

TORRIDGE DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



WEEKLY CRIME REPORT/NEWSLETTER

WEEK COMMENCING THURSDAY 24th June 2021

ISSUE 558

PLEASE NOTE The information below is obtained from Selected Reported Crime Incidents, restricted, and sanitised, taken from Crime Sheets prepared by the Police for the Torrige District and are not Official Police Figures, and only refer to crimes of Theft and Damage. We live in one of the safest low crime areas in England and Wales. *To get a more realistic view of all crime committed in Torrige you can visit the Devon and Cornwall Police Website.*

Fear of crime in our area is far worse than the actual crime committed.

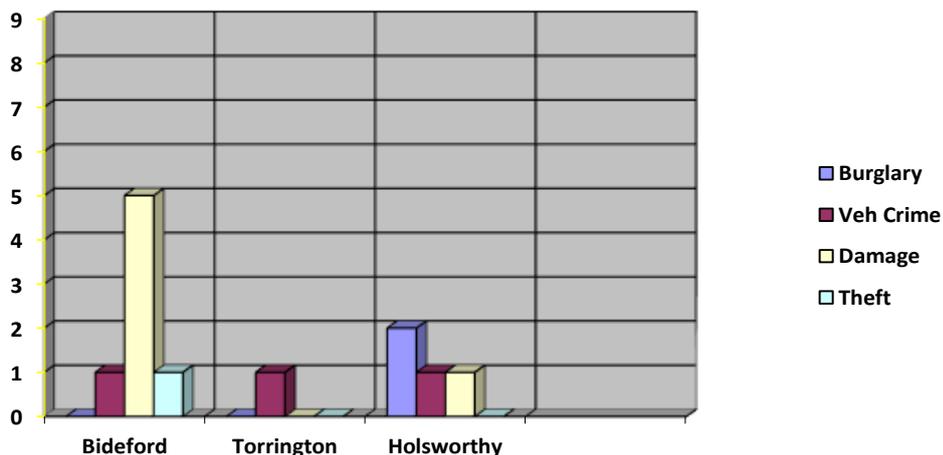


Devon & Cornwall Police
Building safer communities together



This Week's Crime Statistic's.

After having 16 reported crimes of Theft and Criminal Damage committed in the whole of Torrige last week, this week we have 12 with crimes recorded on 7 days.



SUMMARY OF CRIME

During the last week 7 crimes were committed in the Bideford area, 1 in the Torrington Area and 4 in the Holsworthy area. We had 2 Burglaries, 3 Vehicle Crimes, 6 of Damage and 1 of Theft.

We had 0 Dwelling Burglary, 2 Non-Dwelling Burglaries, 0 Thefts of Vehicle, 1 Theft from Vehicle, 0 Theft Non-specifics, 1 Theft Pedal Cycle, 2 Damage to Vehicles, 3 Damage to Dwellings, 3 Damage Non- Dwellings and 0 Damage Non-specifics.

We have had 2 incidents included in the above of "Contained Domestic Incidents" and because they do not affect anyone else, under the Data Protection Act, this restricts us to what information we can pass on.

This last week 9 crimes were committed in our towns and 3 in our rural areas.

<u>Bideford</u>		<u>Torrington</u>		<u>Holsworthy</u>	
<u>Tn</u>	<u>Ru</u>	<u>Tn</u>	<u>Ru</u>	<u>Tn</u>	<u>Ru</u>
7	0	1	0	1	3

CRIMES COMMITTED DURING LAST WEEK

<u>No</u>	<u>CRIME</u>	<u>LOCA-TION</u>	<u>STREET</u>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>CRIME DETAILS</u>
1	Theft Of Pedal Cycle	Mountain Bike	The Pill Kingsley Road	Bideford CD3D	Mountain bike unattended on bike rack next to the youth centre was stolen by unknown person
2	Damage Non Dwelling	Waste Bin	Stanhope Close	Holsworthy CH2L	Waste bin destroyed
3	Damaged To Dwelling	Domestic	Domestic	Domestic	Domestic Incident
4	Damaged To Dwelling	Dwelling	Abbotsham Road	Bideford CD3E	Aggrieved returned home to find that top window smashed by persons unknown, a large red onion was found in the room, and it is thought this was thrown at the window causing it to smash.
5	Damaged To Dwelling	Dwelling	East Ridge View	East the Water CD2E	Suspect has hit and damaged a fence with a hammer
6	Damage Non Dwelling	Window	Honestone Street	Bideford CD3D	Criminal Damage to public house in Bideford, there is a smashed window lower pane near front door
7	Theft From Vehicle	Vehicle	Limers Hill	Torrington CT2I	Business aggrieved; unknown offender has stolen a large number of scaffolding poles from back of flatbed truck.
8	Burglary Non Dwelling	Shed	No Street Name	Broadwoodwidge CH3F	Entry was gained to an insecure shed and item taken
9	Damage To a Vehicle.	Vehicle	No Street Name	Pyworthy CH2N	Vehicle has had two front tyres slashed by unknown person
10	Damage To a Vehicle.	Domestic	Domestic	Domestic	Domestic Incident
11	Burglary Non Dwelling	Stables	No Street Name	Broadwoodwidge CH3F	Items stolen from stables and outside house by unknown offender
12	Damage Non Dwelling	Business Premises	Grenville Street	Bideford CD3D	Unknown offender has smashed window causing damage

DAILY CRIME RECORD.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MONTH/YEAR</u>	<u>CRIMES</u>	<u>DAILY CRIME</u>	<u>COMMITTED</u>
Thursday 24th	June 2021	“	1 to 2	2
Friday 25 th	“ “	“	3	1
Saturday 26 th	“ “	“	4 to 5	2
Sunday 27 th	“ “	“	6	1
Monday 28 th	“ “	“	7	1
Tuesday 29 th	“ “	“	8 to 11	4
Wednesday 30th	“ “	“	12	1
				Total = 12

Please Note – These are the dates of Crimes Reported and not crimes committed.
PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE ON 101 IF YOU WITNESSED OR HAVE ANY
INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THESE CRIMES GIVING FULL DETAILS

NHW ALERT MONTHLY REPORTS LINK.

<https://www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/>

This is a national scheme that is growing quickly and is basically the new community messaging scheme.

- **Even comes as an app for smartphones.**
 - **Click on the above website to learn more.**
 - **Keep you up to date with the crime as it is taking place.**
- If you have registered twice, could you, please delete one of the accounts.**



Devon and Cornwall
Community Watch
Association

**[Devon and Cornwall Community Watch Association
Web Site](https://daccwa.org/)**

<https://daccwa.org/>



POLICE NEWS AND UPDATES.



Devon & Cornwall Police
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CrimeStoppers
crimestoppers-uk.org
completely anonymously



Devon and Cornwall Police have sent the following message

The following is the email address of the Torridge Police and in future will be in this place each week.

torridge@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

This is for a routine message that does not require prompt or immediate action as it is not manned 24 hours or 7 days a week.

In emergency phone 999 or non-emergency 101.



Do You Know What A Ghost Broker is?

Just 15% of people have heard of a ‘ghost broker’.* Do you know what one is?

Have you ever heard of a ‘ghost broker’? No, we are not talking about things that go bump in the night – this is a lot scarier. ‘Ghost brokers’ are fraudsters who sell fake or invalid car insurance policies. Victims are sold fake insurance documents for a policy that does not exist, or for a genuine policy that has been set up using false details to lower the price of the premium.

How do ‘ghost brokers’ operate?

Fraudsters lure victims in with the offer of cheaper insurance premiums, usually via social media or by word-of-mouth. These individuals or groups pose as middlemen for well-known insurance companies, claiming they can offer you legitimate car insurance at a significantly cheaper price.

This type of fraud is typically carried out either by forging insurance documents, falsifying your details to bring the price down, or by taking out a genuine policy for you but cancelling it soon after.

Often, the victim is not aware that they have been scammed until they are involved in an accident and try to claim on the policy.

Who do ‘ghost brokers’ target?

‘Ghost brokers’ tend to target vulnerable communities, including members of non-English speaking communities who may not have full knowledge of UK insurance and laws, as well as young people looking for cheaper insurance deals.

Last year, Action Fraud received 694 reports of ‘ghost broking’, with almost a third (29%) coming from victims aged 17-29. The reported losses for these victims alone totalled £113,500, with each individual losing an average of £559.

Figures also indicate that over half (58%) of all reports in 2020 were submitted by men.

What could happen if I drive without valid insurance?

As policies sold by ‘ghost brokers’ are either invalid, non-existent or fraudulent, this means that the driver is technically uninsured, meaning that you could face:

- £300 fixed penalty notice
- Six points on driving licence
- Vehicle being seized and crushed

How can I protect myself from ‘ghost brokers’?

There are simple steps that you can take to spot the signs of these scams and avoid being taken for a ride by ‘ghost brokers’:

- 'Ghost brokers' often advertise and communicate via social media, online forums and messaging apps. If a broker is only using a mobile phone or email as a way of contact, this can be a sign of this type of crime. Fraudsters do not want to be traced after they have taken money from their victims.
- They may also try to sell insurance policies through print adverts in pubs, clubs or bars, newsagents
- If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. If you are not sure about the broker, check on the [Financial Conduct Authority](#) or the [British Insurance Brokers' Association](#) website for a list of all authorised insurance brokers. You can also contact the insurance company directly to verify the broker's details. You can also check to see if a car appears to be insured on the [Motor Insurance Database](#) website.
- If you think that you have been a victim of a ghost broker, you can report your concerns to Action Fraud at actionfraud.police.uk or on 0300 123 2040.
- You can also contact the Insurance Fraud Bureau via its confidential Cheatline on 0800 422 0421 or on the [IFB website](#).

*According to a YouGov survey commissioned by the IFB