



SOUTH WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM – JANUARY 2018

This report will focus on two aspects that remain our priority: The supply of Class A drugs in the South of the County and Community Engagement in the South.

County Lines Drug Networks

An investigation into the supply of Class A drugs into the South Wiltshire Area started over a year ago and culminated in two days of action in July where 25 arrests were made. Where this investigation differed from previous investigations was on two points:

1. It identified the tactics of County Lines Drug Networks, where dealers from larger urban areas travel to smaller towns to deal and exploit.
2. It focused on the need to protect a vulnerable sector of our society from the practice of Cuckooing.

In December, 22 offenders were sentenced following guilty pleas in Winchester Crown Court with a further local man held on remand whilst awaiting trial.

- Christian Quadjovie, age 18, Greenwich, sentenced to two-and-a-half years imprisonment
- Tomisin Ifelowa, age 19, Greenwich, sentenced to two-and-a-half years imprisonment
- Shavase Lemar-Taylor, age 27, Croydon, sentenced to 15 months imprisonment suspended for 12 months
- Pellumb Buci, age 18, of Villas Road, London, sentenced to three years imprisonment
- Jennifer Cooper, age 34, of no fixed abode, Bulford, sentenced to two years imprisonment suspended for two years
- Ollie Piper, age 25, of Barnard Street, Salisbury, sentenced to two years imprisonment suspended for two years
- Joshua Jackson, age 18, London, sentenced to 15 months imprisonment
- Brendan Cooper, age 39, of no fixed abode, Salisbury, sentenced to three years and four months imprisonment and subject to a five year criminal behaviour order
- Justin Ling, aged 46, of Barnard Street, Salisbury, sentenced to two years imprisonment suspended for two years
- Wayne Dix, aged 37, of Barnard Street, Salisbury, sentenced to 12 months imprisonment suspended for 12 months
- Dean Cochrane, 36, of Rollestone Street, Salisbury, sentenced to two-and-a-half years imprisonment
- Timmy Thomas, aged 51, of Bishopdown Road, Salisbury, sentenced to 12 months suspended for 12 months
- Tracey Robertson, aged 41, of Cherry Close, Salisbury, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment suspended for two years
- Daniel Domanski, aged 30, of Carmelite Way, Salisbury, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment suspended for two years
- Helen Hughes, aged 41, of Elm Grove Road, Salisbury, sentenced to two years imprisonment suspended for two years
- Mark Ledsome aged 43, of Southampton Road, Salisbury, sentenced to three years and four months imprisonment
- Stephen Maidment, aged 52, of Lovatt Green, Salisbury, fined £120
- Jacqui Crotty, aged 41, of Netherhampton Road, Salisbury, sentenced to 12 months suspended for 12 months



- Maxi Andrews, aged 23, Nottingham, pleaded guilty to conspiring to supply class A drugs (heroin) and was sentenced to 40 months imprisonment
- Darren Davis, aged 22, Nottingham, pleaded guilty to conspiring to supply class A drugs (heroin and crack cocaine) and was sentenced to four years imprisonment
- Jason Dowding, aged 29, Nottingham, pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin) and was sentenced to 24 months suspended for two years
- Michael Hughes, aged 31, of Odstock Road, Salisbury, pleaded guilty to supply class A drugs (heroin) and was jailed for 40 months.

So what has been the impact of this operation?

Part of the operation was to address the issues of Vulnerability. Addiction causes so many problems to the individual and their community, draining resources across the wider public sector. The work of Turning Point to address substance misuse has been a key element in changing longer term attitudes to addiction. They have worked with many of the above and will be a significant factor in understanding why suspended sentences have been issued to some. Following the arrests, 16 people engaged with Turning Point; 8 are still engaged, with 4 in prison, 2 have left the area, 1 is in rehab and 1 has dropped out. In addition, CPT Officers have introduced a Community Tasking Team, who can be tasked to assist with any priority. This team of officers has helped improve the proactive work of our CPT Officers, providing them with the tools needed to tackle drug dealers that operate across County Lines, so that this work becomes our business as usual.

The overall crime rates have risen in the South by 6.4% against a Wiltshire rise of 9.9%. Nationally, crime is rising and although I cannot provide a figure for whole of 2017, the year ending June 2017 saw a rise of 13% according to the Office of National Statistics. These figures are against a backdrop of a new operating model (CPT), resourcing concerns and the continued uncertainty of austerity. No rise in crime can be seen as good, but it does demonstrate that we are being effective in the South with rising population and demand.

If we look specifically at the crime data for drugs:

	Wiltshire & Swindon			South Wiltshire		
	2017	2016	% Change	2017	2016	% Change
All Drug Offences	1022	1234	-17.2%	165	176	-6.3%
Possession of Drugs	825	1041	-20.7%	95	150	-36.7%
Trafficking of Drugs	197	190	+3.7%	70	26	+169.2%

I believe that drug offences are an indicator to how proactive officers are. They rely upon effort to stop and search and to then take action. South Wiltshire has seen a significant drop in the offences of possession, because our focus is on the Dealers. Our Trafficking offences have risen significantly and now equate to over 35% of all Trafficking offences in Wiltshire and Swindon. This might seem like an alarming rise, but actually represents a very positive aspect of local policing, which I maintain puts South ahead of other areas of Wiltshire in their response to this crime type; a problem that is present in all our towns. The tendrils of Class A abuse spread out through all crime types and so although there are crime rises, which are not good, the rises are less than other areas, both as a county and nationally.

Community Engagement

How many times have I heard that you never see a Police Officer anymore? The reality is putting a Police Officer on a foot patrol is difficult when balancing with falling numbers of Officers and increasing demand and population driving the need for cars. But how can we engage with our community when driving past



the people who want to speak to us? PCSOs have been introduced and this has addressed much of this gap, but there are more opportunities than just this. This is something that I wanted to improve for some time. So what is Community Engagement?

Community Engagement can be divided into:

- **Visibility** – this is more than just visible staff and included visible communications and engagement channels.
- **Accessibility** – the public need to know all the ways in which they can access the policing service.
- **Familiarity** – by engaging and building familiarity and trust, communities can take a greater responsibility in keeping themselves safe. This could be through schemes such as Neighbourhood Watch, becoming a Special or other Volunteer roles, or providing community intelligence to help direct resources more efficiently.

Wiltshire Police will be introducing Independent Advisory Groups (IAG) during 2018, one of which will be located in the South. The primary role of an IAG is to act as a critical friend, to help challenge conventional thinking and to provide an independent perspective on issues with a particular focus on diversity. The members are not to provide specialist advice on policing issues, but to provide advice on how policing services may be, or are being, perceived by our communities. We will not be looking to people who have a voice, such as Councillors, but more to those from harder to reach sectors of our community. There will be more on this as our plans develop.

In 2016 Salisbury suffered a series of purse thefts that peaked during the Christmas Market time. Requests to have someone on permanent foot patrol in the city was met with resistance due to available resources and rarely occurred. So for December 2017 I introduced a concept of Pulse Patrols, which I believe were first used in London to resolve ASB issues to good effect.

The notion of a Pulse Patrol is to get as many officers as possible into a small area for a short period of time at the same time. This was with the aim to:

- Deny Space to Criminals
- Detect Offences at the earliest opportunity
- Deter Criminals from coming to Salisbury
- Engage with the Community. This is to keep them informed in what we are doing, to reassure them that we are following community intelligence and to recruit them as our eyes and ears by providing further community intelligence that we can act upon to improve their community.

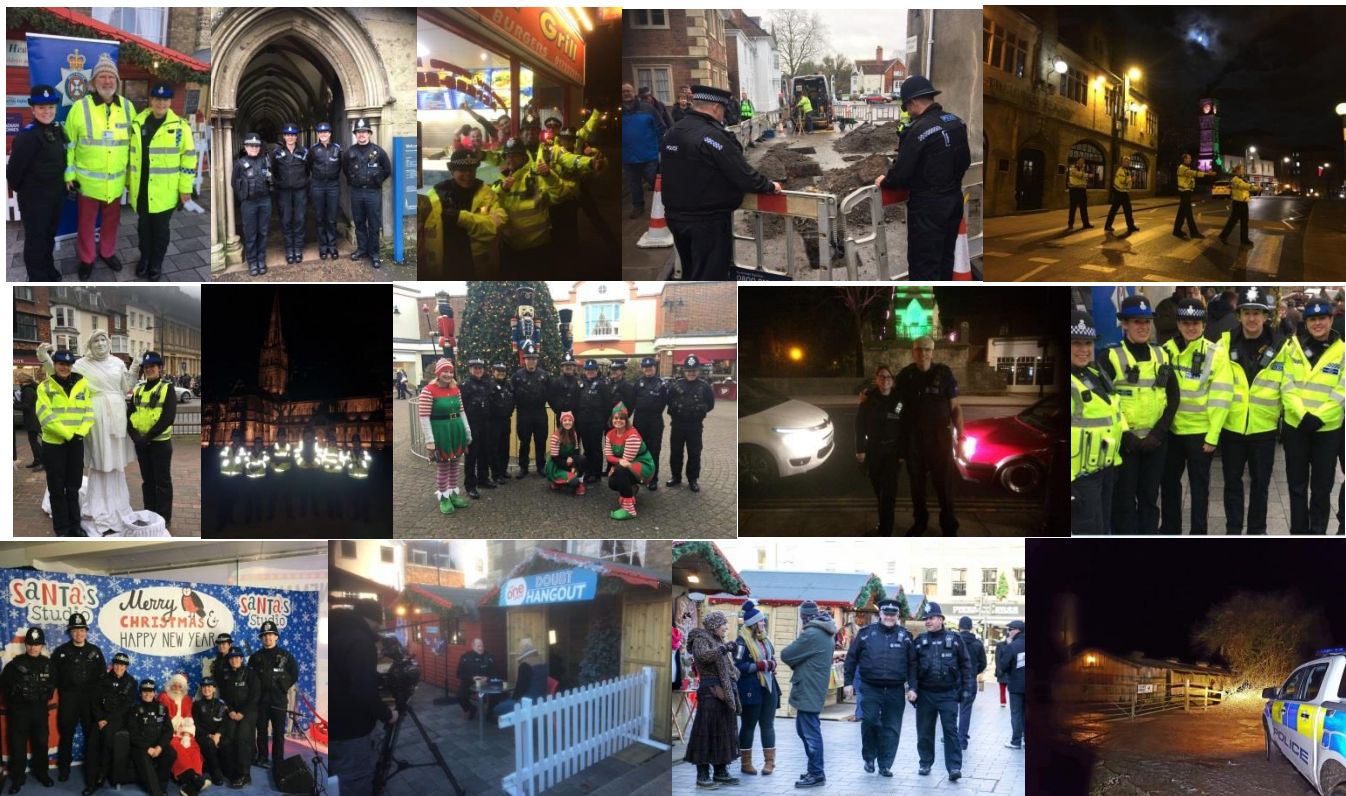
The instruction was to each team on duty to allocate a time and location for everyone available, including myself, to conduct foot patrols and record their engagements for use on Social Media, so we can get the message to a wider audience. These Pulse Patrols were to focus on the Christmas Market, but it was not to be used exclusively, so similar patrols were conducted in Wilton Shopping Village and our Rural Community as well as to find traffic offences or vulnerability checks in response to our Class A drug priority. The competitive nature of teams took hold and we witnessed the attitude from 'nobody available' to entire team photos, including Special Constabulary, Prisoner Transport and even Inspectors in and with the community. Staff talked to the community, without the need to treat people as witnesses or offenders and the community started to talk back. The PCSOs felt supported as the teams around them gained an insight into what they do on a daily basis. The public response changed from 'what's happened?' fearing the worst, to reassurance that we were there. The feedback from the market was they were not seeing the 'usual suspects' and the purse thefts recorded for the month of December was only 2.

Of course there were times when no Pulse Patrol was possible, but teams are still thinking about how they can be proactive, using this as a template to tackle problems. Recent traffic operations and arrests of our County Line Drug Dealers have been down to adopting this 'all in' approach.



Our channels of communication with the Community need to improve. We have traditionally relied upon 101/999 as a means to get information into the Police and then use traditional newspapers and radio to get our message out. We have promoted the use of Community Messaging as a means to get summaries of crimes and key messages and have recently pushed the use of our Social Media through Facebook (Salisbury Police) and Twitter (@SouthWiltsCPT). Social media used correctly can be a positive tool for communication: A foot patrol might be seen by 100 people of whom 5 may have actually engaged. A Facebook post is seen by an average of 3,000 people, 50 of whom engage. These are not either/or options and we will be exploring all methods to keep pushing positive messages about our activities and allowing the Community to see what we are doing – this works in the same way as our Pulse Patrols do in the principles of Deny, Detect, Deter and Engage. Below is just a sample of images that appeared on Facebook during December.





- **Burglary:** The series of city centre commercial burglaries has slowed and one person remains under investigation. A few recent dwelling burglaries have been reported in Salisbury and Whiteparish/Downnton/Nomansland where jewellery appeared to be the focus. This has similarities to offences in Hampshire and we are sharing intelligence on this.
- **Bike thefts:** After posting an image from our CCTV of a youth stealing lights from a bike in the Cheesemarket a youth confessed to their parent... offences appear to have stopped!
- **Feedback:** Several messages of support regarding our visibility during December, but a nice one to finish this report with was a gentleman who was visiting the city from Bournemouth:
 He said that he's very unhappy with the way his local police force appear to ignore street crime & beggars. He told me that he's been to Salisbury a few times & says that Salisbury police should go to Bournemouth to teach that force how policing is done as he's never noticed any street crime or ASB in the area.

There is still much to do to keep South Wiltshire Safe, but it does not hurt sometimes to reflect that our efforts (credit must go to partners too) are recognised by some as being positive and a simple 'thank you' or gesture of support can go a long way in life.

Pete Sparrow
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Salisbury, Wilton & Alderbury