



Issue 16: June 2020

## News update

Throughout May, we increased our patrols in Lutterworth, Broughton Astley and the surrounding villages.

Our local activity has included:

- Conducting foot patrols in towns and villages and engaging with members of the public
- A team of plain clothed & uniformed officers as well as specials carried out stop and search checks on anyone believed to be acting suspiciously. This resulted in the retrieval of drugs as well as essential intelligence gathering.
- Early morning checks for wanted people around the Ullesthorpe area
- Searches for a missing person
- Foot patrols in Mere Lane
- Vehicle checks
- We have also drafted in a team of special constables to increase our visibility in Lutterworth and Broughton Astley.

### Domestic Abuse

We continue to receive a number of reports in relation to domestic abuse. We know that the COVID-19 lockdown has had a serious impact on all our lives but particularly for anyone who experiences domestic abuse. Fears over jobs, financial pressure, school closures and working from home can contribute to the increase of domestic abuse incidents. We are continuing to deal robustly with those who commit abuse. We ask that victims do not suffer in silence. Call us and let us try to help. Please remember that you should call 999 if you or someone else is in danger.

These local and national organisations are working hard to ensure that they can still support you:

**United Against Violence and Abuse (UAVA):** Tel: 0808 802 0028 or visit [www.uava.org.uk](http://www.uava.org.uk)

**National Domestic Abuse Helpline:** Tel: 0808 2000 247 or visit [www.refuge.org.uk](http://www.refuge.org.uk)



### Beat Surgeries

In line with government advice around Covid-19, we have postponed our community consultations and beat meetings. Our officers will continue to be active in your community. We will re-arrange events as soon as we can. Remember you can always report crime by:

- Reporting online via [www.leics.police.uk](http://www.leics.police.uk)
- Calling 101
- Sending a message to Leicestershire Police on Facebook or Twitter

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO THE  
GOVERNMENT ADVICE, OBSERVE THE  
RULES AND CONTINUE TO STAY SAFE**

## CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFTS

Leicestershire Police have seen a rise in the theft of catalytic converters across the Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland, there have also been a number of reported thefts of catalytic converters from cars in Lutterworth and Dunton Bassett. These thefts and attempted thefts have been from a variety of different cars, but in particular the Toyota Prius and the Honda Jazz.

It's worth knowing that Toyota have created a unique catalytic converter lock which can be fitted retrospectively. This specially designed lock will prevent thefts from occurring. To prevent thefts, you can also:

- Purchase catalytic converter alarms or metal cages, these can be fitted around the catalytic converter to act as a deterrent
- Use marking kits, these can help police identify them at scrap yards for instance, or on any suspect vehicles
- Keep 4x4s in a garage wherever possible or parked in a well lit place
- Park your car in a position that would make it difficult for opportunists to access the underside of the car

Catalytic converters are stolen because they contain recyclable precious metals, particularly palladium which has recently increased in price. We ask that all car owners remain vigilant and contact the police if they see any suspicious vehicles or activity in their area to help us find those responsible. If you notice anything untoward or have any information, please get in touch with Leicestershire Police by calling 101.

**IS YOUR  
VEHICLE  
SECURE?**  
#lockitorloseit



## NITROUS OXIDE



Empty nitrous oxide canisters have been found in several locations across Lutterworth and Broughton Astley, including some village locations like Sutton on the Elms.

Nitrous oxide also known as 'laughing gas' is a psychoactive drug and although it seems harmless can have a very damaging effect on your health. We're appealing, particularly to young people, to consider the potentially life-changing impacts of using it.

Inhaling nitrous oxide can be dangerous, it can lead to loss of blood pressure, fainting and in severe cases, even a heart attack. Prolonged exposure to nitrous oxide may also result in bone marrow suppression and poisoning of the central nervous system. These risks are likely to be exacerbated if the exposure to the gas is combined with alcohol and other drugs.