



West Mercia Horse Watch

reining in crime

Reducing Equine Related Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Welcome to West Mercia Horse Watch, a scheme set up to connect all horse owners and riders with the intention of improving our security and communication.

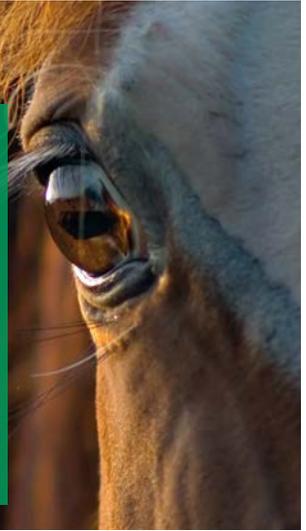
We aim to reduce rural and equine crime and just like Neighbourhood Watch, much can be achieved through general awareness and a little effort from each individual. The scheme can be found nationwide and many are supported by relevant police forces.

Sitting within the Rural Watch schemes, West Mercia Horse Watch will be owned by the community and supported by the police.

Currently, a number of our communities have their own Horse Watch groups relevant to their local area and we are looking to collate these under the wider scheme. Each area will be able to retain their own local Horse Watch with the knowledge that all of the groups across the force area will be co-ordinated at a single point and will benefit from police support - and that of each other.

What we've done so far...

- ✓ The team have held a tack sale and tack marking event in support of the Equine Market Watch Sanctuaries at Bromyard where we raised almost £300.
- ✓ Crime prevention seminars with tack marking.
- ✓ Worked in partnership with the Countrywide Farmers chain of stores with their store events offering crime prevention advice, security marking and offering all weather signs to deter would be thieves.



Are you a victim of crime?

If you are unfortunate enough to be the victim of a crime, report it to the police as soon as possible. If your horse or pony has been stolen advertise his/her description (including photographs) in the local press and radio. Also contact the national equine press, e.g. Horse and Hound and organisations such as World Horse Welfare - they will be able to help you with the location of markets etc. Visit as many venues as you can, enlisting the help of friends when possible.

If you are interested in getting involved or are already part of a local Horse Watch group please get in touch. We know there are so many of you out there that already do some really great work and by pulling together we can ensure this scheme is successful and really benefits the communities that need it.

If you have any suggestions, requests or ideas, please feel free to drop the team an email and we will reply as soon as possible. **We look forward to hearing from you!**



You don't need to be a horse owner or even a rider - just willing to give some of your time for something that matters to you.



Contact...

HorseWatch@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

 [West Mercia Horse Watch](#)