



## **Bradford on Avon Area Board Report**

**JULY 2018**

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

### Help us tackle County Lines

Young and vulnerable people living in our communities are being exploited by drugs gangs. It's happening right now. And we need your help to protect them.

County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas in the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of 'deal line'. They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money, and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence and weapons. gangs based in cities like London are targeting the most vulnerable people in small towns across the country to sell class A drugs on their behalf.

This type of behaviour is a significant threat to our communities and will not be tolerated.

But we need your help to spot the signs and act on your concerns. Your voice will be heard and will make a difference.

Director of Intelligence Sonja Leith said: "County lines is everyone's responsibility and I would urge members of the public to be vigilant and look out for some of the most visible signs that county lines drugs gangs are operating in neighbourhoods and to report this to police.

"Our intelligence teams work hard to identify where county lines are exploiting vulnerable children and adults, and to proactively disrupt these networks. The intelligence we receive from our communities is crucial in helping us, our partner agencies and neighbouring forces in tackling county lines and safeguarding people.

"By raising awareness of the issue, I hope more people will be able to spot the signs, and feel comfortable in reporting information to the police. Your call could save lives."

Angus Macpherson, Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, said: "Two of my priorities for the next four years, as outlined in my Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021, are to prevent crime and keep people safe, and protect the most vulnerable people in society. It is these very people who are being targeted by individuals from large metropolitan cities, who are travelling to

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rural counties like Wiltshire, with the belief that they will be able to deal drugs from the properties of these vulnerable people. As a result, vulnerable people are being threatened and exploited, often in their own homes.

“I am aware that many people still consider drugs as a victimless crime. This is not the case, and we want to ensure that people who find themselves in these situations have support.

"The Force will continue to work with local authorities to reduce the harm and prevent the crime caused by alcohol and substance misuse, but I would also urge the residents of Wiltshire and Swindon to help us combat drug supply – we cannot do it alone and the police often rely on information from the public to build up an intelligence picture. Please continue to help by reporting any information to 101.”

Signs to look out for:

#### Exploitation

- ■ Has a child or young person gone missing from school or home?
  - ■ Are they meeting with unfamiliar adults?
  - ■ Have you noticed a change in their behaviour?
  - ■ Are they using drugs and alcohol?
  - ■ Has there been a breakdown in relationships with family and friends?
- This could be a sign that they are being coerced and controlled to commit crime.  
Call 101 to report it.

#### Cuckooing

Drug dealers will often take over the homes of vulnerable people as they use it as a base to deal drugs in the area. The vulnerable person may be being kept inside against their will.

- ■ Have you noticed more people calling at an address? Sometimes at unsociable hours?
- ■ Have you noticed a neighbour has not been seen for a while?
- ■ Are there suspicious smells coming from an address?
- ■ Are there suspicious or unfamiliar vehicles outside the address?

Cuckooing could be taking place. Look out for your neighbours and report suspicions to 101.

## **CRIME EXCEPTIONS DATA**

**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’.**

### **Bradford on Avon Town – EA11**

Crime as a whole is showing as an exception for the month of June. On average we would expect to see an average of 30.9 reported crimes for this time of year, however June saw a reduction to 18 crimes reported.

The following crimes account for 78% of crimes reported in the Bradford on Avon Town area :

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Offences of violence against the person normally show an average of 7.7 offences for this time of year. June saw 4 offences reported.

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Offences of Theft normally show an average of 8.8 offences for this time of year. June saw 4 offences reported.

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Offences of Public Order normally show an average of 2.3 offences for this time of year. June saw 4 offences reported.

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Offences of Possession of Weapons normally show an average of 1.3 offences for this time of year. June saw 2 offences reported.

### **Bradford on Avon Rural – EA12**

Crime as a whole is showing as an exception for the month of June. On average we would expect to see an average of 20.8 reported crimes for this time of year, however June saw 30 crimes reported.

The following crimes account for 90% of crimes reported in the Bradford on Avon Rural area :

Offences of Burglary are showing as a crime exception, with an average of 4.2 offences of this type usually reported at this time of year. June saw 12 offences reported.

3 offences relates to incidents in the Limpley Stoke area, two of which were burglaries to a dwelling, and one to a shed.

6 offences relate to incidents in the Winsley area, one of which was a burglary to a dwelling and the other five to a shed / garage.

The other three offences relate to dwelling burglaries in the Staverton and Avoncliff areas.

Enquiries are continuing into these offences, and the issue has been raised at the weekly tasking meeting for additional patrols.

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Offences of violence against the person normally show an average of 6.7 offences for this time of year. June saw 9 offences reported.

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Offences of Theft normally show an average of 4.2 offences for this time of year. June saw 6 offences reported.

## **COMMUNITY POLICING PRIORITIES WITHIN YOUR AREA**

### **WEEKLY TASKING MEETING**

**Inspector Andy FEE chairs a weekly internal “tasking meeting” where emerging community issues and concerns are raised and discussed for the whole West Wiltshire CPT area. From this meeting, priorities and actions are set and a tasking document produced. This involves developing strategies and the targeting of resources (including partner agencies) into tackling the issue or concern.**

Burglaries within the Bradford on Avon Rural area has been set as a priority at the weekly tasking meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

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

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

**Sector Inspector –Acting Inspector James Williams –  
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**Community Coordinator – Pc Charly Chilton – [charlotte.chilton@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:charlotte.chilton@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)**

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