

Devizes Community Area Board

November 2013



1. Neighbourhood Policing

Team Sgt: Joanne Spencer

Town Centre Team

Beat Manager – PC Chris Mead
PCSO – Paula Yarranton
PCSO – Lucy Sainsbury
PCSO – Luke Woodward
PCSO – Kelly Watts

Rural North Team

Beat Manager – PC Helen Clarke (TBC)
PCSO – Gareth Cole
PCSO – Fiona Marno

Rural South Team

Beat Manager – TBA
PCSO – Oliver Nash

2. NPTs - Current Priorities & Consultation Opportunities:

Up-to-date details about Neighbourhood Policing Teams including team membership, current priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on our Wiltshire Police Website.

Visit the website at: www.wiltshire.police.uk

3. Police and Crime Commissioner: Mr Angus Macpherson

PCC website: www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk

4. Local Issues

At the previous Area Board it was announced that Joanne Spencer would be absent for a considerable time. I can inform you she remains in good spirits and looks forward to returning to work. While Joanne is absent Sergeant Ronnie Lungu has been parachuted in to cover elements of her post.

There has been further change to the Devizes Team as PC Pete Lawson has left at his request. PC Helen Clarke quickly stepped in to cover his area in support of both the community and PCSO Nash. At the time of writing this report I have planned interviews for a number of willing applicants to replace PC Lawson and once I have a result I will inform everyone, possibly at the Area Board on the 25th.

We have seen an increase in the reports of vehicles gathering and causing ASB. At one incident in Lidl car park the NPT team attended, supported by specialist traffic units. A fixed penalty notice was issued to one driver and a drug search on another youth present. All those present were subsequently visited at home in the presence of parents, including those over twenty years old, and advised regarding their behaviour. We have been criticised for taking this stance but I hope we retain the support of the majority of the community in trying to make a difference through positive action.

On the 8th November 2013 the NPT team, assisted by the Special Constabulary, dog section and armed officers, executed two warrants simultaneously at two locations in Potterne. A 20 year old male was arrested and has been released on Police bail while we conclude our enquiries. We are also working closely with the housing associations and they have been updated on the outcome of the warrants.

CRIME & DETECTIONS (August 2012 – August 2013 compared to previous rolling 12 months)

The crime figures below compared to my previous report represent a continued overall trend of reduction in most crime types. The percentage changes are reducing in some of the most significant crime types. Of note the Non-domestic burglary category shows an increase over the rolling 12 month period of 17 offences. In February 2013 there were an additional 20 offences reported compared to the previous year. This was as a result of activity to detain the perpetrator. During the night of the storm in October there was an overnight report of 8 offences. It is believed the volume of the storm was used to mask any noise caused by breaking in. To reassure you I have additional Police patrols working through the night and I am working closely with colleagues in Wiltshire and across the border in West Berkshire who have also seen an increase in this type of offence.

I reported on some of the concerns around violence against the person in my last report and I will expand on this briefly at the meeting.

My staff have also been visiting key locations in the area giving training to staff at retail premises to prevent shoplifting as well as handing out purse straps to customers to secure personal property. Should anyone wish to obtain a key chain or seek advice, the team are outside The Bear Hotel in the market place on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

EZ Devizes NPT	Crime				Detections*	
	12 Months to October 2012	12 Months to October 2013	Volume Change	% Change	12 Months to October 2012	12 Months to October 2013
Victim Based Crime	1242	1215	-27	-2.2%	20%	21%
Domestic Burglary	45	48	+3	+6.7%	22%	27%
Non Domestic Burglary	133	150	+17	+12.8%	4%	21%
Vehicle Crime	98	94	-4	-4.1%	9%	0%
Criminal Damage & Arson	284	243	-41	-14.4%	19%	15%
Violence Against The Person	252	322	+70	+27.8%	35%	33%
ASB Incidents (YTD)	705	614	-91	-12.9%		

* Detections include both Sanction Detections and Local Resolutions

Take reasonable steps to prevent becoming a victim of crime. Lock your property away, record serial numbers on www.immobilise.com take photos of your valuable property for future reference and add additional security measures to your houses and outbuildings. Do not leave valuable property in cars.

Matthew Armstrong
Sector Inspector, Devizes Melksham Pewsey

13th November 2013