

Melksham Area Board Report

13th April 2016



1. Neighbourhood Policing

Sergeant:	Acting Sgt Kane Fulbrook-Smith
Town Centre:	PC Emily Thomas PCSO Rose Baldock PCSO Janet Gould
Rural North:	PC Barry Dalton PCSO Maggie Ledbury
Rural South:	PC Barry Dalton PCSO Helen Wilson

2. NPTs - Current Priorities & Consultation Opportunities:

To promote Cyber Crime awareness within our communities.

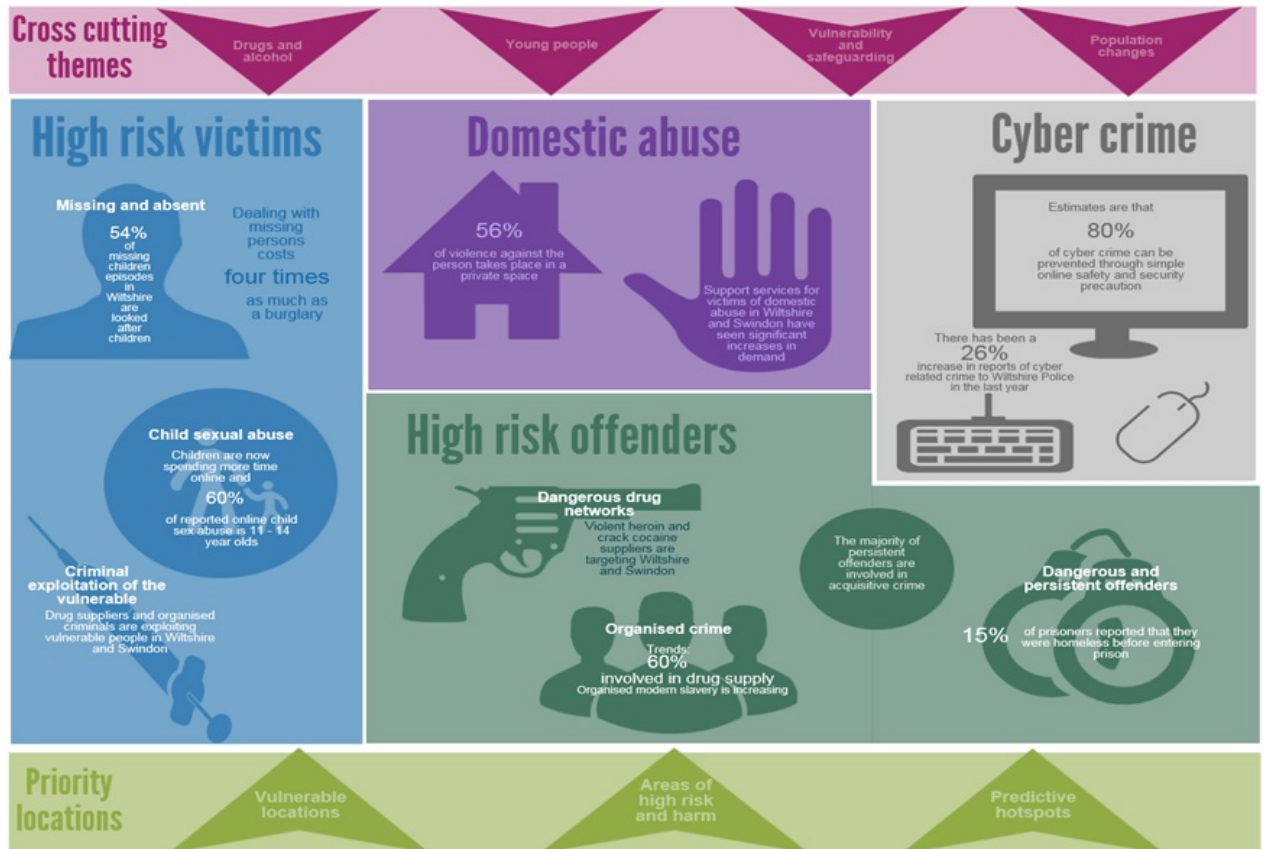
Cyber Crime is a complex issue and has been identified by the Government as a "National & Global Threat". It has been identified as a bigger global threat than drugs. Over 12 million people in the UK and 594 million people globally have experienced cybercrime in the past year. More than 70% of fraud is now committed online and is estimated that fraud and internet crime costs UK economy over £85 Billion and the global economic cost is £500 billion

With these figures in mind Cyber Crime still remains a priority for Melksham NPT and it is now well into phase two stages. 9th February was Safer Internet Day (Share a heart), some of the team took part in this by posing on the NPT Facebook page with key messages to the public about keeping safe on line. This was viewed by 1,220 local followers.

On 24th March Melksham Oak School and NPT finalised their Cyber Crime Music Video Rapp this needs to be vetted before its release onto Social Media. It is anticipated this will be published mid to end of April.

The Local Youth Network Group are also finalising their preparations to deliver Cyber Crime awareness sessions alongside the NPT to local elderly focus groups. Again this is anticipated to commence mid-April and through to the end of May. This will be led by Jack Oatley who is currently employed by Wiltshire Council as a Youth Works Apprentice in the Department of Operational Children's Services.

3. Wiltshire Police Control strategy



High Risk Victims

From 1st April Wiltshire Police will be adopting a New Missing and Absent data base. This tool has been used by Thames Valley and South Wales Police. The findings are that it is a more transparent and stable platform piece of software. It will enable the Organisation to manage the risk of any missing or absent individual more efficiently and provide better returns to the National Crime Agency. NPT have been liaising with local residential Care Homes engaging with staff and children to continue the rapport, raise awareness around the immediate harm and vulnerable situation sit that young people can find themselves in. Whilst building intelligence around Child Exploitation.

Child sexual abuse

There is currently no legal definition of cyberbullying within UK law however the following legislation Protection from Harassment Act 1997, Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, Malicious Communications Act 1988 and The Communications Act 2003 can be applied to enforce and deal with offenders.

Statistics show that children between the ages of 11-14 year olds will at some point in their development become victims or offenders of these offences knowingly or not. Dedicated Police Officers within Wiltshire Police target persistent predators whilst NPT and Wiltshire Police Youth Engagement Officers have been educating pupils at Melksham Oaks School. One of the most talked about areas is that of '**Sexting**'. Which is a common trend but also can have significant consequences not only to the sender but the receiver of such abusive messages and images?

The law is not designed to punish young people for making mistakes whilst experimenting with sexuality. However the law is aimed at those who choose to trade or profit from sexual images of children.

On 18th March it was the National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day where Police Forces around the Country were uniting showing a force of hands with slogans and messages written on their hands to raise awareness posted on Social Media.

Criminal exploitation of the vulnerable

NPT have been focusing on intelligence gathering around drug criminality and those victims who associate with individuals who are part of the Dangerous Drug Network. The key players in such organised gangs will home in on lone females or individuals who appear to have some form of Mental Health. Their vulnerability becomes exploited and they become mixed up with the criminal way of life. Melksham NPT have been successful with Warrant Applications through the Courts and these will be executed at the most appropriate time with a view of prosecutions on the end of them and being able to work with partner agencies to offer additional safeguarding measures.

Domestic Abuse

This offence generally takes place behind closed doors witnessed by young children who also become traumatised by the violence they have observed. On average nationally the police receive an emergency call relating to domestic abuse every 30 seconds. Wiltshire Police will make full use of the Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN) and Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) schemes in order to offer greater protection to victims of domestic abuse. DVPNs can give immediate protection to domestic abuse sufferers by banning perpetrators from entering, and being within a certain distance, of the victim's home. Refuges across the County are also vital in offering immediate protection and in the worst case scenarios relocation and change of identity.

High Risk Offenders

NPT have recently been involved in a number of Multi-Agency Public Protection Meetings discussing an individual who recently moved into Melksham. This raised concerns and as a result pushed back on the relevant Agency that the level of supervision in place wasn't sufficient to safeguard the community. After two weeks of daily engagement and targeted

policing this individual was re-located out of Melksham but more importantly additional public safety measures put in place.

Priority Locations

Since the introduction of the first Anti-Social Behaviour Injunction Order on a residential estate Melksham in February the situation has calmed so much that Melksham NPT have been able to remove the target patrols and focus on other areas. This includes a Local Business that has been a victim of Non Dwelling Burglary 5 times in less than 3mths. NPT have been putting in place tactical operations, building intelligence with profiling methods to identify offenders. With the help of the public and anonymous reporting through Crime Stoppers evidence is building gradually for positive action to be taken.

In addition to this Melksham has seen an increase of Eastern European's visiting our area targeting areas predominantly lived in by the elderly. The purpose of these visits is to sell photo copy paintings or pencil sketches between £5-£10 each. Some of the selling tactics can be demanding and pushy, the seller will try manipulating the buyer claiming they are homeless, sending money home to feed the family or they are in the Country to study and need money to pay their fees. This is not the case, there are Organised Crime Groups brought in from other Counties. Unless the seller has a 'Peddlers Certificate' for the Force area they are operating in then it is an offence. There have been 4 arrests in Melksham in the last two months and several others in the surrounding Towns.

Cross Cutting Themes

Semington No Entry Watch:

Since the introduction of the New No Entry Watch in January 2016 309 vehicles have responded positively on seeing the volunteers being proactive, and 68 advisory letters have been sent to the registered keepers.

There has been excellent press coverage in the Wiltshire Times and also the Melksham News. BBC Radio Wiltshire came out to the site conducting a live interview with Brian SMYTH one of the volunteers and Vice Chair of the Parish Council.

The scheme has been given permission for 2 of the volunteers to be vetted to the next level. They will attend a one day Police National Computer Course, this will enable them to carry out all of the administration work conducting vehicle checks and subsequently sending out advisory letters to the respective registered keepers. This will free up valuable NPT time to target and address other problematic areas.

Sports Relief 2016:

On March 17th Melksham NPT challenged Melksham Young People at the Canberra Youth Centre to a three hour sports challenge playing table tennis, pool and beat the goalie to raise funds for charity. 35 young people took part and showed their determination to beat the NPT yet again 43-39. In total £100 was raised for charity.

This was a Community Event as Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Auto line, Co-op, Dominos and Selwood Housing donated raffle Prizes and food and wouldn't have been possible without

their support. Every young person taking part received a certificate and everyone's efforts were hugely appreciated by a representative from Sports Relief Charity who had travelled up from London. They were in the South West visiting various venues in Bristol however, due to social media they came to Melksham and were very impressed by the whole evening's event and especially the community spirit. This event will be used as part of their Case Study and future Promotion for Sports Relief.

This is a prime example on how to building relations between the police and young people in our area as well as identifying those individuals who are so often tarnished with bad publicity through anti-social behaviour that they can actually put something back into the community.

Nick Mawson
Sector Inspector,
Devizes Melksham Pewsey Marlborough

