



WARMINSTER AREA BOARD REPORT – FEB 2019

Hello and welcome to this Community policing report.

Wiltshire Police is bucking the national trend of increasing crime figures by seeing a reduction of 1%.

At a time when violent crime continues to increase, dominate national media and rightly concern local communities a decrease in knife crime of 18% since September 2017, has been recorded in Wiltshire.

Angus Macpherson, Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, said: "The impact of knife crime can be devastating, not only for the victim and perpetrator, but also their families and friends.

"We are not seeing the same problems in Wiltshire that there are nationally because of the work being done by Wiltshire Police alongside the local authorities and other partners to tackle knife crime. This year I want to be able to allocate funding for a renewed focus on crime prevention using a range of tactics to target those who may commit crime in future.

"But the reality is that the police cannot tackle this alone and need to draw upon the strength of communities to play an equal part.

"Parents and schools can play their part by checking what their children are carrying in their bags; it's a good way to educate youngsters too that being caught with a knife could mean they end up in serious trouble as well as risking being injured themselves.

"Long term - good education and prevention means the wider community becomes a safer one.

"I am determined that we will continue to do as much as we can to eradicate knife crime in Wiltshire. Just one knife-related incident is one too many and I am acutely aware of this."

T/ Assistant Chief Constable Deborah Smith, the Force lead for crime, justice and vulnerability said "Wiltshire still remains one of the safest counties to live and work in, and the crime statistics released today show us as one of only four UK forces reporting an overall reduction in crime.

"Due to national media coverage of knife crime problems across the UK, we know this is an area that people have particular concerns about. However, here in Wiltshire, we have seen an 18 per cent reduction in knife crime since September 2017.

"There is still a lot of crime prevention work to do around people carrying knives, as incidents of

weapon possession are up 3 per cent, but overall we are making very good progress. In September the Force held a county-wide knife amnesty which resulted in 427 knives being taken off our streets.

“It is concerning that society seems to be becoming more violent and dealing with this problem is just one of the many challenges facing a modern day police force. We’d like to reassure our communities that despite the crime statistics released today showing a 3 per cent increase in violent crimes in Wiltshire, these incidents are often linked to wider issues such as drug and alcohol abuse or mental health episodes. We continue to work closely with our partners to tackle these wider issues.

“It is also important to note that serious violent crimes such as the recent incidents we have seen in Swindon are very rarely random attacks. The people involved in these sorts of crimes are often known to each other and are usually linked to wider issues such as gangs and drug dealing including dangerous drug networks and county lines.

“Wiltshire Police continues to work closely with our partners to focus on early intervention and prevention in relation to violent crime. This is being driven through the Swindon and Wiltshire community safety partnerships and includes new initiatives to tackle violence across the county.

“If you suspect someone of illegally carrying a knife, I’d urge you to report it to the police immediately by calling 101, or 999 in an emergency. Alternatively information can be passed to Crimestoppers anonymously by calling 0800 555 111.”

This relates to today's crime statistics report by ONS. You can see full statistics here - <https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/crimeinenglandandwalesyearendingseptember2018>

OTHER INFORMATION

Staffing

Inspector Andy Fee has taken up a temporary Superintendent role in another area of Police business for a few months. As a consequence Sergeant James Williams has stepped up to A/Insp to be the lead for West Wiltshire CPT. A deputy Sergeant to cover for James will be identified and in place in due course.

We welcome new PCSO Roland REVERS to the Warminster CPT Team. Roland will be joining PCSO Mary MOORE on the Warminster Town Centre Beat known as ER11. Roland has settled in well and has already taken the Chief Constable, Mr. Kier Pritchard, out on foot patrol in Warminster.

CRIME EXCEPTIONS DATA

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’.

***** Domestic Abuse figures will also be included in the values as it is on our Control Strategy but here will be no details shared on these cases *****

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Warminster Town and Villages combined (Area Board)

Warminster Area board includes 2 Beat areas, 1 for the Town, (ER11) and one for Rural and Villages (ER12). The Data is as follows;

DECEMBER 2018 DATA

December 2018 showed a total of 126 crimes for the whole Warminster Area Board region against the average of 116.6 for this same month over the last 2 years. This is within the parameters we would reasonably expect. There are no exceptions within the data.

ER11 (Warminster Town Centre Beat)

December 2018 showed a total of 87 crimes for the ER11 area against the average of 77.7 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data.

The 5 largest crime groups accounted for 93% of this recorded crime as follows;

Violence Against the person showed 33 crimes compared to the average of 23.7

Theft showed 25 crimes compared to the average of 18.8

Criminal Damage showed 12 crimes compared to the average of 14.4

Burglary showed 7 crimes compared to the average of 5.1

Public Order showed 4 crimes compared to the average of 6

ER12 (Warminster Rural and Villages Beat)

December 2018 showed a total of 39 crimes for the ER12 area against the average of 39 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data.

The 5 largest crime groups accounted for 92% of this recorded crime as follows;

Violence Against the person showed 11 crimes compared to the average of 9.1

Burglary showed 8 crimes compared to the average of 6.1

Theft showed 6 crimes compared to the average of 9.2

Criminal damage showed 4 crimes compared to the average of 4.8

Vehicle offences showed 3 crimes compared to the average of 6

JANUARY 2018 DATA

January 2019 showed a total of 129 crimes for the whole Warminster Area Board region against the average of 120.6 for this same month over the last 2 years. This is within the parameters we would reasonably expect. There are no exceptions within the data.

ER11 (Warminster Town Centre Beat)

January 2019 showed a total of 71 crimes for the ER11 area against the average of 77 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data.

The 5 largest crime groups accounted for 90% of this recorded crime as follows;

Violence Against the person showed 21 crimes compared to the average of 23.7
Theft showed 16 crimes compared to the average of 18.5
Vehicle crime showed 11 crimes compared to the average of 4.2
Criminal Damage showed 9 crimes compared to the average of 14.5
Public Order showed 7 crimes compared to the average of 5.9

ER12 (Warminster Rural and Villages Beat)

January 2019 showed a total of 58 crimes for the ER12 area against the average of 40 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data, except for Criminal damage
*(see explanation below)

The 5 largest crime groups accounted for 98% of this recorded crime as follows;

Criminal damage showed 26 crimes compared to the average of 5
Violence Against the person showed 14 crimes compared to the average of 9.5
Theft showed 6 crimes compared to the average of 9.2
Burglary showed 8 crimes compared to the average of 6.4
Vehicle offences showed 1 crime compared to the average of 5.6

*Of the criminal Damage offences, 14 of these relate to one Nursing Home who have reported 12 months of historical damages in one phone call (rather than reporting them at the time). They suspect these are occurring internally rather than a stranger related crime. Investigations are ongoing. 5 of the damages also relate to internal incidents in a private space for young people.

Crimes and Updates of note

Five people arrested during warrants in Warminster area

More than 30 officers and staff including two drugs dogs took part in an operation targeting drug use in West Wiltshire last week (January 17).

Led by Det. Sgt Anthony King from the Community Tasking Team, they carried out five warrants under the Misuse of Drugs Act in the Westleigh area of Warminster as well as an address in Westbury.

As a result of the raids, five people were arrested. A wide range of items were seized including suspected class A drugs and related drug paraphernalia, a firearm, a large quantity of cash across several of the addresses, mobile phones and suspected stolen bank cards.

Two vehicles were also seized including a BMW X5 and a Vauxhall Zafira as a part of the ongoing investigation.

A man in his 30s from Warminster was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of a class A drug and possession of a Section 5 Firearm.

A man in his 30s from Warminster was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of a class A drug

A man in his 20s from Warminster was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of a class A drug

A woman in her 50s from Warminster was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of a class A drug

A woman in her 30s from Warminster was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of a class A drug

All those arrested were taken to Melksham custody for questioning. All were released under investigation.

Community Coordinator PC Lee Pelling said: "Following a number of complaints in recent weeks from the local community regarding drug activity on Westleigh Estate, we have worked closely with the local housing association - Selwood Housing - to take positive action and carry out multiple warrants leading to the arrest of five people, all suspected of being involved in the supply of class A drugs.

"I would urge local communities to pass any information regarding drug activity to the police or their local authorities. I hope this sends a clear message to members of the public that no one is above the law, and if you are engaging in criminal activity, we may come knocking on your door. Not only that, but if we believe you are benefitting from this criminal activity, we will take action under the Proceeds of Crime Act."

Verena Buchanan, Group Housing Director at Selwood Housing said: "Our neighbourhoods team has been working closely with Wiltshire Police to investigate concerning activity on this estate, leading to this raid last week. We take the safety of our customers and staff very seriously and this is a positive move to ensure Westleigh remains a safe place to live."

To report drug activity in your neighbourhood please call 101.

Please see the regular Community messaging email updates for community impactful crimes in your area.

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

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

COMMUNITY POLICING PRIORITIES WITHIN YOUR AREA

WEEKLY TASKING MEETING

Inspector Andy FEE chairs a weekly internal "tasking meeting" where emerging community issues and concerns are raised and discussed for the whole West Wiltshire CPT area. From this meeting, priorities and actions are set and a tasking document produced. This involves developing strategies and the targeting of resources (including partner agencies) into tackling the issue or concern.

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The priorities for West Wiltshire are:

OP ARTEMIS - Poaching and Hare Coursing. Rural and remote locations are at risk from Poachers damaging fences and gates to access land to Hare Course and Poach. This sometimes leads to cattle and sheep escaping out onto the roads causing issues for motorists and for the farmers. Crops and fields are also being damaged. We are conducting pro-active patrols to reduce this type of crime

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH (CSW)

Every 2 weeks, 4 Community Speedwatch Schemes across West Wiltshire are selected by Leanne Homewood for CPT support (additional targeting, enforcement and patrols) to supplement the CSW team planned sessions. These are included in our weekly tasking document for action and update. All the results from the supplementary speed checks conducted are fed back to the relevant Town and Parish Councils in their individual Police Reports. The current Speedwatch Schemes being supported are as follows;

The current locations selected for supplementary speed checks between the 30th Jan and 13th Feb are (at the time of production):

LOCATION	ACTION REQUIRED
Chapmanslade, Westbury	High Street/Hunterhill Junction
West Knoyle, Warminster	Near to 2 The Street
Beanacre Melksham	A350 – 30mph zone
Westwood Bradford on Avon	Near to The Croft

COMMUNITY MESSAGING

PLEASE SIGN UP! Community messaging to receive regular emails regarding crime updates, crime prevention advice and public appeals specific for your area. - <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

EVENTS

For those looking to organize an even within the community, please have a look at the toolkit available from Wiltshire Council, which gives guidance and advice with regards to most types of events, including information about traffic management and which agencies / departments need to be contacted when applying for various licenses / road closures.

It can be found at <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/public-events-toolkit.pdf>.

feedback@wiltshire.police.uk

Please email out Operations Planning team with details;

opsplanning@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

CONTACT US

Please use 999 in an emergency or crime in progress. Use 101 for all past or non-urgent crimes/incidents and issues or visit Wiltshire Police's new website at;

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

CPT TEAM EMAIL (please use this email for all enquiries, meeting invitations and minutes)

CPTWestWiltshire@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

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

Sector Deputy – Sergeant James Williams – james.williams@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Community Coordinator – PC Lee Pelling – lee.pelling@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Local Officer (Rural) – PCSO Debbie Robbins – debbie.robbins@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Local Officer (Rural) – PCSO Candy Jackson – candida.jackson@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Local Officer (Town) – PCSO Mary Moore – Marya.Moore@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

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