Area Board Report No.9

Wiltshire Police Calne

Calne Police – December 2008

Priorities & ongoing activity.

Retail crime and the night-time economy

The festive period often brings an increase in theft and violent crime. To address this we will be concentrating on retail based crime and the night time economy.

In the lead up to Christmas acquisitive crimes such as theft can increase and in particular we have had a recent issue with the theft of purses from the handbags of shoppers in the town. We don't want to give rise to a fear of crime only to highlight this as an issue and ask people to be careful and not leave high value items on show to tempt a would be thief such as presents visible in a car, purse or handbag left on a pushchair or in an open bag over a shoulder.

Over Christmas and New Year we will be increasing our visibility to deter people from these crimes and offences of anti-social and violent behaviour particularly during the late evenings. We have strong and effective partnerships with premises licenced to sell alcohol and we will be working closely to help them manage their customers and sell alcohol responsibly. You can expect to see police officers and staff entering premises during the evening to identify and target problem individuals and robust enforcement of our policing powers. Christmas and New Year is a time for everyone and we are keen to ensure we help everyone have a Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

CALNE TOWN

STOKES CROFT ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - THE KNAPP PLAY AREA POLICE VISIBILITY/REASSURANCE - COLEMANS FARM ESTATE

I can report that work has been ongoing on The Coleman's Farm Estate. In particular the NPT team have been liaising with Westlea Housing to address tenants whose behaviour has become unacceptable. The results of meetings and civil court processes mean that possession orders are in hand for two properties, whilst a third tenant is being given personal support by Westlea to address emotional issues.

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The weekend of the 13th/14th December highlighted the benefits to the town of partnership working between the town CCTV office and NPT officers. Due to observations from Martin BUTLER a large box of Stella lager was seized that may otherwise been distributed amongst young people, a young woman's aggressive behaviour in the High Street was pointed out which could be challenged and a drunk male was seen to get in a car in The Pippin. He was stopped and charged later that day with drink drive offences.

The NPT team are unfolding methods of addressing the frequently raised issue of cycling in the town. There will be a mix of enforcement days coupled with educational visits to schools. Furthermore there are considerations for drafting of leaflets to reinforce the message.

The crime stats for April-November 2008 show 386 crimes reported, this compares with 424 crimes for the same period last year, a drop of 38. Of those reported, 110 were detected which represents a detection rate of 28%.

CALNE WEST

CURRENT PRIORITIES:

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR FOXGLOVE WAY (LICKHILL WARD)

PARKING ISSUES ARISING FROM SCHOOL USERS OF St. EDMUNDS RC PRIMARY, DUNCAN STREET (LICKHILL WARD)

YOUTH ISSUES SKATE PARK/CASTLEFIELDS PARK

Work is continuing regarding the above priorities with the assistance of partner agencies, which include the Town Council, Knightstone Housing Association and Community Safety Department of NWDC. An update of the priorities and their progress will be given at the next Neighbourhood Tasking Group meeting which is combined with the Calne Community Safety Forum. PCSO Mussard is STILL seeking help from a Councillor representing Lickhill Ward to assist with some of his actions regarding the parking issues in Duncan Street – a volunteer please??

Statistics for Calne West NPT:

All statistics are based on year to date figures ie; April 2008-December 2008

Dwelling Burglary; 17 reported offences. This is an increase of 4 offences since the last report was compiled. They relate to unoccupied premises' having been broken into (Chilvester Hill and Studley) and a further dwelling in the Town Centre whereby Jewellery was stolen.

Recorded offences this time last year stood at 13.

Non-Dwelling Burglary; 21 reported offences. This is an increase of 2 offences since the last report was compiled and relate to property stolen from an open garage and an Attempt Burglary at an office premises.

Recorded offences this time last year stood at 29.

Criminal Damage; 45 reported offences. An increase of 5 since the last report and they relate to smashed windows, & door lock damage. There are no specific patterns to connect offences together, which have occurred across the whole area.

Recorded offences this time last year stood at 69.

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Violent offences; 41 reported offences. An increase of 8 since the last report. These offences are all domestic related apart from 1.

Recorded offences this time last year stood at 39.

Vehicle crime; 17 reported offences. No increase since the last report. Recorded offences this time last year stood at 27.

TOTAL CRIME FOR CALNE WEST currently stands at 212, compared with 254 this time last year.

CALNE EAST

CURRENT PRIORITIES:

SPEEDING – STOCKLEY AND HEDDINGTON

SPEEDING – HILMARTON AND GOATACRE

PARKING PROBLEMS - A4 LONDON ROAD, HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

With the speeding at Stockley and Heddington, The Wiltshire and Swindon Camera Safety Partnership have conducted a survey of the area, and have found that there is not a problem with speeding vehicles, and they will not be making it an area of priority for further enforcement by them. This will continue to be monitored by the Beat Manager with the use of the hand held SPEEDAR equipment.

At Hilmarton and Goatacre, the local residents have formed a working group, H.A.G.G.I.S, (Hilmarton and Goatacre Group Improving Safety), and are conducting their own surveys, along with writing to major hauliers who use the route, advising them of the problems encountered by the residents, especially the less mobile members, when crossing the road. HAGGIS are the owners of this priority, with speed checks being conducted by the Beat Manager with the hand held SPEEDAR, when possible.

Parking problems at Holy Trinity School. A letter has been sent out to the parents and guardians of all of the pupils outlining the problems, and asking for their cooperation when dropping off and collecting their children from school. The situation will be monitored by the Beat Manager, and appropriate action taken against any motorists found to be parking to obstruct local residents/other road users.

Statistics for Calne East NPT:

Reports of violent crime, burglaries, vehicle crime, theft and handling, and criminal damage, for the period April to November, all show a decrease, with drugs offences showing a slight increase. However, since the compilation of these statistics, there have been four dwelling burglaries on the area, two in Cherhill, one in Quemerford, and one in Rookery Park. All properties attacked being very close to the main A4.

We have also had the serious sexual assault on a female at the old Yatesbury Airfield. The offender for this assault has been arrested and charged, and is currently on remand, awaiting trial.

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Be on the Look Out for

When providing information, please make sure you remain safe and don't put yourself into any danger. Information that is particularly useful to us include: What has happened, times, dates, locations, descriptions of those involved. Direction of travel and vehicle registration numbers and descriptions.

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