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## Drugs gangs jailed

**Two drugs gangs have been jailed in as many months in Weston following police operations that have seen seven people jailed for more than 29 years and officers awarded with Crown Court Commendations for their outstanding work.**

In February, two men from Liverpool and two women from Weston were convicted of conspiracy to supply heroin on the town's streets.

In a similar case, three Liverpool men and one Weston man were jailed in December. Police have since successfully secured a Restraining Order against the ringleader, meaning he can't return to Weston for 20 years.

Neighbourhood Inspector Liz Hughes said: "Both of these investigations were so thorough that all of the criminals involved pleaded guilty at the outset.

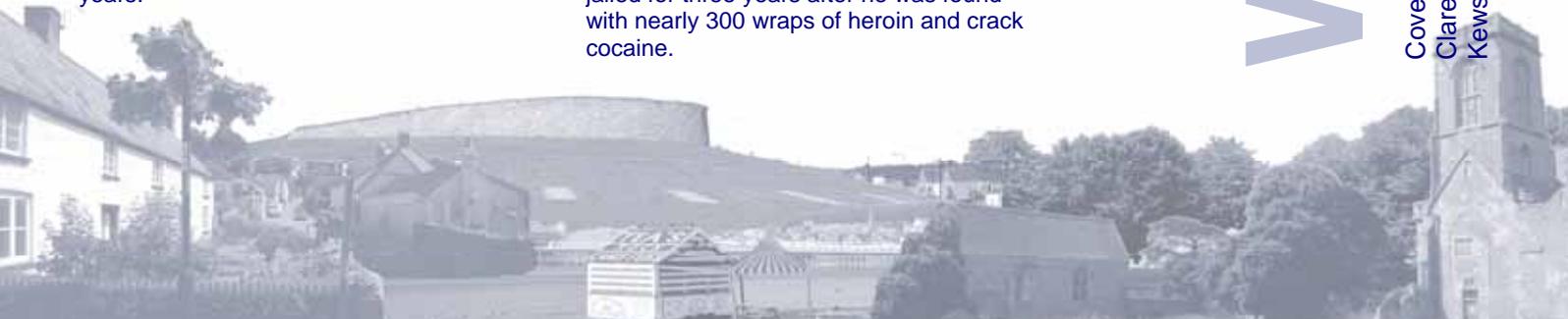
"We know tackling drug dealing on our streets is a major priority for our local communities and both these cases show the lengths we go to to get these people behind bars.

"It's not only about removing drugs from our streets. It's the knock-on effects of reducing crime committed by people to fund their habits."

In a separate case, an 18-year-old man from Penarth Drive in Weston has been jailed for three years after he was found with nearly 300 wraps of heroin and crack cocaine.

# Weston-super-Mare

Covering the areas of: Weston-super-Mare Town Centre, Hillside, Ashcombe, Bournville, Oldmixon, Coronation, Potteries, Uphill, Clarence, Hutton Moor, Weston Village, The Maltlands, Summerlands, Worlebury, Old Worle, North Worle, Mead Vale, Sandbay & Kewstoke, Wick, Puxton & Hewish, St Georges, Winscombe, Banwell, Locking, Hutton and Bleadon.



# Message from our new Chief Constable, Nick Gargan



- Over 6,000 police officers, PCSOs and police staff work around the clock to tackle crime, catch offenders and disrupt, dismantle and destroy serious organised crime.
- All of these people are working hard, some visible, some behind the scenes, so you are safe and feel safe

Avon and Somerset Police is one of the most interesting and diverse forces in the country, and it's a great honour to take up the role of Chief Constable.

Like the health service and your local council, the money we have to spend grows less each year. But our commitment to keeping our communities safe, and feeling safe, is as strong as ever.

It's true, you don't see as many officers patrolling on the street as you used to. But there's a lot of work behind the scenes that you don't see.

**““Our commitment to keeping our communities safe and feeling safe is as strong as ever”**

Did you know, we have specialist teams who:

- Work jointly with nurses and independent sexual violence advisors to support victims and investigate rape and serious sexual assault
- Tackle financial crimes and claw back the money to reinvest in the local community
- Target and disrupt particular crimes such as metal and plant and machinery theft.
- Identify and dismantle cannabis factories, and tackle street level drug supply

And:

- The only police horse mounted section in the south west, patrolling and keeping order in the region
- A dedicated roads policing unit whose specialist collisions team investigates serious road traffic collisions



## Ways to contact the PCC:

- Via the website: [www.avonandsomersetset-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.avonandsomersetset-pcc.gov.uk)
- Facebook by liking AandSPCC
- Twitter @AandSPCC
- Email: [pcc@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:pcc@avonandsomerset.police.uk)
- Phone: 01275 816377



## Introducing Sue Mountstevens - your new Police & Crime Commissioner.

Independent Sue Mountstevens recorded a landslide election victory back in November to become the area's first Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC). Ms Mountstevens received the highest mandate in the country, with 125,000 votes, higher than any other PCC in England and Wales.

Sue Mountstevens was an Independent member of the Police Authority for two years and was Lead Member for major crime. Previously she was Vice-Chair of the Independent Monitoring Board for Bristol Prison and a Magistrate in Bristol for 15 years. Professionally, she was Director of Mountstevens Bakeries for 20-years before it was sold in 1998.

## Your Police & Crime Plan

The Commissioner has committed to introduce a Police & Crime Plan for each of the six policing districts of Avon and Somerset. Each Plan will address the policing and community safety needs of the area.

Sue Mountstevens has been on the road visiting North Somerset to get residents' local policing priorities. She has been to Clevedon, Nailsea and Weston-super-Mare chatting to residents and hearing their views.

Nearly 2000 people have given their policing priorities either on-line or face-to-face and the Police & Crime Plan for North Somerset will be published on April 1.

PCC Sue Mountstevens will be back in North Somerset on April 11, seeing local projects and meeting residents.



## Anti-social behaviour – we can help

**It's a relief that we seem to have turned the corner into early spring and left the winter behind - but we know that the longer days can create problems for many in the community.**

Spring's a time when we always see an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB), as people take advantage of the better weather and lighter evenings to gather out of doors.

The Weston Village neighbourhood team has recently ended the misery suffered by a couple living in the area who felt targeted by a number of disruptive young people hanging around their home.

In response to their calls, beat manager PC Simon Robinson organised for temporary CCTV to be installed as well as a letter drop to neighbouring houses.

It soon became clear that a cause of the problem was a number of nearby benches, which were attracting gatherings.

PC Robinson arranged for the council to remove them and the couple recently experienced their first peaceful school holidays for some time.

He said: "This is a really simple example of how people can be enduring the misery of ASB for no reason.

***"We can only deal with problems we know about, so please report them."***

"Once we were aware of the problem, we took action to prevent it – and it has so far worked.

"We can only deal with problems we know about, so please report them."

***We have a dedicated ASB car patrolling Weston every night***

ASB is any sort of issue causing harassment, alarm or distress.

If you're an ASB victim, please report it to your neighbourhood police team, local council or housing provider.

Keep a record of ongoing incidents including times, dates, locations and names or descriptions of those responsible. You can print an incident log template from our website.

**For more information, visit the 'In your area' section of our website.**

## CCTV is coming to the Bournville

**Plans to install permanent CCTV cameras on the Bournville estate look set to come to fruition this spring.**

In partnership with Alliance Homes and North Somerset Council, funding has been secured to install up to five cameras in areas covering Grassmere Drive, Baildon Road, Selworthy Road, Windwhistle Circle and Lonsdale Avenue.

Neighbourhood Sergeant Colin Batchelor said: "We've had a lot of positive feedback from residents in favour of the cameras, which will help to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour, as well as convict criminals.

"We've got a really committed team of officers regularly patrolling the area and acting on information the community provides to us. Team work between our officers and the Council's CCTV team is very strong.

"The cameras will support these efforts and hopefully also make people feel more safe."



How you can set your community priorities, shape local policing and have your say? Log on to our website to find out when we are holding your nearest beat surgery or 'Have Your Say' meeting. You can also register your priorities online.

Log on to the "In Your Area" section of our website, or scan the QR code below, for more news and details of local meetings.



Scan Me!

You can also find us on:



[www.twitter.com/aspolice](http://www.twitter.com/aspolice)



Search avonandsomerset on Facebook



[www.youtube.com/aspolice](http://www.youtube.com/aspolice)

Or call:



**You said:** "I'm sick of the noise caused by boys playing football in the car park right outside my home and the litter being dumped next to it."



**We did:**  
All of the boys signed Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, agreeing to respect the homeowners and the 'no ball games' signs. Environmental Health removed the litter. Problem solved.



## Visit the Town Hall

**Don't forget that police and council services are now all based under one roof at the newly refurbished Town Hall. If you haven't been to the there yet, come and see what's on offer.**

*"If you haven't been to the new Town Hall yet, come and see what's on offer."*

If you have a general policing enquiry, want to report a crime, would like to get some crime prevention advice or speak to someone about lost or found property, go along to the Town Hall.

Council services available at the same desk include Home Choice, housing advice, council tax and benefits queries.

Opening hours are Monday to Friday 8.30am-8pm, Saturday 8.30am-7pm and Sunday 10am-7pm. On bank holidays, the opening times are 10am-4pm.

## Log your gadgets against thieves

We're urging everyone to register their new gadgets and electrical items on the national property database [immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

Recently we teamed up with Tesco stores across Avon and Somerset in a campaign to give out information to all their electrical customers and encourage people to register their new goods on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

Anyone who signs up to [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) has a much greater chance of getting their property back if it's ever stolen or lost.

Registering your property on the website can also deter thieves because it makes it harder for them to sell n the property because it can be identified.

It can also help us to detect crimes like burglary because it allows us to find out easily if someone we have arrested is in possession of stolen property.

Here are some tips on how to keep your property safe:

- Register all your property on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
- Download tracking software on to all tablets.
- Photograph each item individually and as close-up as possible.
- Make sure you are adequately insured.
- Always secure your windows and doors at home, even if you are only in another room.
- Always keep your property on your person and in your sight when out and about.



Please pass this newsletter on to friends, family or your local community.