

12th September 2025

Dear all,

MOBILE POLICE STATIONS

I am pleased to provide some further information following the official launch of Dorset Police's Mobile Police Stations (MPS). This initiative is an important step forward in improving community engagement between Dorset Police and the public, as well as being a key part of my Police and Crime Plan to Make Policing More Visible and Connected and to Make Every Penny Count.

These two Mobile Police Stations will enable the Force to bring policing directly to our towns, villages, and rural communities, a particular benefit for more rural areas. They will serve as hubs where residents can:

- Report a crime, anti-social behaviour, or nuisance
- Request information and advice about a range of matters
- Discuss a civil dispute
- Make a complaint about police
- Find out who your local officer is and how to contact them
- Provide information and intelligence to help with investigations
- Report a missing person
- Report other notifiable crime
- Pass information onto officers
- Help with lost and stolen property

This initiative reflects our commitment to building trust, increasing visibility, and ensuring that Dorset Police is accessible to everyone, wherever they live. The Mobile Police Stations will operate on a scheduled basis, visiting communities on set days each month, building on the success of the Community Contact Points (CCPs) which already take place regularly in towns and villages across Dorset, and will continue to do so. As well as these set days, the vehicles will also be deployed flexibly in response to local need, wherever possible.

I am confident that these new resources will strengthen the neighbourhood policing model, bring Dorset Police closer to the communities they serve, and further enhance public safety across Dorset. The way the public engage with policing – and public services in general – continuously changes but the one constant people want to see is more police officers, staff, and volunteers out and about, and this initiative will enable Dorset Police to be seen regularly in the busy places people go.

The MPS will be staffed by trained PCSOs who can help take reports of crimes, provide prevention advice, and maintain full communication links with operational teams. The western vehicle, based at Weymouth, will visit the Cornhill Market area of Dorchester on the first Tuesday of the month, Sherborne Co-op at Westbridge Park on the first Thursday, Bridport Morrisons on the second Tuesday,

Marine Parade in Lyme Regis on the second Thursday, the main beach car park in Swanage on the third Tuesday and finally Streche Road car park in Wareham every third Thursday of the month.

Meanwhile the eastern vehicle, based at Ferndown, will visit Sainsbury's Ferndown on the first Tuesday of the month, Verwood Memorial Hall on the first Thursday, the Allendale Community Centre in Wimborne on the second Tuesday, Shaftesbury Lidl on the second Thursday, Christchurch retail park on the third Tuesday and finally Highcliffe Cliff Top car park on the third Thursday of the month.

The vehicles will be at each location between 11 am and 1 pm each day but times are subject to change. Members of the public can find out the latest updates via the Force's website – www.dorset.police.uk/MPS or by following the local NPT page on Facebook where times for each visit are advertised and updated accordingly.

I want to be clear that the Mobile Police Station will supplement the Community Contact Points which have proved their worth over the past few years. More than 614 CCPs have taken place in the past year across Dorset, providing visible, in-person opportunities to speak to local officers and raise concerns, report crime, and talk to a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team in person. And, like the Mobile Police Stations, they are held in locations convenient for the public – supermarkets, shopping centres, village halls and town centre locations, bringing the police directly to the people, which is what is important.

With mobile police stations, community contact points, the online website portal, calls to 101 and 999 in an emergency, request a call back facility, social media channels for every area across the Force, as well as enquiry offices at Bournemouth, Weymouth and Blandford, there is a range of options for members of the public to engage with Dorset Police.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. By working together, we can bring the police closer to the people, strengthening that vital connection and building trust and confidence in our communities for years to come.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D.J. Sidwick', with a stylized, cursive script.

David Sidwick
Police and Crime Commissioner