



Calne Community policing update



Hello and welcome to the Area Board report for May 2019

It has been a busy couple of months with some positive results for our community, two prolific shoplifters jailed for multiple thefts, drug stops, persons arrested for failing to attend court. This is just a sample of the work we continue to conduct on a day-to-day basis.

On the 1st of May, I will hand over the Royal Wootton Bassett/ Malmesbury community coordinator role to Pc Rachel DAVIES and then I will be the sole community coordinator for Calne.

I will continue to work hard and keep our community safe.

Thank you PC 1952 Steve Carroll

Wiltshire's war on knives - a letter to the community

Dear Community,

This week we are pleased to be joining 44 other police forces from across the country as part of the national knife crime week of action and awareness campaign, Operation Sceptre.

Over the last year we have all watched with horror as the number of incidents of knife crime across the county have risen, with offences involving a knife or sharp instrument rising nationally by eight per cent.

I am pleased to say that Wiltshire continues to be one of the safest places in the country to live, and I am happy to tell you that we are not following the same trend when it comes to knife crime - we even saw a decrease of 18 per cent from September 2017 to September 2018.

However, I know these statistics may not be as reassuring as they should be to the communities of Trowbridge and Swindon in particular, where incidents of knife crime have been reported in recent weeks. These incidents can devastate the lives of young people, their families and friends, and the shockwaves of such horrific crimes in our often close knit communities can be felt far and wide.

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.

If you are caught with a knife in a public place and do not have a lawful reason for having it, you will be arrested. You could receive a sentence of up to four years for just carrying a knife or if you are involved in an incident where a knife is used, the prison sentence could be much longer.

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 part of this community, I need to be able to count on you to support us in this fight against knife crime.

I know that most people don't carry a knife and would never use a knife to hurt someone else.

But as a police officer, member of our community and a parent myself to two young children, I will not be complacent in my approach or my ambition to remove knife crime from our county.

This week as part of Op Sceptre, you will be reminded about what you can do to tackle knife crime. Steps that may seem small but could make a huge difference. Check your child's bags, know what's in your knife drawer, and have a conversation with your child about the very serious consequences of carrying a knife.

You may think these actions are a little extreme and don't apply to you and your family. However if we are going to tackle knife crime, it is an approach we all need to take. Criminalising young people is never something we want to do but if your child sets off to school this morning with a knife in their bag, they are at risk. By taking action and by talking about the subject we can raise awareness and educate our communities about the risks and consequences of knife crime.

Knife crime can have a devastating impact on a community, a family and an individual - let's work together to stop it and protect lives.

Yours faithfully,

Gavin Williams

Assistant Chief Constable

The law when it comes to the carrying of knives

During national Op Sceptre knife crime awareness week, we want to clarify the law around carrying knives:

It is an offence to carry any sharp or bladed instrument in a public place, with the exception of a folding pocket knife, which has a blade that is 7.62 cm (3 inches) or less.

If the blade locks whatever the length of the knife it is illegal to carry it in a public place - without a lawful reason.

If there is no reason for you to have any sharp or bladed instrument on your person in a public place this could be considered an offensive weapon and you could still be breaking the law.

If you think you have a good reason to carry any sharp or bladed instrument, just because you think it is lawful it doesn't mean that it is and you may still be required to argue this in court. For example still carrying a knife you use for work, outside of working hours.

Lawful reasons could include:

For work or going to do DIY. But this is not always a good enough reason. You may be asked to prove that you are on your way to that place of work.

You have just purchased a new kitchen knife, or you are taking old ones to the recycling centre.

You may require a bladed article for hobbies including martial arts or scouting

We will always consider the context in which you are carrying a knife or bladed article. E.g. Carrying a work knife on you when you're down the pub | Carrying a small pen knife in a night club at 1am | Keeping a knife other than a folding pocket knife in your car, regardless of its purpose.

If you choose to carry a knife just because it is lawful statistics show that you are more likely to be injured or even killed.

This week we want to remind you about the consequences of knife crime and what you can do to tackle it. Steps that may seem small but could make a huge difference.

You may think these points don't apply to you and your family, and you are not breaking the law. We know that most people do not carry a knife with the intention of threatening or harming someone else. However if we are all going to tackle knife crime, we need you to think...

- Is it necessary for you to be carrying a knife or blade article?
- Check - are you breaking the law?
- If it is necessary and lawful, are you carrying it as safely as possible so it is not going to harm you or anyone else by accident?

This is an approach we all need to take.

By taking action and by talking about the subject we can raise awareness and educate our communities about the risks and consequences of knife crime.

Knife crime can have a devastating impact on a community, a family and an individual - let's work together to stop it and protect lives.

Crimes that have impacted the community

In February 2019 after committing multiple shoplifting offences, a local man was jailed for 5 weeks.

In addition, another local male was jailed for 4 weeks for multiple theft offences and one public order offences. The male was also jailed for 26 weeks for breaching a housing injunction order that the police had worked hard to get with joint partner agency work.

On the 01/04/2019, 13:14 a local male from Cherhill was arrested on a recall to prison.

On the 03/04/2019 21:40 A male Suspect of no fixed abode has been found in possession of a small amount of cannabis when arrested for unrelated matter. The male was given an adult caution for possession of cannabis.

On the 01/04/2019 04:30 an unknown suspect in Porte Marsh has used an unknown weapon to smash the rear window and the front passenger side quarter light window of the owners vehicle. A search of the rear of the vehicle has been conducted, however nothing appears to have been stolen.

No further lines of enquiry

On the 08/04/2019 00:33 A local Male in Studley has been issued a cannabis street warning possession of cannabis.

On the 09/04/2019, 18:15 a male was arrested for possession of drugs, this has been tested and was confirmed as heroin. The male has been charged and will be attending court.

On the 11/04/2019 19:10 an unknown suspect has entered store and stolen meat to the value £50. The suspect has now been identified and will be dealt with by the officer in the case.

On the 24/04/2019, 00:58 two known males reported for acting suspiciously in a vehicle, on Police attendance the males were found in possession of cannabis; both have issued a cannabis street warning.

On the 24/04/2019 15:55 Known suspect has taken two joints of beef from the store by placing them in his coat. Suspect was apprehended as he got outside the store - Goods were retrieved. The suspect will be interviewed about the offence.

Your Local PCSO's

Below area list of the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) that cover Calne and their specific area's of responsibility. If you need to make contact then you can use the email address,

northwiltshirecpt@wiltshire.police.uk

This is monitored by a number of officers who may be able to answer your query if your local PCSO isn't on duty.



PCSO Mark COOK



PCSO NICOLE SHEPPARD



PCSO Abbie OBORNE

Community Policing - We're here to help

It is widely known that police forces across the UK are facing unprecedented challenges, trying to do more with ever fewer resources.

As part of our On The Beat campaign we asked our Community Policing Teams what they would like to tell the public about policing in Wiltshire.

Unsurprisingly, many officers and staff wanted the public to be aware of the pressures they are under and the limited resources that are available.

However, they also wanted local people to be reassured, and to know that they care and that they will do their best for the community.

Here are some of the comments from officers and staff:

We will do all we can, in the best way we can, to help

We're here to help and we will strive to do everything we possibly can to support and protect you

Austerity has had an impact on policing but we have reshaped and still deliver a safe place to live

We are there to provide support and to try to keep our communities safe

We are here to help

We are professional and willing to do the right thing to protect you

It's not just 999 calls. We also engage with our communities and listen to and understand their concerns, we problem solve in partnership and target our work around the most vulnerable or those who pose the greatest threat

Inspector James Williams, who leads Wiltshire West CPT, said he was heartened by these comments and hoped the public would be reassured by these messages from the Force.

He said: "I think it's vital that we keep this positivity in mind.

"Everyone knows about the challenges facing policing and these challenges shouldn't be underestimated - our police officers and staff are incredibly busy, working long hours in often very difficult circumstance



The link below is for Community Messaging. The Community Coordinator for this area sends out a daily message, if there has been any crime that will benefit the community to be aware of. This includes thefts, scams and burglaries, the aim is to inform you of what is happening in your area, help you take any actions to avoid becoming a victim of crime and to alert you as a potential witness to any crime. Its easy to sign up and only messages, relevant to your area, are sent to your email inbox.

<https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

The email address for the Wiltshire North Community Policing team is
northwiltshirecpt@wiltshire.police.uk
Please phone 101, or 999 in an emergency to report any incidents or
crimes

We hope you find these updates useful, for the latest news, crime prevention advice and appeals please follow us on:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice/>

Or sign up to Community Messaging <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

This report has been prepared by PC 1952 Steve Carroll

Whilst the report below gives a summary of Key Impact Crimes in your area such as Burglaries, the interactive element will allow you to see the statistics of the reports for your area and your local Police contacts. The website address remains unchanged and the interactive map can be found by following the below link.

<http://www.wiltshire.police.uk/article/832/Your-Area>

Thank you for your continued support to Wiltshire Police

**This report has been prepared by
PC 1952 Steve Carroll**