# Norfolk police ammunition lost in transit closes A47 slip road amid criticism



Armed police were deployed on Friday lunchtime to respond to a distressing incident involving a man reportedly threatening someone with a knife. In the course of this operation, two magazines filled with ammunition were accidentally left on the roof of a police vehicle. The magazines subsequently fell off while the vehicle was en route, leading to the closure of the slip road at the Postwick interchange for a thorough search.

As officers combed the area, they were seen sifting through hedges and varying terrain, ostensibly using sniffer dogs to assist in locating the lost ammunition. Hundreds of motorists on the A47 experienced significant delays as traffic ground to a halt, with eyewitness reports describing a heavy police presence and extensive search efforts. A spokeswoman for Norfolk Constabulary confirmed that the slip road was closed around 3.32 pm, clarifying that this measure was enacted to ensure public safety after the mishap.

The missing ammunition was eventually recovered, and the road was reopened by approximately 6 pm. During the initial incident that prompted the police investigation, a man in his 20s was arrested on suspicion of making lethal threats. This situation echoed a recent pattern of operational blunders within the Norfolk police force, highlighting a concerning trend.

Earlier in the year, Norfolk Constabulary had to contend with another incident involving an operational mistake when a stinger device was inadvertently left on a patrol car, resulting in punctured tyres for four vehicles on the A11. This incident had repercussions, leading to nearly £1,500 in compensation payouts to affected drivers. The pattern of mishaps has raised questions among local residents about operational protocols, particularly regarding weaponry and safety equipment management.

Criticism has surfaced from citizens affected by the slip road closure, with one frustrated motorist stating, “It is ridiculous that due to a police blunder, hundreds of people were caught up in the gridlock.” This sentiment reflects a broader frustration regarding how operational errors may disproportionately impact the community. The police's acknowledgment of these issues, combined with corrective gestures such as compensation, may not fully appease public discontent.

The current situation stands in stark contrast to the police's previous mishap. While the police involved in the stinger incident faced no formal disciplinary action, locals remain concerned about the implications of such slips in judgment. As Norfolk Constabulary continues to investigate the recent incidents, community calls for improved safety protocols and accountability from law enforcement are likely to persist.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25207894.a47-postwick-slip-road-closed-missing-bullet-search/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cq6g7gjl2lno)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25207894.a47-postwick-slip-road-closed-missing-bullet-search/?ref=rss), [[3]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-66846352), [[4]](https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2023-09-19/tyres-punctured-after-stinger-falls-from-police-car-into-busy-road)
* Paragraph 3 – [[5]](https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2023-10-19/stinger-slip-up-leaves-police-with-1500-puncture-payouts), [[6]](https://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/news/23867878.norfolk-police-compensate-drivers-a11-stinger-blunder/), [[7]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cxe3k134gpgo)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25207894.a47-postwick-slip-road-closed-missing-bullet-search/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cq6g7gjl2lno> - A man in his 60s died after his car crashed on the A47 at Postwick, near Norwich. Norfolk Police responded to a report of debris on the road and found the vehicle had left the carriageway. The driver was declared dead at the scene, and the road was closed for several hours. Authorities are appealing for witnesses or relevant dashcam footage to assist with the investigation.
3. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-66846352> - Norfolk Constabulary paid nearly £1,500 in compensation after a stinger device fell from a patrol car onto the A11 at Spooner Row, near Wymondham. The device punctured the tyres of four vehicles. The stinger had been accidentally left on the car roof while officers were checking equipment. The force apologised for the incident and stated that no further action would be taken against the officers involved.
4. <https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2023-09-19/tyres-punctured-after-stinger-falls-from-police-car-into-busy-road> - A police stinger device fell from a patrol car onto the A11 at Spooner Row, Norfolk, puncturing the tyres of four vehicles. The road was closed while the vehicles were repaired or recovered. Norfolk Constabulary apologised for the incident and offered compensation to the affected drivers. The officers involved received words of advice, and no further action was taken.
5. <https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2023-10-19/stinger-slip-up-leaves-police-with-1500-puncture-payouts> - Norfolk Constabulary faced a bill of nearly £1,500 after a stinger device fell from a patrol car onto the A11 at Wymondham, puncturing the tyres of five vehicles. The device had been left on the car roof while officers were checking equipment. The force apologised for the inconvenience and distress caused and stated that no further action would be taken against the officers involved.
6. <https://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/news/23867878.norfolk-police-compensate-drivers-a11-stinger-blunder/> - Norfolk Constabulary compensated drivers after a stinger device fell from a patrol car onto the A11 at Spooner Row, Norfolk, puncturing the tyres of five vehicles. The device had been accidentally left on the car roof while officers were checking equipment. The force apologised for the incident and stated that no further action would be taken against the officers involved.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cxe3k134gpgo> - Norfolk Constabulary paid nearly £1,500 in compensation after a stinger device fell from a patrol car onto the A11 at Wymondham, puncturing the tyres of five vehicles. The device had been left on the car roof while officers were checking equipment. The force apologised for the incident and stated that no further action would be taken against the officers involved.