



Sheffield City Centre Neighbourhood Newsletter

May 2023

Crime and antisocial behaviour update

We are continuing the crack down on Nitrous Oxide (NOS) supply and distribution in the city centre.

A further warrant was carried out at a premises on West Street on Friday 21 April as part of ongoing efforts to tackle the illegal sale of Nitrous Oxide in the area.

Nitrous Oxide is used as an aerosol spray propellant within whipped cream canisters, and while it has several legitimate uses in medicine and dentistry, NOS is a psychoactive substance, and if businesses are found to be supplying it for its psychoactive effects, under Section 5 of the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, they may be breaking the law.

Not only do the canisters litter the streets and public spaces but their use is linked to anti-social behaviour. To tackle this, we are taking a range of positive enforcement action against those selling and supplying NOS illegally in the area and visiting businesses to inform and warn of the laws around NOS is an important part of this.

If businesses are believed to be selling NOS illegally after early advice is given, we will deliver enforcement activity against them, like we did at this warrant, and it may result in the police applying for a closure order for the premises for up to six months. The business may also be in breach of their licensing conditions, which is a serious offence.

Alongside Trading Standards, 200 illegal vapes were also seized on this occasion, with a street value of £2,000.

WARNING

**SELLING NITROUS OXIDE (NOS)
FOR ITS PSYCHOACTIVE EFFECTS
IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE.**

Nitrous Oxide is used as an aerosol spray propellant within whipped cream canisters. Nitrous Oxide has several legitimate uses in medicine and dentistry. However, NOS is a psychoactive substance, and if you are found to be supplying it for its psychoactive effects, under Section 5 of the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, you are breaking the law.

As business owners, it is your responsibility to check the buyer's intended use each and every time you sell or supply NOS. Retailers should pay particular attention to the potential for abuse of NOS. If you sell NOS to a person who is likely to use it for psychoactive effects, then you may be committing an offence. Misusing NOS can also have dangerous and damaging health risks.

We are taking positive enforcement action against those selling and supplying NOS illegally. If you are found to be doing so, it may result in the police applying for a closure order for your premises for up to six months. You may also be in breach of your licensing conditions, which is a serious offence.

For further guidance, visit the gov.uk website:





What your neighbourhood team have been doing

We delivered the latest Operation Steel in the city centre last month, focussed on tackling child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.

During the operation we conducted both high visibility and plain clothes patrols in the area. The intention of the operation was to engage with young people who were presenting as vulnerable, engaging with them and make referrals as necessary. Three referrals were made for vulnerable people and one drug referral was made. In addition, five stop searches were conducted. One person was reported for possession of drugs and four intelligences reports were submitted.

We have also continued to work with The Crucible as part of the World Snooker Championships to help ensure a safe and enjoyable event for all visiting from across the country. As part of this we have been offering advice and engaging with visitors, liaising closely with The Crucible staff and were visible outside the venue throughout the key times of day.

We are working closely with partner agencies regarding reports of antisocial behaviour in the High Street and Haymarket areas with good work into further Community Protection Notices and Criminal Behaviour Orders on the horizon. We are acutely aware of the issue and are exploring various options which will carry on in the coming months.

Recent offenders brought to justice

Ahmed Omar, aged 34 of Dundas Road, Sheffield, received an 18-week suspended sentence, for 18 months, for sexual assault from Sheffield Magistrates Court.

Amir Hossein Kamyar, aged 28 of Abbeydale Road, Sheffield, received a Criminal Behaviour Order restricting him from attending The Moor in any circumstances, nor must he put any item in a carrier bag/rucksack prior to payment, he must only place items in a store basket or trolley. The order also states that he must leave any retail or commercial premises if he is asked to do so by a member of staff.

Crime prevention advice

As part of National Stalking Awareness Week 2023 (NSAW), we delivered a range of work as part of our efforts to make it clear that stalking and harassment is a crime and we will not tolerate individuals who feel they can treat people in this manner.

We are continuing to remind people that it's vital we continue to raise awareness so more people can be protected.

The offence takes many forms and can involve threats, criminal damage, following or spying on someone. You can be stalked by someone you know, such as an ex-partner, or you could be stalked by a stranger.

It is hoped that by flagging the support available and advice for victims, people will know where to turn should they find themselves in this situation.



Keeping in touch

Come and see us

Our PCSOs regularly hold pop-in police stations across the city centre, Kelham Island and Highfield – during these sessions they offer support and reassurance to communities as well as crime prevention advice.

The team are keen to continue to speak to the communities in the areas they cover so if you have any suggestions of meetings they could attend, or want to reach out to the team, please get in touch with us.

You can find contact details for the whole neighbourhood policing team working in your area by visiting our webpage [here](#).



Other ways to keep in touch

- Sign up for SYP Alerts to get messages, updates and information about your area at sypalerts.co.uk
- Like us on Facebook: **Sheffield City Centre NPT**
- Follow us on Twitter: **@SheffCity_NPT**
- Visit southyorks.police.uk for more info or to report non-emergency crime
- Call **101 for non-emergencies** or **999 in an emergency**
- Call Crimestoppers to give your information anonymously on **0800 555 111**

southyorks.police.uk



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