# King’s Lynn scaffolder jailed for burglaries amid gang debt threats



Craig Bragg, a 30-year-old scaffolder from King’s Lynn, has been sentenced to eight weeks in prison following his admission to burglarising two local businesses, Bennett & Co and King Street Hair Company, on May 26. Surveillance footage captured Bragg in the early hours of the morning, leaving the scene clad in black and carrying a bag filled with stolen goods, which included computer equipment, electrical devices, and hair care products. The total value of the items taken was nearly £1,500.

This incident occurred just months after Bragg had been handed a 10-week suspended sentence for vehicle theft and criminal damage in Cambridge. The prosecution highlighted this quick reoffence as indicative of a pattern, arguing that Bragg had failed to learn from his previous mistakes. Paul Brown, the prosecutor, asserted that such actions would not go unpunished, especially given Bragg’s prior history.

Bragg’s defence painted a somewhat tragic picture, asserting that he acted out of desperation due to a substantial debt he owed to a violent criminal group known as the 'Bush Boys'. His attorney, Andrew Cogan, detailed Bragg's unfortunate associations during his time in Essex, explaining that a £50 loan had snowballed into a £5,000 obligation, accompanied by threats of violence if he failed to repay. According to Cogan, this fear of retaliation directly influenced Bragg’s decision to commit the burglaries.

In light of the circumstances and the severity of his actions, magistrates opted to activate part of his suspended sentence in addition to the new jail time. They expressed concern over his rapid descent back into criminal activity, pointing out that these offences came only months after they had spared him from incarceration. The judges ultimately sentenced him to five weeks for the break-ins, which would run consecutively to the three weeks activated from his suspended sentence.

Bragg's case raises larger questions about the social dynamics at play for individuals entwined in criminal activities, particularly regarding the influence of gangs and the pressures of indebtedness. The consequences for those caught in this cycle can be severe, as demonstrated by Bragg’s swift return to custody. This incident not only underscores the challenges faced by local law enforcement in curbing crime but also highlights the societal issues surrounding drug-related debts and gang influence in communities like King’s Lynn.

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* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss), [[3]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss), [[3]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss), [[6]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 5 – [[4]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss), [[7]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss)

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1. <https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25200429.craig-bragg-jailed-breaking-kings-lynn-businesses/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
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