

 WARWICKSHIRE POLICE		POLICY
Security Classification	OFFICIAL	
Disclosable under Freedom of Information Act 2000	YES	

POLICY TITLE	SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM - OFFICER ABSTRACTION POLICY
REFERENCE NUMBER	WP315
Version	1.0

POLICY OWNERSHIP	
DIRECTORATE	Local Policing
BUSINESS AREA	Local Policing / Safer Neighbourhoods

IMPLEMENTATION DATE	29th December 2025
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	29th December 2027
RISK RATING	HIGH
EQUALITY ANALYSIS	LOW
TIER	1

Warwickshire Police welcome comments and suggestions from the public and staff about the contents and implementation of this policy. Please e-mail policiesandprocedures@warwickshire.police.uk

1.0 POLICY OUTLINE

- 1.1 This document sets out the Warwickshire Police policy on abstractions of officers working in Safer Neighbourhood Team roles. There is a structure of five districts that have geographically defined areas of responsibility. These teams comprise of Inspectors, Sergeants, Constables, Special Constables, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and Police Support Volunteers.
- 1.2 Safer Neighbourhood Policing is an essential foundation for policing in Warwickshire. At the heart of Warwickshire Police's approach to community engagement, it also provides the basis of effective working with communities and community safety partners to better understand local priorities, prevent harm and increase trust. Warwickshire Police's SNT Strategy utilises national guidance, the Neighbourhood Policing Guidelines as well as an understanding of local priorities to set out how we will aim to police our communities. A vital part of this strategy is ensuring that SNT is resources are protected from being abstracted from their core role wherever possible.

2.0 PURPOSE OF POLICY

- 2.1 This policy defines Warwickshire Police's approach to the deployment of SNT officers in respect of abstraction from their core role to other duties. It is compliant with national best practice and guidance provided by the College of Policing through the Modernising Neighbourhood Policing Guidelines.

3.0 IMPLICATIONS of the POLICY

- 3.1 The following have been considered:
- a. Code of Ethics – no specific implications
 - b. Code of Practice on the Management of Police Information – no specific implications
 - c. Risks / Health and Safety considerations – no specific implications
 - d. Human Rights / Equality / Data Protection / Freedom of Information – no specific implications
 - e. Legal considerations – no specific implications
 - f. Financial Implications – no specific implications
 - g. Duties Management – to deliver the policy and monitor compliance
 - h. OCC Deployment – to ensure SNT officers are deployed as per policy
 - i. AS&I – review of data collection and analysis to monitor policy compliance

4.0 POLICY

4.1 Definition of abstraction

For the purposes of this policy, an abstraction will be defined as the temporary withdrawal of an SNT officer from their local policing area or from their core role. A local policing area is defined as the geographical boundary of the Safer Neighbourhood area within the confines of a district or borough, and not specific named wards.

On this basis, the geographical areas of relevance are boroughs of North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth and Rugby, and the districts of Warwick and Stratford-upon-Avon.

4.2 Aim

The principal aim of this policy is to ensure that abstractions of SNT officers are minimised, in order that public confidence in the services provided to communities is enhanced.

Safer Neighbourhood Team resources (PS / PC / PCSO) should not, where possible, be routinely considered as the first option for covering dynamic operational needs which could abstract them from their NHP activities as defined by the Neighbourhood Policing Strategy.

4.3 SNT officer

An SNT officer for the purpose of this policy is defined as a Police Officer or Police Community Support Officer, aligned to the establishment of the Local Policing directorate and assigned to a particular Safer Neighbourhoods Team within a geographical area as defined at 4.1.

4.4 Circumstances where SNT resources may be required to be utilised

It is recognised that there will be occasions where SNT officers may have to support other policing functions when one or more of the following criteria are met:

- a) Shift changes to ensure Patrol preferred staffing levels are maintained
- b) Surge in demand under the principles of the demand management policy
- c) Scene guard on different geographical area
- d) Constant watch of a person in custody
- e) Interview / file preparation of prisoners not linked to SNT arrests
- f) Specialist Skill Deployment (POLSA, LSO, POPS)

- g) Major pre-planned operations outside of geographical location
- h) Specialist training i.e. POPS, Search etc.

4.5 Core neighbourhood policing functions

The following circumstances are part of the normal delivery of neighbourhood policing functions:

- a) Engagement, visibility, problem-solving, proactive and responsive policing or other associated activity within their home district or borough
- b) Deployment to an Article 2 incident (for example, high risk missing person)
- c) Operational support of any other SNT team within Warwickshire
- d) Transportation of a prisoner
- e) Interview / file preparation of prisoners linked to SNT arrests
- f) Scene guard on policing area
- g) Mandatory training required by all officers and staff
- h) Courses / training and CPD associated with Neighbourhood Policing (NPP etc)
- i) Pre-planned community engagements and patrols
- j) Annual leave
- k) Rest days
- l) Court
- m) Special Leave

4.6 Abstractions

When considering what is classed an abstraction the following criteria will be applied. This is based on the absence of the SNT resource from being able to deliver policing activity on their home district. When this occurs outside of their home district this should be specifically related to neighbourhood policing.

Not Recorded as an Abstraction	Recorded as an Abstraction
Attendance at an incident within home SNT district or borough	Deployment outside of home SNT district or borough to support incident attendance, demand challenges and operations not related to neighbourhood policing
Assisting another SNT team within the county	Non-mandatory training
Prisoner handling and transportation	
Mandatory training and neighbourhood policing related training and CPD activity	

4.7 Recording Abstractions

All abstractions should be recorded within the Warwickshire Connected Engagement Tracker by the officer that has been abstracted. It is important to record and understand the occasions and rationale for the abstraction. On any occasion that an SNT Officer is abstracted as per this policy, each officer abstracted must make a record of it at the conclusion of that abstraction on the Warwickshire Connected Platform.

SNT Supervisors should routinely review abstractions to understand the reasons, frequency and duration of these abstractions.

4.8 ***Please state which head of department or chief officer has been consulted in the development of this policy:***

<i>Head of Dep't/ Chief Officer Consulted</i>	<i>Date Communication Sent</i>
Ch Supt Daf Goddard	31/10/2025

5.0 DOCUMENT HISTORY

The history and rationale for change to policy will be recorded using the below chart:

Date	Author / Reviewer	Amendment(s) & Rationale	Date of Approval / Adoption
21/08/25	T/Supt Flavell	Initial draft	
11/09/25	Ch Supt Goddard	Minor amendments to definitions of geographical areas (whilst in draft)	
29/12/25	Supt Flavell	New policy published.	Approved by Exec Board 18/12/25. Published 29/12/2025.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 This policy has been submitted for review by key stakeholders as part of the consultation phase.

7.0 ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS

- 7.1 EIA completed and submitted for review

Appendix 1 SNT Abstraction Criteria



SNT Abstraction Criteria

Abstraction Definition

- SNT officers deployed to any incident within their own district will not be classed as an abstraction. The districts are based on the three geographical SNT areas (North, East, South).
- It will be classed as an abstraction when an officer is deployed to an incident outside of the district their home district, for example a SNT officer from Nuneaton & Bedworth being deployed to an incident in Rugby.
- Training which is mandatory or is linked to an additional SNT skillset (NPP, MOE etc) or CPD opportunity will not be classed as an abstraction.
- Any training which is not mandatory (POPS, LSO) will be classed as an abstraction.

Routine SNT patrols

SNT officers can be deployed to emergency incidents whilst completing routine patrols, only where they are the most suitable resource available. Deployment of SNT staff to other graded incidents should not be routine and needs to be carefully considered not to disrupt their own priorities. SNT officers and PCSOs should not be abstracted routinely from their core functions.

Blue to Black Abstraction

During times where the force experiences or anticipates increased calls for service the Duty Supt can utilise the 'blue to black' protocol to surge resources to meet demand. Where this occurs, resource deployment should remain in-line with the abstraction principles wherever possible, for example SNT officers from Rugby should be used to supplement Patrol resources within Rugby.

Not an Abstraction	Abstraction
Attendance at an incident within home SNT district	Attendance at an incident off the home SNT district
Assisting another SNT team within the county	Non-mandatory training
Any prisoner handling (including transportation)	
Mandatory training or additional SNT skillsets and CPD	