



Warminster Area Board

March 2018

Hello and welcome to this month's Community policing report.

This month's report will focus on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's).

Wiltshire Police uses Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), more commonly known as drones, to provide air support to officers on the ground.

What kind of drones do Wiltshire Police use?

We currently have two DJI Inspire 1 drones that can be equipped with a HD camera or a thermal imaging camera. Each drone has approximately 18 minutes flight time per battery, and is able to reach a top speed of 49 mph.

The total initial set up cost was £30,000 for aircraft, two nonstandard high definition optical zoom cameras, two thermal imaging cameras and six pilots, including all administrative costs.

What do we typically use drones for?

- Searching large open areas for missing people or offenders hiding from us
- Aerial photography of crime scenes and road traffic collisions
- Intelligence gathering for warrants
- Over-watch for high risk policing operations on the ground.

What are the benefits of using a drone?

- It's much cheaper to charge a drone than to fuel a helicopter
- As its much cheaper we can use air support more often meaning officers on the ground can have an eye in the sky for more incidents, rather than just the really serious ones
- As it's electric the drone's carbon footprint is smaller than a helicopter
- It's much safer, with no crew or fuel and weighing a mere 2.8kg, if anything goes wrong its much less likely to cause damage or injury to anyone
- It's less affected by the weather, helicopters have to consider weather systems at their base and in transit to the scene, drones are drive to the scene by car and so only have to consider the weather at scene.

How many pilots are there and how are they trained?

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We currently have five pilots across the force area, all of whom are volunteers in the Special Constabulary. We also have one Police Constable within the People Development (training) Department.

The team were trained by a commercial National Qualified Entity (NQE) and awarded their Permission for Commercial Operations (PfCO) by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

How are drones deployed?

Our drones are driven to the scene from Police Headquarters in Devizes in a police vehicle and deployed from there.

Who do we film with the drone?

We will only ever use our drone to support a lawful policing purpose, or for commercial purposes relating to Wiltshire Police.

The vast majority of recording will take place overtly with an obvious police presence on the ground. In some cases we will use the drone covertly, with appropriate authorities complying with all relevant legislation.

We're not always recording, most of the time we are merely using the camera to assist us from the sky, and we make every effort to remove or reduce the chances of recording you. Recordings are stored and deleted in line with requirements of the Data Protection Act.

Information relating to the laws on drones (Air Navigation Order 2016) can be found at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/765/contents/made>

What does this mean for West Wiltshire Community Policing Team

West Wiltshire Community Policing Team will be the first hub within Wiltshire to be allocated a drone.

Six officers will be trained to pilot the drones, which will ensure more coverage.

CRIME EXCEPTIONS

These figures are based on an evaluation of data, over a two year rolling period. Using this data we can predict what figure is the average that should be reported in a specific month, and what are the higher and lower parameters that we may expect. Figures outside of these parameters are classed as 'Crime Exceptions'.

Warminster Town

January 2018 saw 108 recorded incidents for the Warminster Town area, which is a reduction in incidents when compared to 144 recorded incidents during the same time period last year.

All crime types are showing lower than what we would expect to see during this time period. Most noticeably both offences of theft and criminal damage are showing half the incidents that we would expect to see.

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Warminster Rural

January 2018 saw 77 recorded incidents for the Warminster Rural area, this is a very slight increase compared to 74 recorded incidents during the same time period last year.

Offences of Theft are showing slightly lower than previous months.

Offences of Violence against the person are showing as a crime exception, with an increase from an average of 8.8 offences a month to 17 reported during January.

7 of these incidents are linked from the same location, and all relate to minor or no injury assaults.

Three other incidents are linked by location and suspect, which occurred during the early hours of the 1st January. This incident is still being investigated.

A 15 year old female being charged with assault. Due to her age, it would be inappropriate to provide further information.

Separately, a 30 year old female from the Frome area, was issued with an adult caution following damage caused at an address in Corsley on the 12th January.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH CHECKS WITHIN YOUR AREA

Throughout January the following locations were targeted by the West Community Policing Team :

Bishopstrow – two checks were completed, no vehicles were observed speeding.

Throughout the first two weeks of February the following locations were targeted :

Crockerton - one check was completed, no vehicles were observed speeding.

Chitterne - one check was completed and PCSO's assisted the CSW Team on a second occasion.

OTHER INFORMATION

We are pleased to welcome PCSO Candida Jackson who joined us at the beginning of February.

Pcso Jackson was originally a PCSO in the Salisbury area, however has recently joined us on the West Wiltshire Community Policing Team. She will be joining Pcso Debbie Robbins as a Warminster Rural officer.

Your current Police Community Support Officers are :

Warminster Town

Pcso Mary Moore - mary.moore@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Pcso Lorraine Rice - lorraine.rice@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

feedback@wiltshire.police.uk

Warminster Rural

Pcso Debbie Robbins - Debbie.robbsins@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Pcso Candida Jackson - candida.jackson@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

For a detailed breakdown of the crime in your area visit...

<https://www.police.uk/wiltshire/>

Sector Inspector – Inspector Andy Fee – andy.fee@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Sector Deputy – Sergeant Gill Hughes – gill.hughes@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Community Coordinator – Pc Charly Chilton : charlotte.chilton@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk