

Worthing NHW Newsletter



December 2024

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Christmas should always be a time to which we look forward, where families and relatives can rejoice in being together and enjoying its festivities. Sadly, for victims of domestic abuse – mainly women and girls - it is the most dangerous time of year due to a combination of family members spending more time at home, consuming more alcohol and a higher chance of family feuds.

Women experiencing poverty are particularly vulnerable to domestic violence. Research suggests that women living in low-income households are most likely to report partner abuse, but Christmas costs can strain even middle-income family budgets to their limit. In our relentlessly media-driven society, parents face immense pressure to provide their children with presents similar to what their peers are receiving. Add to that the cost of food, drink, outings, and the socialising that accompanies the season, and fraying tempers can lead to episodes of violence, emotional abuse, and coercive control increasing.

Domestic abuse often manifests itself through subtle behavioural shifts at work, with data indicating that 75% of abuse victims are targeted at their workplace, displaying symptoms of which employers and colleagues should be aware, particularly during the festive season. The most notable changes include:

- Withdrawal from social activities and colleague interactions
- Sudden changes in appearance or clothing style
- Increased emotional sensitivity or anxiety
- Unexplained injuries, often with inconsistent explanations

If you are a victim of intimate partner violence, the most important first step is to reach out to a support agency or a family member whom you trust. Help is available and you and your children have a right to be safe and secure, regardless of the time of year.

If in present danger, always ring 999 or make a silent 999 call on your mobile by pressing 55 when prompted, which will transfer the call to the Police. Additionally, there are support services for domestic abuse victims as follows:

National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV) – 0800 970 20 70

Refuge – 0808 2000 247 (24 hours)

Women's Aid 0808 200 0247 (24 hours)

ManKind – 01823 334 244

See the latest Alerts at : [https:// worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/](https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/)

Please remember that thefts from sheds and outbuildings are common at this time of year because thieves know that many of us store our Christmas cheer there. In particular, they are on the look-out for bicycles. So please ensure that these buildings are well secured – and, if your bike isn't already securely attached, why not consider treating yourself to a “Sold Secure” approved ground anchor?

Then there are the “five scams of Christmas” – cost of living scams (where fake messages are sent purporting to be from the UK Government and claiming to offer energy rebates); loan fee fraud (where victims pay a fee for a loan that they never receive); missed delivery scams (where scammers email victims and tell them that the package could be lost if no action is taken); romance fraud (currently one of the most common frauds in Sussex already); and ticket scams (remember that tickets should only be purchased through a verified website and by credit card).

Many people leave their curtains open to display the lights and decorations on their Christmas trees. Unfortunately, this allows passers-by to look into your front room where they can see any presents under the tree as well as anything else of value. Every year without fail, homes are burgled and presents stolen.

Please remember the above and don't give the crooks a chance.

Reuse shop

West Sussex County Council, in partnership with Biffa, has launched a new Reuse shop at the Worthing Recycling Centre on Willowbrook Rd, as part of the council's commitment to reduce waste and encourage reuse.

It is the second Reuse shop to open and builds on the success of the first shop at the Billingshurst Recycling Centre, which has rescued over 51 tonnes of materials for reuse since it opened in March 2022.

Local residents can donate and buy all kinds of quality preloved items at the Reuse shops, to give gently used things a second life. Reusing is better for the environment than recycling as it means items can be put to good use without using energy to re-process and turn them into something new.

Cllr Deborah Urquhart, West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, said: “The first Reuse shop in Billingshurst has been so popular we decided to expand with a second Reuse shop in Worthing. The success of this initiative highlights just how important sustainability and waste prevention are to our residents. Our Council Plan is underpinned by a cross-cutting theme of protecting the environment and encouraging residents to buy and donate preloved items at the Reuse shops is a way to achieve this that benefits everyone.”

The Reuse shops welcome donations that are in good working order such as:

- Bags, handbags, baskets and boxes
- Bikes, scooters, skateboards
- Board games, puzzles and children's toys
- Books, DVDs, CDs and records
- Candles, tea light holders and vases
- Crockery, plant pots, pots and pans
- Internal and external furniture (chairs, tables, desks)
- Garden statues, mirrors and hanging baskets
- Musical instruments and sports equipment
- Silverware, suitcases, tools and toolboxes

The new Worthing Reuse shop can be accessed without entering the recycling centre for browsing and shopping. To make a donation, it is necessary to book an appointment slot so that recycling centre staff are available to receive the items. Donations need to be in good working order as shop staff are unable to repair or refurbish donations.

Appointments can be made for the same day, where available, or up to 14 days in advance. Booking a slot is quick and easy through the Book to Recycle website at www.westsussex.gov.uk/BookToRecycle or by calling 01243 642106.

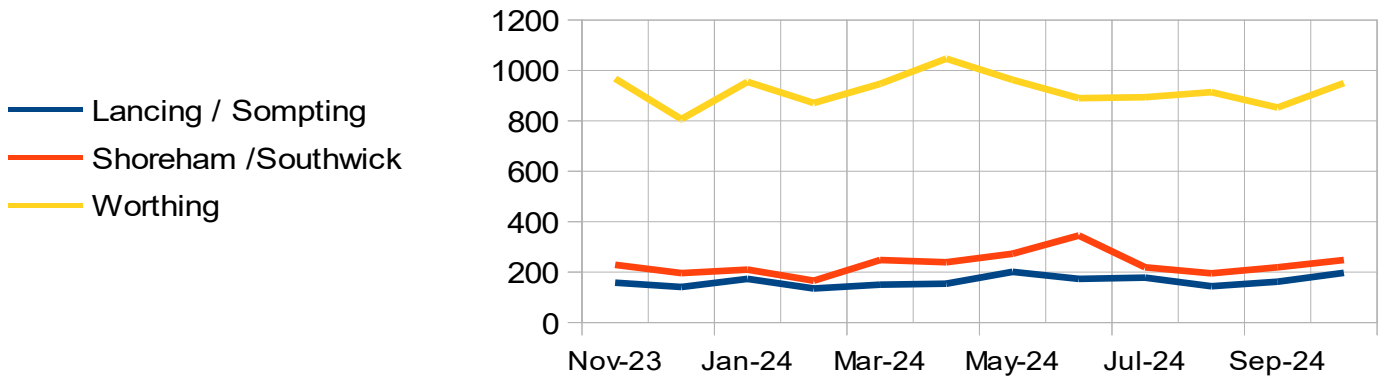
Both Reuse shops are open five days a week, year-round:



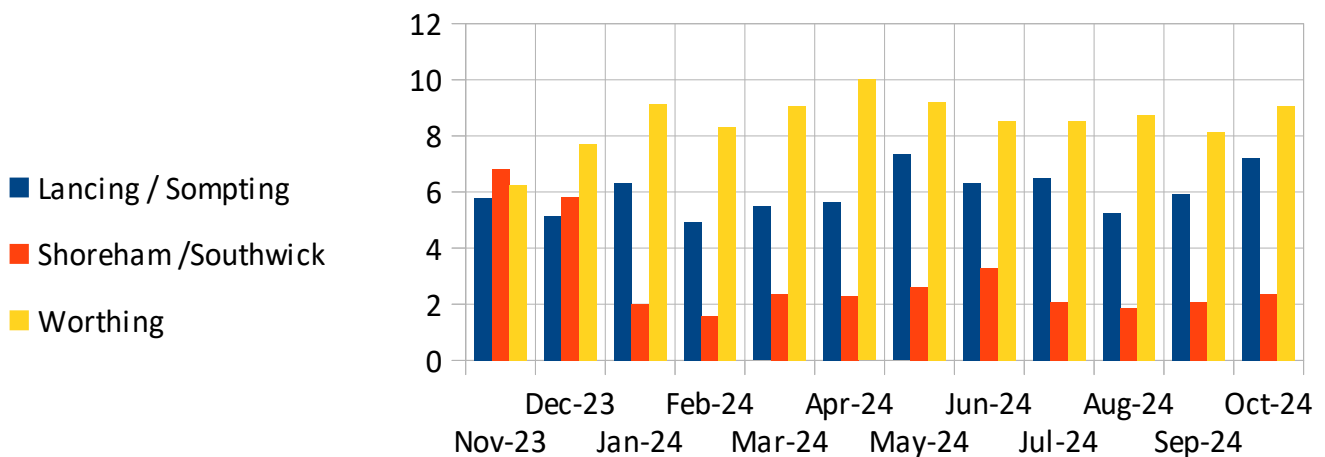
Crime Statistics for October 2024

October 2024	Broadwater	Castle	Central	Durrington	Findon	Gaisford	Goring	Heene	Marine02	Northbrook	Offington	Salvington	Selden	Tarring	Sub Total
					BN Codes										
Antisocial Behaviour	4	15	37	1	2	8	4	6	6	6	3	6	8	10	116
Bike Theft	0	1	9	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	16
Burglary	4	0	4	2	1	2	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	19
Criminal Damage	7	5	16	5	2	1	2	5	1	7	2	5	7	4	69
Drugs	0	1	10	0	0	1	0	4	2	5	0	0	1	1	25
Other Crime	3	5	3	1	0	1	1	3	0	3	0	2	0	2	24
Other Theft	6	1	17	3	1	0	3	2	3	1	5	3	3	1	49
Weapons	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	1	2	1	0	12
Public Order	5	6	26	1	0	2	2	2	2	8	4	6	7	3	74
Robbery	0	1	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	8
Theft Shop	13	6	65	20	0	1	1	23	16	1	10	20	3	28	207
Theft Person	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Vehicle Crime	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	20	15	0	0	0	1	3	46
Violence & Sex Offences	24	20	88	15	0	19	9	13	13	26	3	12	20	19	281
Totals	66	62	286	49	6	40	24	82	59	64	29	56	54	73	950

Crimes November 2023 to October 2024



Crimes per 1000 of Population



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