

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

Please note, all Policies that are disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act, will be published on the Internet. Please make it clear if the policy is not to be disclosed.

POLICY TITLE	Watch Schemes
REFERENCE NUMBER	WP011
Version	1.1

POLICY OWNERSHIP	
DIRECTORATE	LOCAL POLICING
BUSINESS AREA	PREVENTION

DATE FIRST IMPLEMENTED	May 2020
CURRENT VERSION EFFECTIVE FROM	22nd July 2026
REVIEW DATE	22nd July 2028
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

Policing is only with the forbearance, support and consent of the communities in which we work.

- 1.1 The importance of partnership working between communities and Warwickshire Police is recognised.
- 1.2 The purpose of this policy is to establish a framework for the management of all activity linked to the establishment, management and engagement with various types of Watch Schemes throughout Warwickshire Police area.
- 1.3 The work undertaken to deliver this policy will rely heavily upon Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT's), Watch Scheme Chairs and Co-ordinators and Warwickshire Police Citizens in Policing (CiP) Team.
- 1.4 The Policy is supported by the Watch Scheme Procedure.
- 1.5 The aims of the policy are to:
 - a. Ensure continuing, comprehensive communication between Warwickshire Police and Watch Schemes
 - b. Ensure that appropriate police support mechanisms are in place for communities, businesses and individuals who wish to have the support of a Watch Scheme
 - c. Enable all partners' contributions to be mainstreamed into policing plans and activities, with clearly defined monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
 - d. Set minimum standards of commitment for the engagement with and governance of Watch Schemes
 - e. Set minimum standards of engagement between Safer Neighbourhood Teams and Watch Schemes

2.0 PURPOSE OF POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to enable the engagement, communication and management of Watch Schemes across the force; to ensure they are mainstreamed into the appropriate policing plans and activities at all levels across the force.

3.0 IMPLICATIONS of the POLICY

This policy takes into account:

- Code of Ethics
- Code of Practice on the Management of Police Information
- Risks / Health and Safety considerations
- Human Rights / Equality / Data Protection / Freedom of Information

- Legal considerations
- Staffing / Training

4.0 PROCEDURE

Please see separate procedure document.

5.0 CONSULTATION

Key stakeholders in the development of this policy are:-

Warwickshire Neighbourhood Watch
 Warwickshire Rural Watch
 Warwickshire Horse Watch
 Warwickshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
 Warwickshire Communities
 Businesses
 Police Federation
 Unison
 Legal Services
 Human Resources
 Occupational Health
 Professional Standards Department
 Learning and Development
 Health and Safety
 Risk Management
 Equality and Diversity

<i>Chief Officer/Business Lead Consulted</i>	<i>Date Communication Sent</i>
Chief Inspector Eagles	24.06.26

6.0 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
13/03/17	Barnett 61205	Harmonisation	JNCC 10/05/2017
21/04/20	Sian Battle-Welch	Review due and de harmonisation.	
Nov 2025	Pav Mann	Updated ownership (business area details) in line with ACC request, policy has not been reviewed/updated	28/11/2025

June 2026	Sian Battle-Welch	Reviewed. No changes required.	Republished 22/07/2026
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7.0 ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS

The Equality Analysis (EA), Health & Safety Assessment (HAS) and Risk Assessment associated with this document are available on request.

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