



WESTBURY AREA BOARD REPORT – APRIL 2019

Hello and welcome to this month's Community policing report.

March (Monday 11 - Sunday 17 March) saw Wiltshire Police support the national week of action for OP SCEPTRE.

Launched by Metropolitan Police in 2015 in response to knife crime, OP SCEPTRE aims to raise awareness of the growing trends, with the overall aim of reducing knife crime and the harm it causes to individuals, their families and the wider community.

Any incident where a knife is involved with the intention to threaten or harm another person is a concern to us. Recent statistics from the Office of National Statistics show that knife crime has fallen by 18 per cent across Wiltshire since September 2017 but we are not complacent and recent events in Trowbridge show how important it is that we continue to educate all members of our community about knife crime.

During this week of action West Wiltshire CPT worked with a number of partner agencies, including the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and Children's Services to target antisocial behaviour and knife related incidents within our policing area.

Our latest knife crime prevention campaign for 2019 has seen a number of knives and weapons recovered during the event and we saw a number of incidents which we are investigating involving weapons, including:

In Trowbridge, police carried out a number of patrols, sweeping local parks for knives and weapons. Other activity included:

- A man was arrested on suspicion of aggravated burglary in Trowbridge after police stopped a vehicle on the M4 - a number of weapons were recovered
- A 16-year-old boy was arrested on suspicion of affray after threatening another with two kitchen knives which were seized. The teenager has been released on police bail
- Numerous patrols were carried out by officers, including searches of Trowbridge parks.
- Four knives were handed in by members of the public who found knives in public places - they were reacting to our campaign: two knives were found in town centre parks, one in Adcroft Street, Trowbridge and one at the town's railway station.

Sgt Neil Duffin, who lead the campaign in Trowbridge, said: "During the week, officers carried out patrols and searches of local parks resulting in some knives being found in bushes and some arrests being made.

"Equally as important has been the on-going community engagement we have been carrying out in the town - informing and educating the public about knife crime and how they can help prevent it. We have been speaking to people and leaflet dropping to underline the message: 'No knife, safer life.'

"Op Sceptre may be over for now but our work doesn't stop, we are never complacent about knife crime and I want to remind everyone that we will respond to any intelligence and information given to us by the public; knife crime can affect anyone."

On Saturday evening (16/3) officers attended two addresses in Salisbury as part of an investigation and discovered a large amount of weapons.

Amongst other items a variety of knives including a meat cleaver, parts of a shotgun, BB gun and pellets were seized at the properties and subsequently surrendered for destruction.

Police cadets in Salisbury decided to use their initiative and make an Op Sceptre video to continue the public safety message but also to show the on-going positive work being carried out by officers and young people in the county

Assistant Chief Constable Gavin Williams said: "The success of the Op Sceptre campaign is down to the continued work we do in our communities - not only raising awareness about the dangers of knife crime but enforcing the law - it is illegal to carry a knife and you could face prison.

"We are committed to robustly tackling knife crime, and I hope the message will be received loud and clear when I say that using a knife or sharp instrument to threaten or harm someone will not be tolerated in our county.

"It is easy to say knife crime is a police problem. But it is not as straightforward as that, tackling knife crime is a police priority but it is a community problem. One that we can only solve by parents, schools, the NHS and our communities working together.

"As our knife crime figures show, Wiltshire is a safe place to live; the statistics show knife crime has dropped by 18% across the county in the past year but we won't ever rest on our laurels and will firmly deal with anyone who we find carrying a knife."

Angus Macpherson, Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, said: "Another successful knife crime awareness week has highlighted the problems of the use of knives in our society.

"Fortunately, we live in a very safe county with knife crime even having decreased in the past year - however, a campaign like Op Sceptre shows that knife crime continues to be an issue, even in Wiltshire, and our police remain vigilant and continue to work with communities and partners to try and stop this.

"Partnership working is key and the police continue to work with the likes of the Youth Offending Team to help support preventative work. Early intervention is a major part of this crucial work - getting to the youngsters before they turn to use a blade for what they believe is protection.

"There is no one solution to rid our country and county of knife crime. We all need to take more responsibility for the signs of knife crime in our communities - to spot them early on so they get 'nipped in the bud' before becoming a major problem."

If you have any information in relation to knife crime that can help police please call 101 or contact us anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

OTHER INFORMATION

Staffing

Temporary Inspector James Williams has now been promoted as a substantive Inspector, and will sadly be re-posted in the near future. He will be leaving his role as Deputy on CPT West Wiltshire to join West Wiltshire Team 3 as their duty Inspector on shift. We thank him for all his hard work and wish him all the best in his new promotional role.

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 *****

Westbury Town and Villages combined (Area Board)

Westbury Area Board includes 2 Beat areas, 1 for the Town (EG11), and one for Rural and Villages (EG12). The Data is as Follows;

FEBRUARY 2019 DATA

February 2019 showed a total of 75 crimes for the whole Westbury Area Board region against the average of 76.1 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.

EG11 (Westbury Town Beat)

February 2019 showed a total of 64 crimes for the EG11 area against the average of 62.7 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data.

The 6 largest crime groups accounted for 92% of this recorded crime as follows;

Violence Against the person showed 19 crimes compared to the average of 24.7

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Theft showed 8 crimes compared to the average of 10.9
Criminal Damage showed 8 crimes compared to the average of 10.1
Sexual Offences showed 7 crimes compared to the average of 3
Burglary showed 6 crimes compared to the average of 3.7
Public Order showed 4 crimes compared to the average of 4.1

EG12 (Westbury Rural and Villages Beat)

February 2019 showed a total of 11 crimes for the EG12 area against the average of 14.6 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data.
The 5 largest crime groups accounted for 100% of this recorded crime as follows;

Violence Against the person showed 6 crimes compared to the average of 4.5
Vehicle Crime showed 2 crimes compared to the average of 2.5
Criminal Damage showed 1 crime compared to the average of 3
Burglary showed 1 crime compared to the average of 2.2
Sexual Offences showed 1 crime compared to the average of 1.3

N.B *MARCH end of month data not available at the time of production

Crimes and Updates of note

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.

West Wiltshire CPT currently has the following matters;

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

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OP KARINE - Pro-active work and patrols to look at specific people and address which may be targeted by out of county drug dealers (Country Lines Networks) which seek out low level drug users or vulnerable persons to “cuckoo” their address to operate from for a while. We have done work to identify specific people and addresses that may be vulnerable to this practice.

UPDATE The Partial Closure Order for Queens Court, Westbury has now ended the 26th Feb. This was a success. There was one arrest made during the 3 months of its enforcement. There was no evidence of further breaches or that County Lines drug dealers have returned to the location.

We are however remaining pro-active, and we are looking at all potential victims and properties that may be targeted in the future in the wider Westbury area

We would encourage members of the public who suspect County Lines drug activity by phoning us on 101 to allow us to attend and investigate and take appropriate action.

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 (27th March – 10th April) are:

LOCATION	ACTION REQUIRED
Edington, Westbury	30mph - Near to Greater Lane
Hindon, Warminster	30mph - Outside/near 2 High Street
Lowbourne, Melksham	30mph - Near to Ruskin Avenue
Southwick, Trowbridge	30mph - Near to Puffin Crossing

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

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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>.

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 (Town) – PCSO Mat Katsande – matoyizi.katsande@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Local Officer (Rural) – PCSO Caroline Wright – caroline.wright@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

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