

Devizes Community Area Board

25th January 2016



1. Neighbourhood Policing

Sergeant:	Vincent Logue
Town Centre:	PC Andy List PC Chris Mead PCSO Paula Yarranton PCSO Kelly Watts PCSO Melissa Camilleri PCSO Sue Greenway PCSO Sam Burnside
Rural:	PC Jo Newbery PCSO Fiona Marno PCSO Ellen Carter

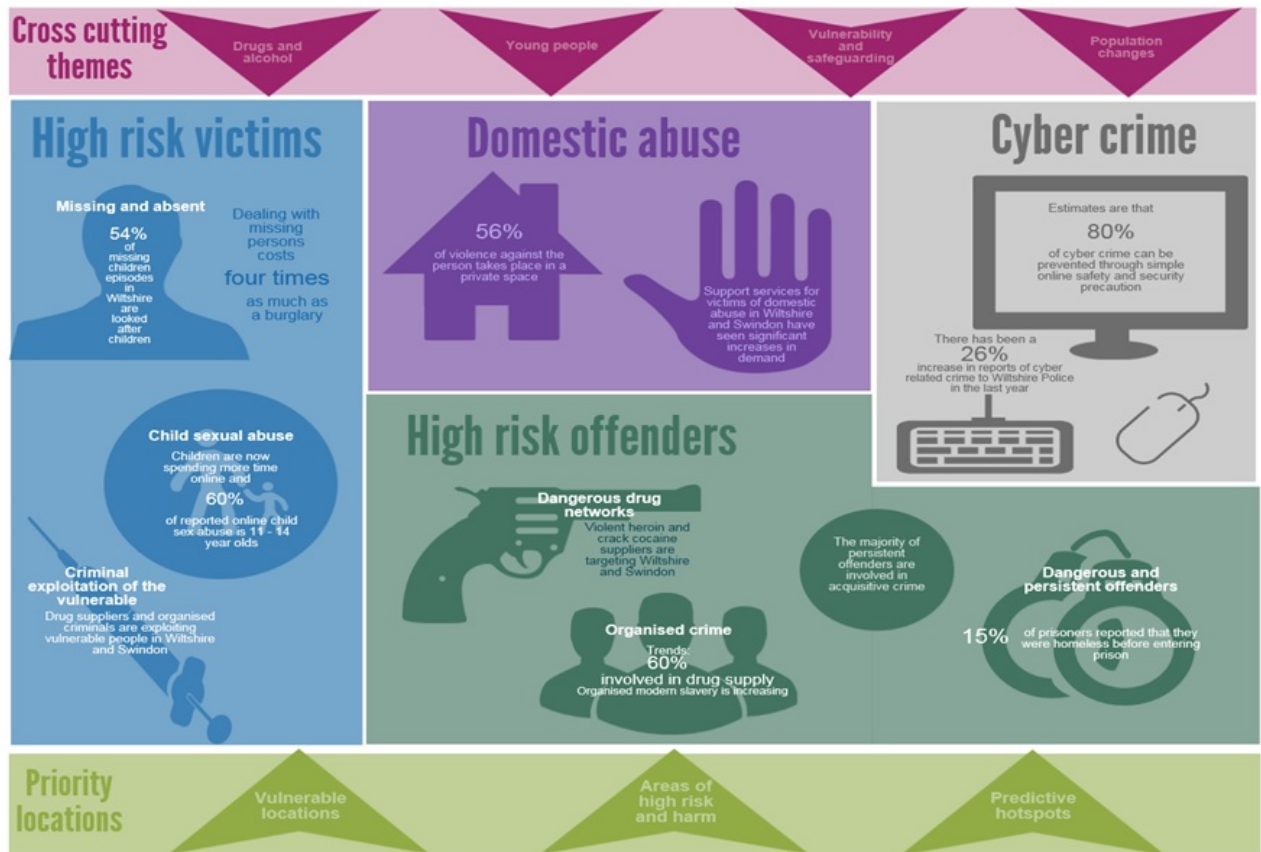
2. Local Issues and crime:

Shoplifting in Devizes Town Centre remains a priority. Whilst the number of offences has reduced in this period compared to last, there is still a significant volume of this type of crime. Shoplifting in Devizes is mostly due to a small number of repeat offenders committing a large proportion of the crime and the fact that the majority of these offenders were sentenced to imprisonment during this reporting period has led to the reduction in offences. Police continue to investigate these offences to identify and bring offenders to justice. Local Police are also working closely with retail outlets in the town to prevent offences where possible.

There is a certain level of Anti-Social Behaviour in Devizes Town Centre which can be associated with the persons most involved in shoplifting offences in the town. Police and Wiltshire Council ASB staff are working together to reduce the prevalence of this type of behaviour.

3. Wiltshire Police Control strategy

As was previously mentioned there has been a change to the structure of Police reports to focus on the Wiltshire Police Control Strategy which describes the current and emerging threats that are of greatest impact to Wiltshire's Communities.



Cybercrime

Cybercrime is a growing area of crime (Wiltshire Police has seen a 26% increase in reports of cyber related crime in the last year). Criminals are moving online and there is an increasing cyber element to many traditional crimes.

Devizes Neighbourhood Policing Team have been visiting local schools to deliver lessons on cyber-crime and bullying. The course is aimed at primary school aged children. Several lessons have been delivered across the area recently and there are further lessons planned.

Wiltshire Police have a dedicated Cybercrime Facebook page 'CyberBee WiseWilts' which aims to help people to avoid becoming victims of cybercrime. There are regular cyber safety messages and updates so this is well worth visiting, particularly as 80% of cybercrime can be prevented by following simple online security advice.

Domestic Abuse

Devizes NPT regularly has involvement in attending incidents of domestic abuse and through liaison with other departments within Wiltshire Police we are able to identify those people who are repeat victims so that safeguarding measures can be put in place.

High Risk Victims

Unfortunately, there have recently been a couple of offences in the town where older residents have been visited at their homes by persons who have then stolen money from them. In one of these offences, a man attended an elderly lady's address and informed her that some work needed doing on the pipes outside the address. He drove this lady to the bank where she withdrew a large amount of money which she then gave to him. No work was subsequently completed.

In a second incident, a man in his late eighties was visited at his home by two males offering to do some gardening work. Whilst the man was distracted, these men stole between £200 and £300 from the address.

NPT officers have been visiting the victims of these crimes and giving advice to elderly residents and the most vulnerable in our communities to help reduce the likelihood of their criminal exploitation.

The advice is not to let anyone into your address who you do not know and to report any suspicious incidents to the Police. Do not pay any money up front for any services offered. People are asked to keep an eye on older neighbours and to make a note of any descriptions of persons knocking door to door and also registration numbers of vehicles.

If you have any concerns about a vulnerable person, please contact Wiltshire Police.

High Risk Offenders

The NPT work closely with the Public Protection Department to identify persistent or dangerous offenders, to engage with them and to take positive action where required.

It is a fact that 60% of organised criminals are involved in drugs supply. On 14 January, two local young people were arrested by Devizes NPT officers on suspicion of possession of a class B drug with intent to supply it to others.

Just before Christmas, a local 48 year old man was charged with possession of a class B drug with intent to supply. He was also found in possession of a large amount of money which has also been seized. He is awaiting court for this and a number of other offences.

4. Other issues

The Christmas and New Year period passed relatively peacefully in the local area, with only sporadic pockets of anti-social behaviour and comparatively low levels of crime.

Finally, we are continuing to use Community Messaging and would like more residents and businesses to sign up to it:

www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk

Nick Mawson
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Devizes, Melksham, Pewsey & Marlborough