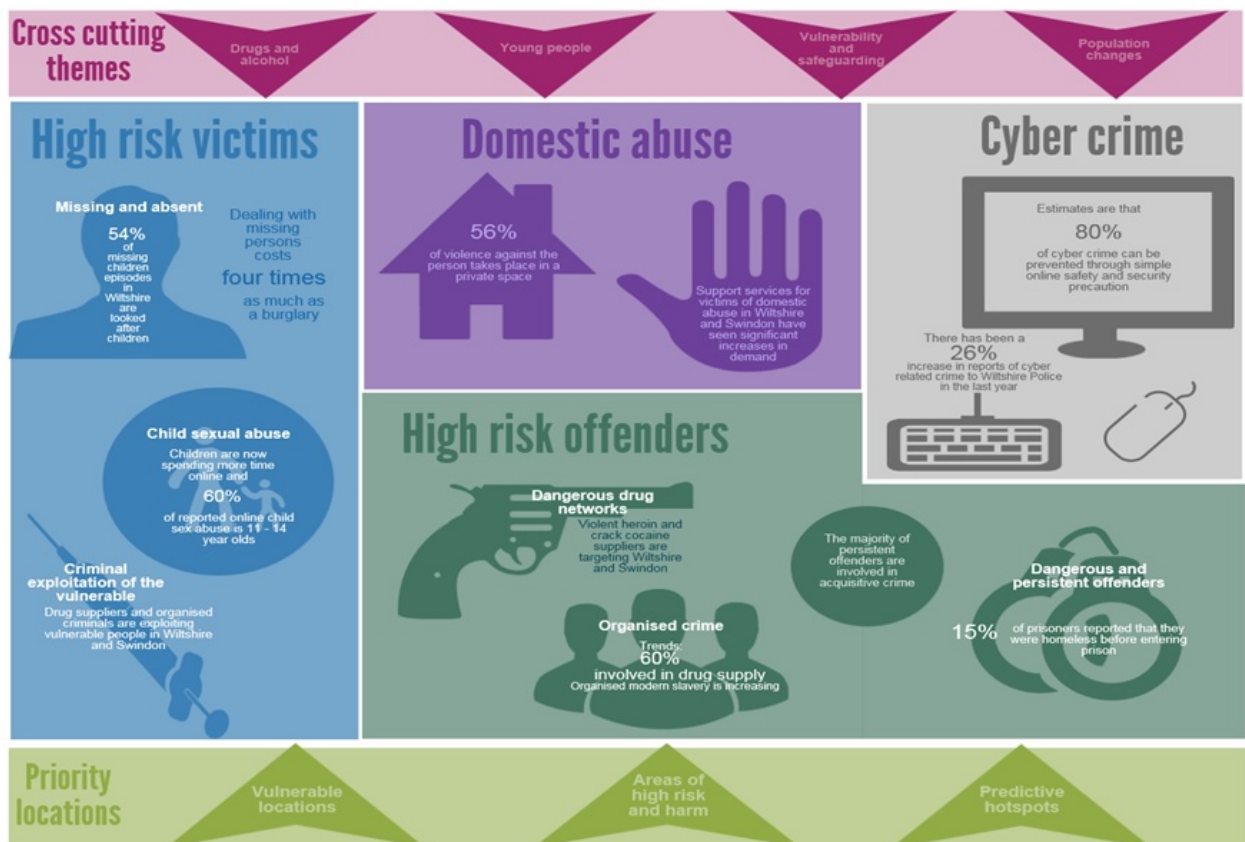




Trowbridge Area Board Thursday 12th November 2015

This is my first opportunity to present to you a report based on what is happening in your local Policing area. Reviewing previous reports that you will have received, you will see that in line with the many changes that have occurred in your local Policing, your report will have a very different approach. I hope you will see the benefit of this approach and will welcome your feedback in this respect.

Wiltshire Control Strategy



Our Control Strategy has been created to describe the current and emerging threats that are of the greatest impact to our Communities. This is set annually following the analysis of threats, harms and risks. It is my intention to ensure Community Policing is focused to work within these parameters covering the 4 P's – Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare.

In the current period of austerity, we must provide an efficient service. This means that we must focus on areas within this Control Strategy. It is vital that the service provided is of a high standard, placing victims and witnesses at the heart of everything that we do whilst addressing the most vulnerable in our society and preventing crime and anti-social behavior. Sadly, this does mean that we will not be able to respond to all demands that have been placed upon us in the past, as we must focus on the areas of greatest threat and risk as identified within the Control Strategy.

I do not intend, unless there is a specific demand, to present to you endless statistics. Instead, what I intend to present to you is a more detailed account of one of these areas, to identify the issues and to then discuss what we have done, are doing and intend to do in line with the strands of the 4 P's. I hope you will support this approach and in return I will give you honesty and clarity in what I can say.

My theme topic for this report will be the new Community Policing Team working in your area. I will not report on this occasion on any performance figures, as it is too soon to do so and draw conclusions.

Community Policing Team

I am an Inspector who worked as a Sergeant in the Neighbourhood Policing Team in Trowbridge before my more recent role as a Team Duty Inspector for the Central and South Wiltshire area. I was delighted to be selected as the Inspector to lead the Trowbridge and Warminster Policing area, particularly as we were about to venture into an exciting pilot where we brought the investigating officers together with the Neighbourhood and Response Policing Teams, including Police Community Support Officers and the Special Constabulary to form one Community Policing Team.

I am supported in my role by Sergeant Pete Sparrow, who has a wealth of experience within Response Policing, CID, Custody and Crime Recording.

The first significant change that you will notice is that my officers are more visible. Trowbridge has always had a visible Policing presence within the Town, but towns further away, under the old centralise Hub model, have had to rely upon officers from Trowbridge to attend immediate calls for service.

I have made it one of my priorities for my staff to be visible. We have rolled out technology that enables staff to remain mobile and not rely on returning to the station in order to update enquiries on fixed location computers. This mobile technology will enable my staff to be accessible to their communities.

You will see the team Structure in the attached document.

The Community Policing Team will be based out of two locations, Trowbridge and Warminster and will patrol these towns along with Mere, Tisbury, Westbury and Bradford on Avon. Despite the two locations, it is one team and they will support each other depending on the demands at that time. The significant change is that each part of the team will work together to deliver a quality, efficient and trusted service to their Community.

I have removed the position of Community Beat Manager (CBM). This was a role that was held by a Constable on the Neighbourhood Policing Team. These officers would provide direction and support to the PCSO who worked on their beat areas. The role of the PCSOs has developed and they will now take on that responsibility that previously befell the CBM. I believe this will ensure continuity and accessibility to their Community Beat areas.

To support the PCSOs in their Beat role, I have assigned the Police Officers and Special Constables each to specific Beat Areas. Unlike the PCSO, the Constables will be more influenced by the demands of everyday Policing, but they will focus their preventative patrols in their designated beat areas. This will support the PCSO, with warranted officers in providing a 24/7 cover for their beat area, something that some of the beats will think they did not receive before.

Added to the teams are Local Crime Investigators (LCI). These officers worked previously in Melksham with their primary role in investigating and interviewing offenders in custody. They will provide the expertise and direction to officers who have not had to perform the interview functions on a regular basis under the old model. They will also support at early stages with assistance in investigations.

Working across all the teams will be two Community Co-Ordinators. These officers, who have been selected from the old CBM roles, will be responsible for the longer term Community issues that need to be addressed, such as events, application for orders and licensing concerns. They will support all the teams and complete the links with key Community links.

I am excited by the challenges ahead and looking forward to watching this new Policing Team develop a model that delivers local policing within the Control Strategy and can be replicated across the rest of the County.

James Brain

Community Policing Team Inspector

Trowbridge & Warminster