

**WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 2009  
REPORT BY MRS SODEN**

**Wiltshire Police Performance – County Division**

The County Division continues to perform strongly and has maintained its position at the top of the league table of 15 similar Divisions in England and Wales. Crime continues to fall overall and the Division is on target to meet the vast majority of its policing objectives for the year.

**All Crime – 1<sup>st</sup> out of 15**

- Total recorded crime for the year to date is down 7% against the same period last year (1,219 fewer crimes).

**All Crime, Detections – 1<sup>st</sup> out of 15**

- The overall detection rate of all crimes is up 15% against the same period last year, now at 30%. In some Sectors, the detection rates have reached 40% which is in the top quartile nationally.

**Violent Crime – 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 15**

- Violent crime has shown an increase of 2% this year to date against the same period last year (an increase of 55 crimes). The Divisional Commander reports that this figure was to be expected given the Chief Constable's commitment to confront violence in the County. There has been a significant and steady reduction in violence since the Autumn. The success of the police and partner activity is borne out by the increased detection rate for violent crime.

**Violent Crime, Detections – 1<sup>st</sup> out of 15**

- Detection rates for violent crime for the year to date are up 13% at 57%.

**Domestic Burglary – 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 15**

- Domestic burglary is down 15% this year against the same period last year (decrease of 112 burglaries).

**Domestic Burglary, Detections – 7<sup>th</sup> out of 15**

- Detections for domestic burglaries have decreased by 15% against the same period last year (18 fewer detections).

**Vehicle Crime – 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 15**

- Vehicle crime for the year to date is down 21% for the same period last year (decrease of 1,482 crimes).

**Vehicle Crime, Detections – 1<sup>st</sup> out of 15**

- The detection rate for vehicle crime has increased 39% from last year (61 more detections).

**Neighbourhood Policing**

Members have recently undertaken the third assessment of neighbourhood policing as part of community engagement and a report on this will be taken to the Authority's Consultation

and Public Focus Committee. The views of councillors and community leaders have been sought and will inform the discussion between the Force and the Authority.

Neighbourhood policing in the County Division will be adjusted to support the Community Areas and their Boards. Representation on Area Boards will include a local Inspector who will have responsibility and local autonomy to deliver both neighbourhood and response policing. As from April 2009, all rural sectors will have a dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant. This reflects the structure already in place in the larger towns.

### **Budget and Precept**

Members will be asked to approve a budget of £105.305m at a full meeting of the Authority on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2009, and a Council Tax for policing services for all property bands based on £152.59 for Band D properties. This represents a precept of 4.99% and has been recommended by the Authority's Resources Committee.

### **Police Authority Meetings 2009**

11<sup>th</sup> June

17<sup>th</sup> September

3<sup>rd</sup> December

**Carole Soden, Vice-Chairman, Wiltshire Police Authority**