



Melksham Area Board Report – May 2018

Hello and welcome to this month's Community policing report.

Rural Crime

Three years ago the last National Rural Crime Survey was conducted, which revealed the huge cost of crime to our rural communities – both financial, at £800 million per year, and fear, with chronic under-reporting.

The National Rural Crime Network produced a series of recommendations and, in many areas, the police took steps to improve matters. So now we want to know what's changed.

Questions cover a range of issues – from whether you report crimes that you or your business suffer, to the impact crime and anti-social behaviour has on you and your area, and whether you believe enough is done to catch those who carry out the offences.

The survey is available at www.nationalruralcrimenetwork.net and is open for submissions until Sunday 10th June.

Mr Angus Macpherson, Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, said "I hope that anyone living or working in a rural community will spare a few minutes to complete this survey. It will provide a clear picture of what has improved, what challenges remain and what more government, police forces and organisations can do to support the most isolated parts of the country.

One of this year's focuses as we rerun the research is whether rural crime continues to be under reported. Three years ago, one in four said they didn't report the last crime they'd been a victim of because they didn't see the point.

It's being carried out by the National Rural Crime Network. The organization brings together Police and Crime Commissioners, police forces and organisations that play a key role in rural communities – like the Country Land and Business Association, the National Farmers Union, Neighbourhood Watch, Crimestoppers, Historic England and the Countryside Alliance".

The results will also feed into the National Police Chief's Council's Rural Affairs National Strategy for 2018-2021 which is due to be launched later this year.

feedback@wiltshire.police.uk

Theft from Motor Vehicle

In recent weeks we have seen an increase in reports of theft from motor vehicles. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the following crime prevention advice :

Thefts from Vehicles

- Don't leave anything in your car – if it's not there, then it can't be stolen.
- Thieves aren't picky, so don't leave even low-value items in your car. Often thieves will smash and grab first and look later to see if what they've stolen is valuable.
- Don't hide it – if you hide items under the seat or in the glove box, chances are someone will have watch you. If you cannot avoid leaving something in your car, put it in your boot before you begin your journey.
- Don't leave valuables in your car even for a minute – it only takes a thief a few seconds to smash a window and get what they want, so don't take the chance.
- Don't leave your house keys or anything with your address on it in your vehicle – someone could steal your keys and then let themselves into your home.

Securing Cars

- Always secure your car.
- Always lock your car and wind your windows up, even if you are just posting a letter or going into a petrol station.
- Get a car alarm – they not only deter a thief from stealing the car, but also from stealing items from inside it.
- Immobilisers stop the engine from starting if the car is being stolen .

Beauty Spot Vehicle Advice

- Try to park in sign-posted parking areas.
- Be cautious about parking your car in isolation, thieves can be put off when other people are around.
- Do not leave anything in your vehicle. A jacket or coat left behind may be of very little value to you, but a thief may think it has been used to hide a laptop or handbag, and will break into your vehicle to find out.
- Before you leave home, think about what you need and leave any unnecessary items of value at home.
- Whilst enjoying the sights make sure you keep your bag and possessions with you.

COMMUNITY MESSAGING

We have received some very positive feedback around community messaging, and encourage you to speak to all members of your community and get them to sign up to Wiltshire Messaging. It is free and a very good way of keeping all of our communities connected.

<https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

feedback@wiltshire.police.uk

CRIME EXCEPTIONS

These figures are based on an evaluation of data, over a two year rolling period. Using this data we can predict what figure is the average that should be reported in a specific month, and what are the higher and lower parameters that we may expect. Figures outside of these parameters are classed as 'Crime Exceptions'.

***** Domestic Abuse figures will also be included in the values as it is within our Control Strategy, however there will be no details shared in relation to these cases *****

APRIL 2018

Melksham Area

Offences of Burglary are showing as a crime exception, however offences at this time of year average at 8.3 offences a month, and April saw 6 offences reported.

ED11 (Melksham Town Centre)

April saw 76 reported crimes across this beat area, against the average of 79 for this same month over the last two years. There were no crime exceptions for this area.

Details of the three largest crime groups accounting for crime within the ED11 area are as follows;

Theft incidents showed 35 incidents reported compared to the average of 23.5 incidents. When broken down this shows that 18 of the offences relate to shopliftings within the town. There are no links to the other reported incidents.

Violence against the person showed 25 incidents, against the average of 28.2 incidents.

Vehicle Offences showed 5 incidents, against the average of 5 incidents.

ED12 Melksham Rural (Shaw, Whitley, Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Beanacre, Bowerhill, Berryfields)

April saw 26 reported crimes across this beat area, against the average of 26.4 for this same month over the last two years.

Details of the three largest crime groups accounting for crime within the ED12 area are as follows;

Offences of Public Order are showing as a crime exception, with 5 incidents reported, against the average of 2.3 incidents. None of these incidents are linked to each other, and all occurred on different dates at different locations. These incidents amount to verbal abuse and threats being made to others.

Theft showed 9 incidents reported, against the average of 10.3 incidents.

Vehicle Offences showed 4 incidents, against the average of 2.2 incidents.

feedback@wiltshire.police.uk

ED13 Melksham Rural (Seend, Bulkington, Poulshot, Keevil, Semington, Great Hinton, Steeple Ashton)

April saw 7 reported crimes across this beat area, against the average of 9.4 for this same month over the last two years. There were no crime exceptions for this area.

Details of the three largest crime groups accounting for crime within the ED13 area are as follows;

Violence against the person showed 4 incidents, against the average 3.7 incidents.

Burglary showed 1 incident, against the average of 1.7 incidents.

Theft showed 1 incident, against the average of 1.8 incidents.

COMMUNITY POLICING PRIORITIES WITHIN YOUR AREA

Each week Inspector Andy Fee chairs the West Wiltshire Tasking Meeting, where emerging community issues and concerns are raised and discussed for our policing area. From this meeting, priorities and actions are set. This involves developing strategies and the targeting of resources (including partner agencies) into tackling the issue or concern.

There are currently no areas specifically listed as a priority within the Melksham area.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH CHECKS WITHIN YOUR AREA

Every two weeks, 4 Community Speedwatch Schemes across West Wiltshire are selected by Leanne Homewood for additional targeting by our Community Policing Team.

Throughout April and May the following checks were conducted within the Melksham area;

Layby near to Melksham Oak Secondary School – One check completed - 2 x drivers reported to court for excess speed. One driver was travelling at 75mph and the other was travelling at 85mph, in a 30mph limit.

Snowberry Lane – One check completed – 1 x driver given words of advice.

Beanacre – Two checks completed – 2 x drivers given words of advice.

Shaw / Whitley – One check completed – 2 x drivers given words of advice.

CHARGES TO NOTE

Tobi KENT, 29 year old male of an address in Woodpecker Close, Broughton Gifford was charged with two offences of theft by shoplifting, and possession of a controlled substance. He has been bailed to attend Salisbury Magistrates Court on the 18th May 2018.

For a detailed breakdown of the crime in your area visit...

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

Sector Inspector – Inspector Andy Fee – andy.fee@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Sector Deputy – Sergeant James Williams – james.williams@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Community Coordinator – Pc Charly Chilton : charlotte.chilton@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

feedback@wiltshire.police.uk