

# SOUTH MOLTON POLICE

## AUGUST 2017 REPORT

### CRIME FIGURES

There have been 33 reported criminal offences during the month of July, across the South Molton Policing area. Similar to previous months. Of note:

10 x Violence related offences

2 x Criminal Damage to Vehicles (South Molton urban)

3 x other criminal damage

8 x Theft (1x from vehicle, 3 x shoplifting)

The South Molton police team have also this month targeted drug dealing, and have arrested a male concerned in the supply of Drugs. The Male was known to be a major supplier of Class B drugs, including sales to young people in the town. Investigation is on going, and will lead to a prosecution. We will be continuing to proactively and robustly target those involved in the supply of drugs in our area, it simply wont be tolerated. Officers from South Molton also uncovered a major drug trafficking operation into the north Devon area, seizing large quantities of Class A and B drugs, leading to a successful prosecution of a male from the Barnstaple area.

You can find more specific information on crime figures on the national police website: [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)

### INCIDENTS OF NOTE

Tragically this month has seen some horrific road traffic collision's on our roads. It is a timely reminder of the dangers posed on our roads. Whilst we cannot yet be clear on the causes of these two fatal incidents recently on the A361, It is worth stating, that we continue to see examples of dangerous driving on a daily basis. We urge drivers to take care and pay attention at all times. Do not allow yourselves to be distracted by anything, especially mobile phones, and do not risk overtaking vehicles when it is not safe to do so. We understand that drivers do get impatient, especially when stuck behind slower moving traffic, but it is better to arrive a few minutes later, than never arriving at all. Police in South Molton will be continuing to robustly en-

force road traffic laws, targeting areas of high harm on the roads. We also carry out roadside education for minor offences, and continue to monitor road conditions, and work closely with other agencies, in order to continually maintain, and improve road safety.

### ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

We have continued reports of anti-social behaviour in and around South Molton. This includes the use of vehicles, and reports of them being driven dangerously, and causing harassment alarm and distress by their manner of driving.

Officers have been proactively targeting the anti-social use of vehicles recently, and have successfully prosecuted a number of drivers for various offences, including illegal vehicle modifications, no insurance, no MOTs, driving without due care and attention, and speeding. We have seen a decrease in the amount of reports we have received this month. We hope this is due to a true reduction in incidents, and urge residents to continue to report any incidents to us, in order to help us tackle the problem effectively.

### CURRENT CAMPAIGNS

Police are urging tourists to follow some simple safety measures when enjoying the summer holiday period.

Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly are amongst the safest places to visit in the country, but to help make holidaymakers' stay more enjoyable police recommend the following advice on how to keep themselves and their property safe.

#### Top three safety tips while on your holiday:

- Don't leave valuables in your vehicle and secure your vehicle when unattended
- Keep your mobile Gadgets in a safe place
- Don't Leave Bags unattended

Other holiday safety tips include: stick to well-lit paths and avoid walking alone at night; secure your vehicle/ caravan/room/tent and do not leave any valuables on



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Display; Keep vehicle keys in a safe place; Use personal safes where provided; never drink and drive; and finally be aware of speed limits and restrictions.

The Devon and Cornwall Police Crime Reduction Lead said: "We want everyone who visits this area, which is one of the safest places to live and visit, to enjoy their time here and look forward to coming back again. It only takes a few minutes to think about the safety advice offered. By taking these few simple steps visitors will reduce the opportunity of crime occurring and allow them to fully enjoy their holiday."

Police across Devon and Cornwall are proactively promoting advice across the region by social media and by distributing posters and leaflets on how to take care over the summer holiday period.

For more information on holiday advice, visit <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/advice/your-visit/>



Devon and Cornwall Police are reminding drivers that if they are caught using their mobiles they will now be subject to a £200 fine and six points on their licence.

Police are working with the Department of Transport and motoring charities to ensure that this stronger deterrent is accompanied by campaigns to change driver attitudes.

### HOW TO CONTACT US:

TELEPHONE :

EMERGENCY — 999

NON URGENT— 101

EMAIL:

GENERAL ENQUIRIES :

WEBSITE:

FACEBOOK:

101@dc.police.uk

southmolton@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

devon-cornwall.police.uk

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National Police Chiefs' Council Lead for Roads Policing, Chief Constable Suzette Davenport said:

"These penalties reflect the seriousness of the offence and will strengthen the deterrent against using a mobile phone at the wheel. We need people to understand that this is not a minor offence that they can get away with.

"This issue has to begin with personal responsibility by drivers. We know that people are more likely to report other drivers using a phone than to view themselves as guilty of it. That has to change.

"Tougher penalties are a step in the right direction, but police forces and partners are working to make it socially unacceptable to use a mobile phone at the wheel. It's about more than what you might have to pay as a penalty – you could hurt or kill an innocent person on the roads by checking a text or taking a call.

"Don't do it – and don't let others take the risk either."

#NoExcuse



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