

Police report for the Wootton Bassett & Cricklade area board January 2010

Current Establishment

Inspector Steven Cox (Area Commander)
Police Sergeant Martin Alvis (Neighbourhood Policing Team)
Police Sergeant Dave Stevenson (General Police Duties)
Police Sergeant Jo Spencer (General Police Duties)

Wootton Bassett Town Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Nick Spargo (Community Beat Manager) PCSO Jim Wale

Wootton Bassett Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Steve Porter
PC Jarra Brown (Ministry of Defence Police)
PCSO Andy Singfield

Cricklade and Purton Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Chris Skey PCSO Nicola Allan PCSO Richard O'halloran

General Patrol Duties (Response)

15 Police Constables (responsible for 24 hour policing of the area)

Current Policing Priorities

The below Policing Priorities relate to issues raised during consultation with the community and agreed through a formal Neighbourhood Tasking Group process. These priorities are policed by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams in partnership with the General Patrol Duties officers. This does not cover all the issues/incidents attended, however it does show the problems that affect a large percentage of the community. By working with the Community we can and will tackle problems of crime and anti-social behaviour, it is only by taking this approach that we can build safe, satisfied and confident communities.

Wootton Bassett Town Priorities

New Road Play Area was reported at the last Community Area Board to be one of our Priorities, I am pleased to say that this has now been closed following no reported problems in the area over the past couple of months. Although this has been a success, the local Policing team will continue to routinely patrol the area to ensure that this continues.

Otter Way Play Park will continue to be a priority; it seems wise to maintain this priority to allow our partner agency tasks to be completed. We have worked closely with the local council with regard to the installation of additional street lighting and CCTV measures to improve the play park long term. We are seeing a great improvement in calls of anti-social behaviour in the area, however targeted police patrols will continue and we encourage the community to report any concerns.

Wootton Bassett Rural Priorities

We are pleased to report that the issues surrounding anti-social behaviour around the shops/takeaways has been resolved. Following months of high visibility targeted patrols in partnership with our partners in the MOD, officers have arrested and charged several persons for Criminal Damage offences, those given bail to allow for further enquiries were given strict bail conditions including curfews. Following on from this, local residents and business owners are reporting a significant improvement. We will of course continue to patrol the area and deal promptly and effectively with any out breaks of disorder.

The current priority for the rural team is speeding motorists in Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent. Reports have declined over the past month, I am confident that this was due to the extreme weather. It is obvious from static observations that the problem still exists and will increase as the weather improves, for this reason we will continue to target the area and deal robustly with any offending motorist.

Cricklade and Purton Priorities

Over the past two months, officers have been investigating reports of antisocial behaviour including petty and mindless vandalism in the Bath Road/Culverhay areas of Cricklade. Numerous operations have taken place, including officers patrolling the area in plain clothes. As a result arrests have been made, charges laid and tickets issues. The message is certainly hitting home for those intent on causing disruption. We shall be keeping this as a priority for the next few months with more operations planned.

In Purton, Officers had been dealing with speeding motorists in the High street/Station Road area. Patrols were made and tickets issued for seat belts and mobile phone use. The very presence of the Police slowed traffic down and due to this no violation of speed limits were found.

Over the next few months, officers will be concentrating on issues surrounding the egging of properties in Purton. In particular some business premises that have become repeat victims. Naturally this is causing concern and we will take what ever steps we can to bring this senseless behaviour to an end and the offenders held to account.

Police Information Point

I am pleased to announce that the enquiry office Wootton Bassett Police station is now open from 10am to 2pm three times per week, namely Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This is staffed by volunteers who are able to assist members of the public with reporting crime, signposting to essential services and dealing with lost and found property. I am working closely with the Volunteers Manager at Police Headquarters to roll this out to my other Police Stations at both Cricklade and Malmesbury. This is a great development to allow the community easier access to their police station. I would encourage people to use this service and by using word of mouth inform their friends and family that this facility now exists. We have advertised this in the local media, however to date we have received very few callers to the station. I am confident that the attendance will increase over the coming months as this service becomes widely known.

Inspector Steve Cox

Area Commander

Wiltshire Police