loan sharks advertise, and are often heard of by word of mouth. Most loan sharks offer little or no paperwork and Quite often take cash cards/post office cards and pin numbers as collateral for loans.

Report illegal money lending (loan sharks)

If you are a loan shark victim, or think there may be a loan shark operating in your area, contact the WIMLU on the 24 hour hotline 0300 123 3311 (all calls are completely confidential) or [contact us online](#).

- ◆ Absolutely anyone can phone in with Loan Shark information – a victim, advice worker, local resident, police officer, neighbour...
- ◆ Any information provided would be in the strictest of confidence and will not be used in the Courts.
- ◆ Callers don't have to give their name and can remain anonymous.
- ◆ Support for victims of illegal money lending with Specialist officers are on hand to support and assist victims and advise on debt and other problems.

It is important to know that borrowing from an unlicensed lender is not an offence. The offence will have been committed by the lender. WIMLU will not take action against any individual who has borrowed money but will offer support to help you manage your money.

To contact WIMLU:-

call 0300 123 3311

Email imlu@cardiff.gov.uk

[facebook.com/stoploansharkswales](https://www.facebook.com/stoploansharkswales)

twitter.com/Stoploansharkswales



Holiday Security After Lockdown

Are you planning your holiday? If yes, think about the following:-



Do not boast about your holiday on social networking sites until you return. Many burglars use these sites to identify “safe” targets.

Aim to make your home look as though it is occupied -don't close the curtains in the day time.

Use automatic timer switches to turn your lights, TV or radio on.

Top Tip ~



Royal Mail

Royal Mail's Keepsafe Service will for a small fee hold your mail for up to two months and deliver it on your return, avoiding a pile of mail in the hall.

Ask a neighbour or relative to keep an eye on your home for you, if possible park their car on your driveway.

Don't put your home address on your luggage when travelling.

Ensure you lock all doors and windows & if you have one set your burglar alarm.

Remove obvious temptation ~ car keys hanging by the front door.

Prepare for the worst. Back up and password protect your computer.

Don't leave answer machine messages stating you are away.

How to avoid becoming a victim of a telephone scam:

Hello....

You are the Lucky Winner.....

I just need your bank details



- ◆ Stop, think and be sceptical.
- ◆ If something sounds too good to be true it probably is
- ◆ Genuine businesses or organisations will never telephone you and ask you for personal or financial information
- ◆ If you receive a call which you suspect is bogus, speak to family or friends or the Citizens Advice consumer service and seek advice
- ◆ Ask your telecoms provider to set up call screening on your telephone so that you know who is calling your number before you decide to answer it. If the number is withheld it will be displayed as 'number withheld'

Useful Contact Numbers

- ◆ Police (non emergency) 101
- ◆ Trading Standards via Citizens Advice Bureau
- ◆ (English 03454 040506) — (Welsh 03454 040505)
- ◆ Action Fraud 0300 123 2040
- ◆ Telephone Preference Service 0845 070 0707
- ◆ Mail Preference Service 0845 703 4599
- ◆ Age Cymru advice line 08000 223 444

Are you or is someone you know in an abusive relationship?



Live Fear Free Helpline
0808 80 10 800
call • text • live chat • email



Home
shouldn't
be a place
of fear

Help is available, 24/7

#LiveFearFree
gov.wales/livefearfree

#YouAreNotAlone

Talk to a local support service
or your health professional



In an emergency always dial 999. Use
the Silent Solution if you are too scared to
speak or make a noise;
just press 55 when prompted.

Ydych chi neu rywun rydych chi'n adnabod mewn perthynas gamdriniol?



Live Fear Free Helpline
Linell Gymorth Byw Heb Ofn
0808 80 10 800
ffôn • fectst • sgwrsio byw • ebost

Ddylai neb deimlo'n ofnus gartre



Mae help ar gael, ddydd a nos

#BywHebOfn
llyw.cymru/bywhebofn

#NidYdychArEichPenEichHun

Siaradwch â gwasanaeth cymorth neu'ch gweithiwr iechyd proffesiynol



Mewn argyfwng, galwch 999. Defnyddiwch yr Ateb Tawel os oes gennych ormod o ofn i siarad neu wneud sŵn; dewisch 55 pan ofynnir i chi.