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Community Notice

Non-Emergency contact number 101 – Emergency 999

Chichester District

Selhurst Rave

Police operating anti-rave patrols over the Bank Holiday weekend twice thwarted a rave near Goodwood racecourse, thanking local people for early notification that enabled them to act swiftly in shutting it down.

The Midhurst and Petworth neighbourhood policing team, conducting Operation Allegro, received reports of a possible rave at Selhurst Park, near the racecourse, shortly before 12 midnight on Saturday (August 25).

Upon attending the area it was apparent from the number of cars present, along with the amplified music that a rave had commenced.

The first officers on the scene, with the help of the Goodwood Estate security team, immediately blocked the entrance to the car park and actively deterred those still turning up from proceeding further. Police then entered the wooded area to locate the source of the music and immediately seized the sound system, using powers under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Owing to the action taken by Sussex Police, the rave was closed by 4am. A further attempt to start a rave was made at 10am on Sunday, but early police intervention saw this also shut down.

Sergeant Jon Chapman from Midhurst and Petworth Neighbourhood Policing Team said: "Sussex Police will not tolerate this type of unregulated event, as it is not only dangerous to those attending, but causes disruption to people who live in the vicinity.

"The key to preventing raves is an early warning from the public. If anyone suspects people are visiting Sussex with a view to planning an illegal gathering or they see the site being set up, please ring police on 101 and quote Operation Allegro. It is much more effective to prevent raves taking place rather than trying to stop them when they are in full swing."

Lisa Shadbolt
PCSO 27388

Chichester Police Station
Neighbourhood Policing Team
Telephone: 101

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If you see anything suspicious please report it immediately.

It might be the vital piece of information we need! Sussex Police gratefully receive information on all suspicious activity, suspicious persons and Anti-Social Behaviour, occurring in your area. We thank you for your vigilance and together, in partnership, we will effectively reduce and detect crime.