

## Devizes Area Board Police Report

September 2017

### 1. East Community Policing Team

**Sector Head:**  
Inspector Nick Mawson



**Sector Deputy:**



Sergeant James Williams

**Community Coordinator:**  
PC Teresa Herbert



**Devizes PCSO's:**  
PCSO Melissa Camilleri



PCSO Paula Yarranton



PCSO Kelly Watts





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## **Community Policing Team Current Priorities, Devizes Area**

### **Anti-social behaviour Devizes.**

Ninety targeted patrols have been completed to date in relation to The Green at The Crammer, Green Lane and Hillworth Road park by members of the Policing team since this priority was created on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017. This has been in relation to complaints regarding rowdy behaviour, alcohol and controlled drug usage and youths causing disturbance in their vehicles.

The central area of the town is subject of a Designated Public Place Order in which the Police may require persons not to consume intoxicating liquor and to surrender any open containers which Police may dispose of. This legislation within the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 assists in reducing incidents of disorder associated with alcohol consumption.

As previously reported a Dispersal Order was established in relation to anti-social behaviour by a group of known nominals congregating at St John the Baptist churchyard, on Long street, at the end of June 2017. Police and partner agencies have been and continue to work closely together to deal with those engaging in this activity that include rough sleepers and individuals with complex needs.

Local officers of the Devizes Policing Team have also been conducting patrols of Forty Acres road where they have been engaging with young persons at the play park and discussions have included how certain behaviours and activity cause alarm and distress to others. During a recent visit on 1<sup>st</sup> August one local officer assisted the youths in clearing all the litter on site.

### **Dwelling and Non-Dwelling Burglaries**

We have investigated fourteen incidents of burglary in the Devizes area since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. Positive outcomes have resulted from a number of burglaries to the Marlborough area which are possibly linked.

A nominal has admitted responsibility for two dwelling burglaries at Ogbourne St George, (1<sup>st</sup> May 2017). This individual is also being dealt with for a number of other burglaries in the Swindon area.

Following a forced entry via a rear door to a dwelling in Marlborough, daytime on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017, two suspects have been identified. Enquiries are continuing.

A resident of Ramsbury has been charged and convicted of four burglaries and driving offences in the areas of Ramsbury, Baydon and Mildenhall. Luke PATTERSON has been given a 26-week prison sentence suspended for 24 months. He must also complete a drug rehabilitation course and pay compensation of £1,179. His driving licence was also endorsed with six penalty points.

We are currently seeking the owners to a quantity of recovered property which we believe to be stolen, including high-value cycles, power tools, and fishing equipment, seized during the arrest of two persons on suspicion of burglaries. A Wiltshire Police press release of Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017 includes a number of photographs of these items. Their identification will assist with our enquiries.

Our enquiries into burglaries within East Wiltshire have identified offenders, who include those not local to Wiltshire. Some are involved with organised crime groups who have travelled to the area to commit these offences. Those target hardening measures implemented within our partnership working - including the



CCTV facilities both within our towns and villages, policing operations, intelligence development and community engagement - have enabled positive progress on a number of offences under investigation and have disrupted and deterred other incidents from taking place. Thank you for your community efforts around this.

### **Summer Burglary Campaign**

The campaign which ran between 17 - 23 July aimed to educate residents about simple precautions they can take to protect their home and garden from being targeted by burglars.

To improve the security in and around your home we asked householders to remember the following advice:

- **Lock your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even if you're in the garden, and make sure you have approved locks or bolts on all doors and windows**
- **Never leave a spare key in a hiding place like in a plant pot or letterbox - a thief knows all the hiding places**
- **Keep all keys, purses and wallets out of sight and away from the letterbox**
- **Consider installing a burglar alarm, and only use a company that is registered or certified with the NSI or the SSIAB**
- **Do not open the door to anyone you don't know or are not expecting. Always check by using a spy-hole or look through a window**
- **Make sure that you have up to date contents insurance**
- **Register all serial numbers from electrical items, tools and garden equipment with Immobilise.com the free national property register. Mark items without serial numbers with an artificial DNA property marker such as Smartwater or SelectaDNA**
- **Do not keep large amounts of cash at home - it is much safer in a bank or building society**
- **Trim back any plants and hedges at the front of your property to no higher than 1 metre to remove hiding places**
- **Always report any suspicious activity, note any vehicle registrations, descriptions of persons involved and direction of travel**
- **Use a timer to set lights to mimic your usual activity when you are not at home**
- **Take photographs of all jewellery including hallmarks and keep them safe. Also consider using an artificial DNA property marker on jewellery or other valuable items**
- **Make sure any bolts are low enough so they cannot be opened by reaching over the top of the gate**

T/Detective Superintendent Deb Smith, Head of Crime, said: "Burglary can have a devastating effect on how people feel in their own homes.

"During the summer months when the weather is nice, people can be more inclined to leave their property insecure, but this leaves them open to being targeted by burglars.

"Throughout the campaign we want to raise awareness of the simple precautions people can take to improve the security in and around their home, as well as the impact burglary can have on the victims.



“We urge all residents to follow our prevention messages and to work with us by reporting anything suspicious on 101.”

Police and Crime Commissioner Angus Macpherson, said: “Preventing crime is one of the key priorities in my 2017-2021 Police and Crime Plan.

“Wiltshire continues to be a safe place to live, but it is important that all of us remain vigilant and take steps to prevent becoming a victim of crime.

“The Force has drawn up a comprehensive plan to tackle burglary and I welcome this summer campaign.

“As householders we can all play a big part in protecting our property and possessions with a few simple steps.”

If you have any information about offenders or see something suspicious, please call Wiltshire Police on 101, or call Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555111. In an emergency dial 999.

### Theft from Motor Vehicles

A total of twelve thefts from motor vehicles have occurred within the Devizes area since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. Incident locations include Market Lavington, West Lavington, Roundway, Eastcourt Street, Hopton Industrial Estate. Property stolen includes several thefts of diesel and tools from works vehicles and index plates from vehicles.

We have just received delivery of the Area Board-funded signage and have plans in place for their fitting at relevant locations, at height, to avoid their removal by those who engage in this activity. Victims to this type of crime include tourists visiting our beauty spots; such signage and information will help to reduce their risk of being victim to crime.

We continue to target police patrols to those areas and release information via press, community messaging and social media with such alerts. Intelligence work is ongoing in relation to those nominals active in this area of criminality and policing operations continue. Thank you for enabling the signage acquisition.

Two brothers from the south Wiltshire area have recently been convicted of a number of these type of offences, committed within Wiltshire and Dorset:

**Edward and Lenny Wells stole handbags, wallets, purses, sat-navs, mobile phones and other items worth up to £20,000 over three months from November 2016. Both men were on licence from prison for similar offences at the time.**

**Jailing them for 44 months each for conspiracy to steal from motor vehicles, Judge Susan Evans QC said: "When you target handbags and wallets people lose items of substantial value which leads to high level of**

**Both men pleaded guilty and accepted responsibility for most, but not all of the 104 offences.**

**The court heard they targeted isolated, rural car parks, breaking into vehicles and taking items including 44 handbags and 13 purses and wallets.**

**On other occasions cash, jewellery, and even dog food was stolen.**

**Evidence linking the pair to the crimes included their mobile phones activating the nearest mast at the time of the offences.**

**New Priority: Hare coursing and Poaching, All Areas of East Wiltshire.**

This policing priority was created on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017 to allow for the policing team to focus on those areas where this illegal activity occurs. Incidents of daytime trespass in pursuit of game and poaching activity increases at this time of year, following harvest.

Rural crime operations will be utilised in our efforts to target those who travel to Wiltshire to engage in this activity which is most impactful upon our rural communities.

**Other crimes under investigation.**

There has been small series of criminal damage in the Rotherstone and Estcourt Street area of Devizes. Damage to windscreens, wing mirrors and bonnets and roof panels of four vehicles have occurred during the late evening, following the carnival. Otherwise the Carnival passed off successfully and without incident.

Recent reports have been made concerning the use again of Lawtons Yard following the clearance of Dyehouse Woods.

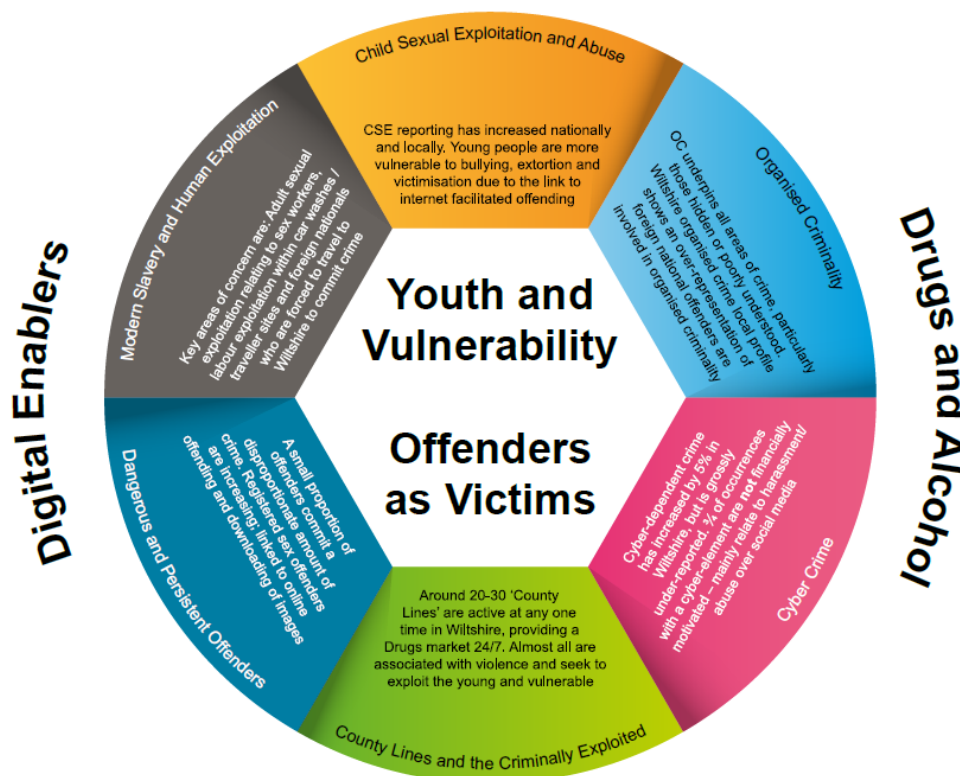
A male has been arrested on suspicion of providing a positive specimen of breath after a road traffic collision resulting in damage to several vehicles on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017, on Rotherstone Way, Devizes.

Two males have been arrested and are currently under investigation following their involvement in theft of goods from Boots store within the town.

A known nominal has been arrested following her assault upon her partner and a further assault of a Police Officer, following her arrest. Treated at The Royal United Hospital following her subsequent collapse after a suspected drugs overdose.

**Wiltshire Police Control Strategy**

Below is our Control Strategy for your reference. This focuses on how we conduct our operational policing based on the Police and Crime Plan. We will continue to align our resources with the threat/harm/risks presented in line with the control strategy.





## **Cyber Crime**

Our Cyber Crime Prevention Officer is working closely with our partners within the region. Recent analysis shows Computer Software Service Fraud account for more than two thirds of offences within Wiltshire, with Computer Virus, Hacking and Mandate Fraud accounting for much of the remaining.

Many of the cyber scams which succeed occur following an individuals response to act quickly to an instruction or use distraction techniques so that less concentration occurs on the task in hand.

Please see the enclosed Get Safe Online. For distribution.

## **Dangerous and Persistent Offenders**

Our Policing Team continue to focus upon persistent offenders, which include those using controlled drugs. Several recent stop searches of individuals were conducted in Pans Lane, Drews Pond Lane, Monday Market Street and London Road resulting in the issue of two cannabis street warnings.

Work is continuing with our SWITCH nominals, (those who are identified as persistent and prolific offenders), including intelligence gathering and relevant actions following dissemination.

We continue to work closely with our partner agencies regarding supporting those within this group and their vulnerabilities.

## **Modern Slavery and Human Exploitation**

Earlier this year our Public Protection Team established a Wiltshire Adult Sexual Exploitation Panel to allow for regular meetings of officers from each policing team and our partners, to share information and implement interventions to reduce risk of those vulnerable individuals identified as being at risk of of sexual exploitation.

## **County Lines and the Criminally Exploited**

Patrol strategies are utilised for those individuals and premises identified as being at risk from organised criminality.

## **Organised Criminality**

Operation Sirius is a dedicated team investigating Asian Gold burglaries, one of which recently occurred within this area. Our local officers have also been engaging with businesses in the town requesting they report anything or anyone acting suspiciously in their neighbourhood, unknown or unexpected doorstep traders, unusual vehicles, many offenders use high performance vehicles. Please be mindful if you see such a vehicle driving around your area. We work closely with forces nationally, sharing information, helping to tackle this criminality which occurs throughout the country.

**Nick Mawson**  
Sector Inspector,  
Wiltshire East CPT