



**Crime and Community Safety Briefing Paper
Melksham Community Area Board
1st December 2010**

1. Neighbourhood Policing

Regular engagement and consultation is a key area of Neighbourhood Policing. Details of all consultations meetings can be found on the Wiltshire Police Website:

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

Team profile:

Team Supervisor

Sergeant Mel Rolph

Town Centre Team

Beat Manager – PC Kane Fulbrook-Smith

Patrol Officer – Sophie Dodd

PCSO – Debbie Huntley

PCSO – Helen Wilson

PCSO – Christopher Pugh

Rural North Team

Beat Manager – PC Barry Dalton

PCSO – Janet Gould

PCSO - Maggie Ledbury

Rural South Team

Beat Manager – PC Emily Thomas

PCSO Rose Baldock

Team News:

There have been no changes to the Team since the last Area Board.

Current Priorities:

Up-to-date details of the current news about Neighbourhood Policing Teams, including, profiles, priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on our Wiltshire Police Website, which has had a new make-over to make it more assessable for users.

☐ Visit the new and improved website at: www.wiltshire.police.uk

Police Authority Representative:

Mr Angus Macpherson

Mr Macpherson can be contacted via Wiltshire Police Authority:

☎ 01380 734022

🌐 <http://www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk/feedback.asp>

2. Comprehensive Spending Review

Police funding from Central Government throughout the UK is being reduced in line with spending cuts across the whole Public Sector. At the time of writing only the national headline reduction figure of 20% for the next 4-years is known. More details for each individual police force will become clear in the near future. The Chief Constable has agreed with the Wiltshire Police Authority that the public will be consulted on any changes to the current policing model. Maintaining front-line policing is a key priority. Mr Angus MacPherson from the Police Authority will be giving a presentation at the next Area Board on 2nd February, which will include an opportunity for public questions. Details of when and where other consultation events will take place in the Community Area will be published in due course.

3. Touch2id

Following the successful bid to the Area Board by the Community Area Partnership the touch2id project launched last year in Trowbridge will be rolled-out in 6 locations in Melksham town centre. Enrolment sessions are being planned to be held in the Library. Touch2id is a 21st century solution to provide an age verification scheme to tackle the sales of alcohol to underage persons. On 1st October an amendment to the Licensing Act has

introduced a mandatory requirement for licensees to implement procedures to check the ages of customers before supplying them with alcohol. The roll-out to Melksham will form part of an evaluation that is planned for Easter to determine whether the Project will be extended countywide. Further details of the product can be found on the website www.touch2id.co.uk



Recommendation:

Giles Sergeant, MD touch2id, is invited to future Area Board to provide a project briefing.

4. Seasonable Crime Prevention Advice

Seasonally there is often an increase in dwelling burglaries leading-up to Christmas when opportunist thieves target homes to steal presents and alcohol.

Prevention is always better than cure! The **'Lock it or Lose it'** campaign offers good practical advice. The main common factor identified during the spate of burglaries earlier this year was the householder leaving their premises insecure, often not locking doors and windows overnight. Simple prevention measures can make a huge difference. The community can help by following these simple steps:

- Report any suspicious activity to police as soon as possible.
- Always close and lock all windows and doors when you are not in the room, especially when leaving the house or in the garden. Double-check that doors and windows are locked at night before you go to bed.
- Avoid leaving valuable Christmas presents under your tree until the last minute, particularly when they can be seen through a window.

Please do all that you can to stop thieves targeting your homes and potentially ruining your celebrations.

'Lock it or Lose it' leaflets can be obtained from your local NPT officer who, if required, can also arrange to visit your home to offer specific security advice.

5. Performance

The reported overall crime figures continue to show that offences in the Community Area are falling. The **14.4%** reduction is the second best across the county. The number of detections also puts

Melksham in 3rd place. The trend in dwelling burglaries continues to decrease following the successful prosecutions earlier this year. Full details can be found below in **Table 1**.

**Table 1 – Reported Crime Figures Melksham Community Area
1st Nov 2008 – 31st Oct 2010**

MELKSHAM	CRIME				DETECTIONS	
	2008/09	2009/10	+ / -	% Change	2008/09	2009/10
Violence Against the Person	301	256	-45	-15.0%	50.8%	50.0%
Dwelling Burglary	81	89	8	9.9%	8.6%	53.9%
Criminal Damage	331	236	-95	-28.7%	21.8%	19.9%
Non Dwelling Burglary	116	83	-33	-28.4%	6.0%	9.6%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	89	84	-5	-5.6%	6.7%	1.2%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	26	26	0	0.0%	50.0%	7.7%
Total Crime	1406	1203	-203	-14.4%	27.9%	29.4%

It is now possible to compare year on year quarterly ASB figures. For the 1st quartile (April – June) there was a **16% reduction**. For the 2nd quartile (July – September) there was a **19% increase**.

NPT officers are still concentrating on reducing ASB in and around King George V Park. A key part of this work is to engage with young people to encourage them to join activities run by the Youth Development Service. The Bluz 'n' Zuz initiative continues to be well supported. Seasonable variations will likely lead to a decreasing trend until next April. Key to longer term sustainable reductions will be the early identification of future trends combined with the ability to react quickly with partners to intervene and find solutions.

**Table 2 – Reported Anti-Social Behaviour Figures
1st Oct 2009 – 30th September 2010**

OCT-DEC 2009	JAN-MAR 2010	APR-JUNE 2010 (2009)	JULY-SEPT 2010 (2009)	MONTHLY AVE (09/10)
259	238	308 (368)	368 (308)	293.3



David W Cullop
Sector Inspector

22/11/10