

Devizes Area Board Report

November 2017

1. East Community Policing Team

Sector Head: TBC

Sector Deputy:



Sergeant James Williams

Community Coordinator:
PC Teresa Herbert



Devizes PCSO's:
PCSO Melissa Camilleri



PCSO Paula Yarranton



PCSO Kelly Watts





Operation Drive Insured.

A week long policing operation was conducted between 16th to 22nd October in relation to Operation Drive Insured; co-ordinated through the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB) and the National Road Policing Intelligence Forum (NRPIF), a national campaign that aims to clamp down on uninsured drivers who continue to try to evade detection.

Statistics from the MIB show that around 1 in 100 vehicles are driven without insurance - a sum that equates to more than 6000 vehicles registered across the county.

Sergeant Simon Drewett, Head of the Road Safety Unit at Wiltshire Police said: "Although most drivers will comply with the law, a small minority continue to drive without regard for others. This comes at both a financial cost (and one which we all carry in our premiums) as well as also a potentially physical one should the uninsured become involved in an accident.

"There is a strong correlation between uninsured drivers and those that are also content to put others at risk through drink driving, careless driving or using a vehicle in an un-roadworthy condition.

"Wiltshire Police are always on the look-out for uninsured drivers, but during this week-long campaign we will be conducting targeted operations to catch those who put our communities at risk".

In 2016, Wiltshire Police seized almost 1000 vehicles as a consequence of being driven either without insurance or other than in accordance with a licence. Already this year, over 850 have been seized for the same reasons, thereby likely continuing the 30% year on year increase seen since 2015. Over 50% of seized vehicles are crushed as a consequence.

Sergeant Drewett added: "Our message is very clear; if you continue to drive uninsured then we will catch you and your vehicle will be removed from the roads".

The Motor Insurance Database (MID) is the central record of all insured vehicles in the UK. Managed by the MIB, the MID is used by the police and the DVLA to enforce motor insurance law; ensuring that vehicles driven on our roads are insured at all times.

To check if your vehicle has a valid insurance policy recorded on the MID, please visit askMID.com, or if you need to check that someone else's vehicle is insured in the event of an accident, please visit www.askmid.com/askmidenquiry.

We had 27 seizures for the county for the week. Incidentally, one officer alone, within the East Policing Team has seized seventy eight vehicles for no insurance and a further twelve, using Police Powers in relation to criminal activity, since October 2016.

Current Priorities.

Devizes Town.

This Policing Team priority was commenced on 12th October 2017 and concerns criminality, anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol abuse by known nominals whose behaviour is detrimentally impactive upon the town community. Evidence gathering is currently underway in relation to relevant disposals including the use of Community Protection Warnings, Notices and Criminal Behaviour Order applications. Legislation in accordance with the new Public Spaces Protection Order for the town now applies.

However, more partnership working is required to address these issues, please report sightings of anti-social behaviour and offending, to assist the East community policing team with this priority.

Dwelling and Non-Dwelling Burglaries

Within the Devizes area seven incidents of burglary have occurred during October five of these concern dwellings;

At 0330/19/10/17 entry to a house on Forty Acres road made via an insecure rear door, suspect disturbed by occupant, nothing stolen.

Daytime between 1300 - 1645/21/10/2017 forced entry has been made to a property in Rendells Court, nothing stolen.

Forced entry to three properties, believed to be a linked series have occurred in Matilda Way, Elizabeth Drive and Dowse road, Devizes on 26/10/2017, daytime. Property stolen includes jewellery and watches.

Enquiries are ongoing in relation to the above and also to establish if linked with similar others in Melksham and the Swindon area.

Theft from Motor Vehicles

We have experienced seventeen incidents of thefts from vehicles in the East CPT areas of Devizes, Marlborough and Pewsey during October.

Devizes reports include power tools from a works vehicle on a byway near Market Lavington, sunglasses from a car wash in Devizes, two daytime thefts from vehicles in Erlestoke and theft of money from an insecure vehicle in Anzio road, Devizes.

Of the Pewsey villages locations include two incidents overnight in Goddard road, the Pewsey Vale, diesel and batteries overnight from Great Bedwyn and a mid-afternoon incident theft of a handbag from a vehicle at Martinsell car park.

Marlborough areas of Silbury Hill car park, two incidents of fuel theft from a business premises in the Ogbourne St George area, A4 at West Kennett, fuel theft from a vehicle parked, overnight on George lane and a mobile phone stolen from a vehicle during a visit to a service station.

We have commenced the fitting of Area Board funded signage at relevant beauty spot locations; to warn motorists of the risks at beauty spot locations.

Hare Coursing and Poaching.

Increasing activity and reports to Police regarding hare coursing within East Wiltshire has occurred since in recent months and a total of twenty nine storm logs refer to events in our area during October 2017. Locations include the Upavon area, Wilton, Stanton St Bernard, Manningford Bohune and All Cannings.

Improved partnership working has resulted via the use of two Whatsapp groups established with the farming community for these areas. This has assisted with immediate responses by officers on the team to alerts of suspicious and coursing activity. We have requested permissions for Whatsapp downloads to our works mobile phones for all officer access.

Two males from Somerset were arrested and subsequently charged with offences concerning The Prevention of Poaching Act 1862, following an incident on 7th October 2017. Officers from the East Community Policing Team were alerted by members of the public reporting suspicious activity by the occupants to a vehicle, located during an area search.



Two suspects to daytime trespass in pursuit of game are under investigation regarding offences identified in the Pewsey Vale area.

Other crimes under investigation.

Local Crimes

Proactive policing within the town by the team resulted in the arrests of two males during the evening of 3rd October 2017, for suspected drug offences. The first concerned the offence of possession with intent to supply, following the stop search of a known nominal who was found to be in possession of a large amount of cash and controlled drugs. A second incident identified a known nominal found to be in possession of class A drugs following his stop and search.

Incidents of theft of alcohol from the town's stores are currently under investigation by members of the East Community Policing Team. Such investigations are aided by the evidence gained from the Town's CCTV cameras and the ongoing development of such by Noel and the Town Council Team. Thank you.

Devizes Rural - East villages.

03/10/2017 - Horton - Non-dwelling burglary from a shed.
05/10/2017 - Horton - Damage caused to fields/crops by Hare Coursers.
07/10/2017 - All Cannings - Two males arrested on suspicion of Poaching.
19/10/2017 - The Street, All Cannings - Hare Coursing.
20/10/2017 - Horton - Poaching/Hare Coursing.
23/10/2017 - Bishops Cannings - Hare Coursing
26/10/2017 - All Cannings - Hare Coursing

A woman has been issued with a police caution after admitting to livestock worrying in the Rowde area on 19 September 2017. The woman's two dogs, who were not on a lead, were out of control in a private field used to graze livestock and attacked two ewes. The dogs chased the ewes, which were a rare breed of Oxford Down Sheep, causing one sheep to sustain a leg injury and a second to jump into a barbed wire fence in an effort to escape one of the dogs who had locked onto it.

The woman was spoken to by the land owner prior to the incident and asked repeatedly to recall her dogs which she failed to do. The dog owner made no attempt to recall or regain control of the dogs while the incident unfolded.

The landowner did not request compensation as the animal's injuries were managed on site by their experienced Shepherd and the ewes have made a good recovery since the attack.

Rural Crime Officer PC Marc Jackson said: "Dog owners need to be responsible when out walking in the Wiltshire countryside. Stick to the signposted public footpaths and byways and if you see livestock keep your dog on a lead and under control. Livestock worrying is a criminal offence and can be very distressing for the farmers and small holders who have to deal with the financial and emotional aftermath of a dog attack."

Operation Aztec

A national Firearms Surrender is due to occur this month, known as Operation Aztec. Members of the public are invited to surrender firearms to the below six nominated police stations or by arranging for their collection in some cases. The nominated stations are:

Melksham
Trowbridge
Bourne Hill
Marlborough

Monkton Park
Gablecross

Please see the enclosed poster for further details.

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.



Dangerous and Persistent Offenders

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 currently have three nominals within the East Policing Area classified as such and we work closely with our SWITCH team members and partner agencies to manage these offenders.

Modern Slavery and Human Exploitation

Wiltshire Police and PCC response to HMICFRS Modern Slavery report 24 October

Detective Superintendent Craig Holden said: "Today's report serves as an important reminder that police forces must take a robust approach to modern slavery and human trafficking - this is a complex area of modern day policing and it can be demanding on resources, but that should never deter us from ensuring we are doing everything we can to protect victims.



“Tackling modern slavery in our communities is something that we place a lot of emphasis on. Fundamentally, it is about protecting the most vulnerable in society and we’ve made it one of our top priorities where we will be focusing our resources.

“A steady flow of information from the public is vital in the fight against Modern Slavery and we are making positive strides in this area too. We are raising awareness of this issue both internally with officers and staff and externally, within our communities. They are the eyes and ears that provide the local intelligence needed to help us continue to target businesses and individuals that traffic and exploit vulnerable people.

“Combining our day-to-day frontline resources with specialists is also a critical component of our approach. Our dedicated Human Exploitation and Emerging Threats (HEET) team is central to us tackling this type of crime. They gather and analyse information to help us better understand where the specific threats exist in our communities. They then use that to set in motion operations (both locally and with our partners in the Regional Organised Crime Unit) that disrupt and dismantle criminal exploitation of vulnerable people.

“Over the course of the last year, we have carried out operations in a number of areas all related to modern slavery and human trafficking. These have included tackling and closing down ‘pop up’ brothels in Swindon and identifying labour exploitation in nail bars and car washes across the county. Modern slavery is complex and manifests itself in a number of ways. We will continue to focus our activity on the issues that have the greatest impact on our communities.

“Let me be clear, we will not tolerate any form of exploitation and we want victims to feel confident in reporting to us, safe in the knowledge that we will support them alongside our partners.

“Of course, modern slavery is not just an issue for the police. There are so many other areas that it impacts, from public health to housing to child protection. We work closely with our partners as part of the Swindon and Wiltshire Anti-Slavery Partnership (which is chaired by Wiltshire Police) to ensure that collectively we are working together to tackle these issues and put plans in place to provide support to victims.

“The welfare of victims is paramount and should always remain our priority. Modern slavery and human trafficking are abhorrent crimes and community based intelligence is crucial in investigations of this nature. Working together we can put a stop to the exploitation of the vulnerable. Call 101, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 where information can be left anonymously. You can also contact the Modern Slavery helpline confidentially at any time, day or night on 08000 121 700”.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon Angus Macpherson said: “Protecting the most vulnerable in society is one of the four priorities of my Police and Crime Plan and I welcome this report from HMICFRS into what is a serious, complex and challenging issue for police forces and partners across the country.

“Modern Slavery is not just a ‘big city issue’. Wiltshire is a safe place to live but that doesn’t mean it is immune to issues like modern slavery.

“The Chief Constable and his team must continue to ‘lift the stone’ on this toxic crime in our communities. I want to see offenders brought to justice wherever possible though close cooperation with our partners.”

County Lines and the Criminally Exploited

Four people have been sentenced for their roles in a crack cocaine and heroin supply conspiracy which saw drugs trafficked from Bristol into Wiltshire towns.

Tumaini Matsimela, age 34, of Wilson Street, Bristol was sentenced to 7-and-a-half years imprisonment.

Melody Collins, aged 28, of High Street, Pewsey was sentenced to 3-and-a-half years imprisonment.

Franco Cosentino, 37, of Cranesbill Road, Melksham, was sentenced to 20 months imprisonment suspended for two years, 20 days rehabilitation, 200 hours unpaid work and six month drug dependency rehabilitation.

Jack Hedges, age 23, of Pockeridge Road, Corsham, was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment, suspended for 2 years, 30 days rehabilitation and forfeiture of £420.

The investigation by the Dedicated Crime Team began in November 2014 when officers stop checked Matsimela at Chippenham train station. He fought with officers and threw a quantity of Class A drugs into a



bush, with a further quantity being found inside his pockets. He was arrested and bailed whilst the investigation continued.

He was again stopped in Chippenham in May 2015 when he was suspected to have been selling drugs. No drugs were found on this occasion, however, a large quantity of cash was located along with a mobile phone which officers suspected contained evidence of his drug dealing.

The investigation continued and led to officers visiting the St Paul's area of Bristol on 2 February 2016. A short time later they located Cosentino and Hedges sat waiting in Cosentino's car. Matsimela was sighted walking towards the vehicle and was detained a short distance away. He fought violently and threw a mobile phone and a quantity of Class A drugs. Mobile phone evidence showed that these drugs were intended to be supplied to Cosentino and Hedges and also implicated Collins in controlling the enterprise for the purposes of supplying crack and heroin onto the streets of Wiltshire.

When officers searched Matsimela's home address they located his brother Abiola inside with over £2,000 worth of cannabis and £1,100 in cash. He was sentenced at an earlier hearing for possession with intent to supply class B drugs.

Matsimela, Collins, Hedges and Cosentino were all charged with conspiracy to supply crack cocaine and heroin between 26 December 2015 and 3 February 2016. They all pleaded guilty.

PC Luke Barnett, of the Dedicated Crime Team at Melksham, said "I am very happy with the sentences passed in this case.

"Matsimela had been active in Wiltshire for some time, supplying hard drugs onto the streets of our towns and was well versed in police tactics. It required a lengthy investigation to successfully convict him of these offences and I am pleased that we were able to also successfully convict other significant members of his supply network.

"County Lines drug networks, who supply drugs from large cities such as Bristol into Wiltshire, pose a significant risk to our communities and we are determined to bring the offenders to justice."

If you suspect county lines drug activity in your community, please report it on 101, all information is treated with the utmost discretion.

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A/Insp James WILLIAMS,
Wiltshire East CPT