

WILTSHIRE POLICE

CPT Melksham Briefing

Wiltshire West Community Policing

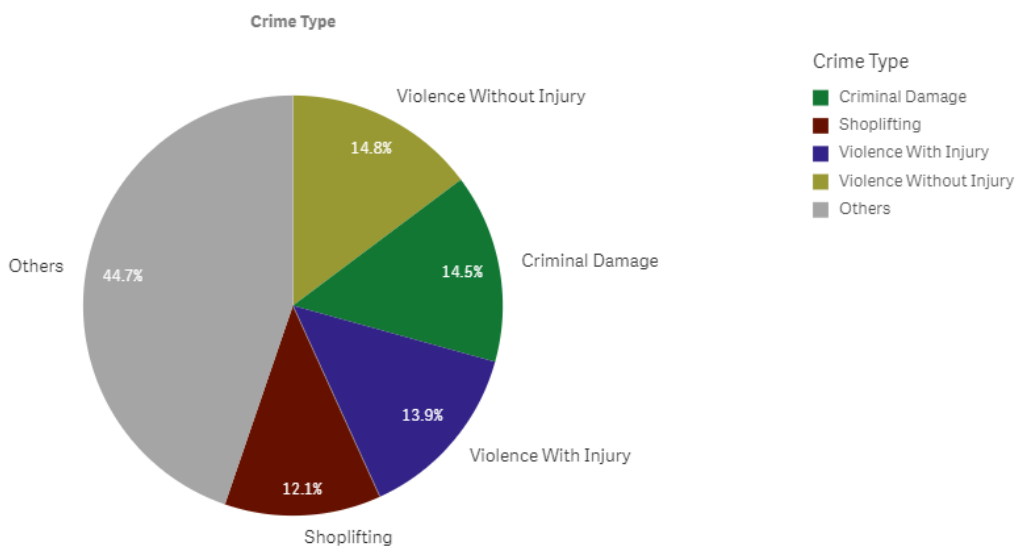


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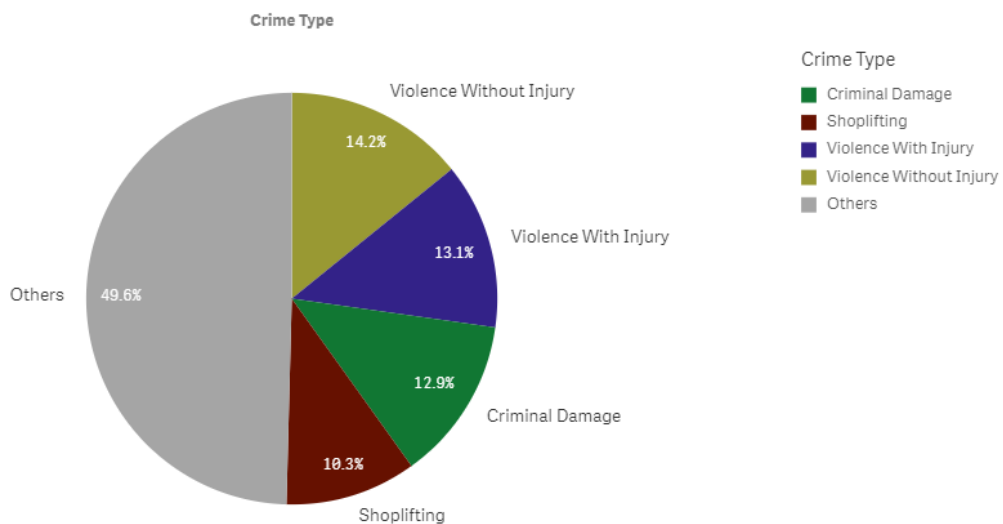
September 2019

PERFORMANCE

Your Area - Five Highest Crime Groups (Previous 12 months)



Force Area - Five Highest Crime Groups (Previous 12 months)



Wiltshire West CPT - crime and incident demand for the 12 months to July 2019

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Force-wide

- Wiltshire Police has reduced the volume of recorded crime by 1% in the 12 months to July 19 and continues to have one of the lowest crime rates in the country.
- Our service delivery remains consistently good.
- In July, we received 9,653 999 calls which we answered within 4 seconds on average and 14,474 101 calls which we answered within 1 minutes 44 seconds on average.
- In July, we also attended 1,862 emergency incidents within 10 minutes and 49 seconds on average.
- Wiltshire Police has seen a 26% reduction in vehicle crime and 20 per cent in burglary in the 12 months to June 2019. These are the most improved trends in the country.
- The Crime Survey of England & Wales recently ranked Wiltshire as one of the top forces nationally for public confidence. It covers the 12 months to December 2018 The publication can be found here: WWW.CRIMESURVEY.CO.UK

For more information on Wiltshire Police's performance please visit:

PCC's Website - <https://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/article/1847/Performance>

HMICFRS Website - <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/police-forces/wiltshire/>

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

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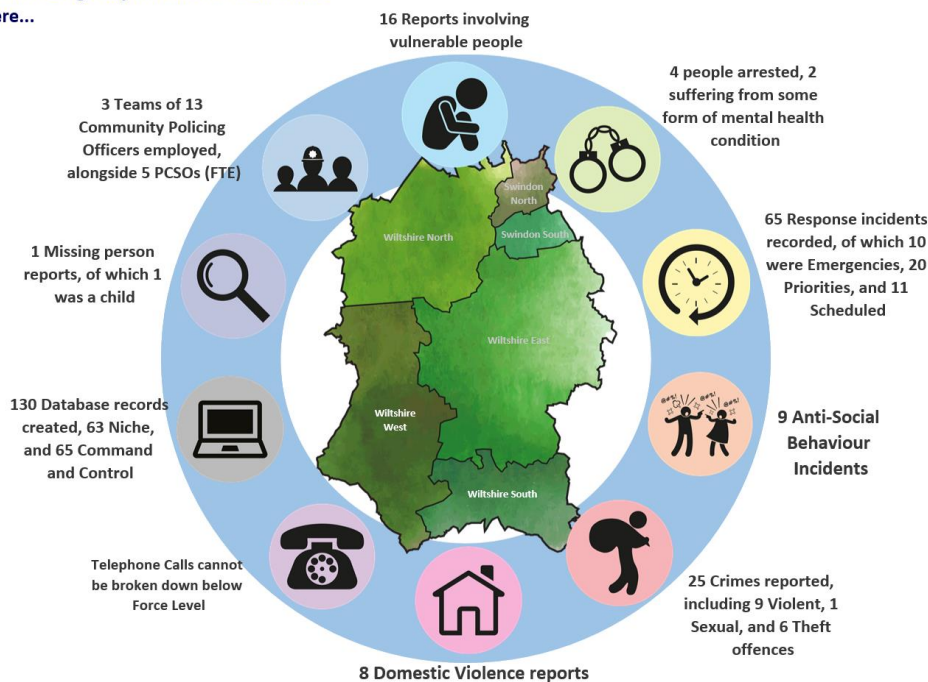


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Area specific

On an average day in Wiltshire West there were...



Wiltshire West CPT Demand Overview – 12 months to July 2019

CRIME TRENDS - Melksham Town and Villages combined (Area Board)

Melksham Area Board includes 3 Beat Areas, 1 for the Town (ED11), and two for Rural and Villages (ED12) and (ED13).

Please note at time of writing August month end data is not available

ED11 – Melksham Town

July showed 102 crimes for the beat area against the average of 89.4 offences for this same month over the last two years. There are no exceptions within the data.

ED12 – Shaw, Whitley, Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Beanacre, Bowerhill and Berryfields

July showed 48 reported crimes for the beat area against the average of 34.5 offences for this same month over the last two years. There are no exceptions within the data.

ED13 – Seend, Bulkington, Poulshot, Keevil, Semington, Great Hinton and Steeple Ashton

July showed 19 reported crimes for the beat area against the average of 12 offences for this same month over the last two years. There are no exceptions within the data

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LOCAL CPT UPDATES:

Significant Crime Updates

LEEKES OF MELKSHAM, BEANACRE ROAD. A male suspect has been observed on CCTV stealing a Dyson vacuum cleaner from the store before driving away from the premises with a female in a Renault Clio. Police later received a report of the vehicle being driven dangerously. Officers located the vehicle parked up in a car park at Shearwater, near Warminster a few hours after the incident. A male and female were arrested on suspicion of theft and following a search of them and the vehicle, further arrested for possession of offensive weapons, possession of bladed articles and possession of an imitation firearm but later released and charged. Larissa LYDALL, 23, from Frome Road, Trowbridge was charged with theft, possession of an imitation firearm, possession of an offensive weapon and possession of a sharply pointed article. Ross FLEMING, 41, of Linnet Close, Melksham was charged with theft. Both will appear at Salisbury Mags on the 23rd August

WAVERLEY GARDENS, MELKSHAM. A 23-year-old man from Southwick was arrested after a vehicle failed to stop for officers along Snowberry Lane, Melksham. The vehicle is believed to have been involved in a number of thefts around the Melksham and Calne areas. Officers followed the vehicle as it travelled from the direction of Calne towards Melksham and a short pursuit was authorised. The vehicle was seen to drive the wrong side of the road at the Hampton Park roundabout and at excess speed before crashing on the canal bridge. A man was detained at the scene by officers and was arrested on suspicion of theft of a vehicle, failing to stop for officers and dangerous driving, and the vehicle was seized. Michael Kibble, 23, of Southwick, was released and charged with two counts of making off without payment, dangerous driving, driving whilst disqualified, failing to stop a vehicle when required by an officer, possession of a class B drug and using a vehicle without insurance. He is due to appear in Salisbury Magistrates Court on August 2. He was released with no further action in relation to the theft of a vehicle offence.

MELSKHAM RAILWAY STATION. A man was arrested after police were called to reports of someone with a knife at Melksham Railway Station on the 6th Aug at around 2.45pm about a man who had been acting in a threatening and aggressive manner and shouting at members of the public while waving a small knife around. Wiltshire Police officers attended the railway station and apprehended the man. A 44-year-old man from Devizes has been arrested on suspicion of affray and possession of a bladed article.

Superintendent Mark Sellers said: "These officers acted swiftly and bravely, putting themselves in potential danger to protect the public. "Thankfully nobody was injured and this incident was resolved safely – but we know it could have been a very different story. "I would also like to commend the members of the public who called us, providing us with a detailed description of the suspect, while keeping themselves and others safe."

The incident will now be investigated by British Transport Police and they have appealed for witnesses.

BYRON CLOSE, MELKSHAM. On the 6th Aug two men were arrested after officers spotted a suspected drugs deal take place in Melksham. Officers from the Dedicated Crime Team were in the Byron Close area of the town at around 1pm today when they saw an exchange take place between two people. A man was detained for a search to be carried out,

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and a quantity of cash and a mobile phone with evidence to suggest class A drug supply had been taking place, was seized. The man, an 18-year-old from Chippenham, was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of class A drugs. Officers conducted further enquiries and then entered an address nearby where they located a quantity of individual wraps of drugs. The man was further arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of class B drugs. The second man, an 18-year-old from Calne, was also searched and arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of class A and B drugs. Both have since been release RUI (Under Police Investigation)

Local Community Issues

PCSO Steph HOLMAN is continuing to look at drug and ASB issues in the area of Union Street. She is currently engaging with the local community to listen to the issues, gather intelligence and establish a plan to tackle the concerns raised.

PCSO Maggie LEDBURY is overseeing the coordination pro-active Patrols of rural locations by the area officers. Recently there have been reports of poaching and criminal damage to farm and private land in the area of Steeple Ashton, especially Mudmead Lane and Sandpits Lane.

PCSO Maggie LEDBURY is also driving pro-active patrols at the Hornchurch play park in Bowerhill following reports that the play equipment has been damaged and slides have been stolen. We have widened patrols to include several play areas in communities around Melksham including the Splash Pad at King George V playing field

Other local News

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YOUR CPT – Wiltshire West



Inspector Andy Fee

Sergeant Dan Green

Community Co-ordinators:



PC Charly Chilton (Trowbridge)



PC Helen Daveridge (Westbury, Warminster, Tisbury and Mere)



PC Lee Pelling (Melksham)



Pc Rich Salter (Tisbury and Mere)



Pc Darren Foulger (Bradford on Avon and Youth Intervention)

You can find out more about Wiltshire West CPT, including news stories and contacts for local officers, on our website: www.wiltshire.police.uk/WiltshireWest

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LOCAL PRIORITIES

PRIORITIES FOR WILTSHIRE WEST CPT	UPDATE
Priority 1:	
<p><u>CSW - Community Speed Watch</u></p> <p>Every 2 weeks, 4 CSW Schemes across West Wiltshire are selected for CPT targeting, enforcement to supplement the CSW team planned sessions. The results are reported back to the CSW teams and local communities.</p>	<p><u>Current Speed Watch areas 14/08 date</u> Dilton Marsh, Westbury Bitham park, Westbury Steeple Ashton, Melksham North Bradley, Trowbridge</p> <p><u>Speed Watch areas 07/08-14/08:</u> Chitterne Shrewton Road Hilperton Trowbridge Road Maiden Bradley Frome Road Melksham/Berryfields Semington Road Results – 4 Tickets issues, 9 Cautions given. 1 driver reported for no insurance and driving licence.</p>
Priority 2:	
<p><u>Op Artemis – Rural Crime</u></p> <p>This is the ongoing rural crime operation overseen by the Rural Crime Team for the county. They will arrange for specific patrols during the course of the year in cooperation with and supported by the farming community with a view to tackling, deterring and detecting overnight rural crimes.</p>	<p>Many pro-active patrols are being carried out in rural locations across West Wiltshire, with a focus on the areas of Steeple Ashton, Stockton and Chilmark specifically.</p>

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Priority 3:

Young people involved in ASB and criminality (Warminster and Westbury town centre).

A small group of young people within the Warminster and Westbury area have been involved in Antisocial Behaviour, and criminality recently.

Pro-active patrols are being conducted in key locations in Warminster and Westbury. A section 35 dispersal Order was in place for 3 days (1st to the 3rd Aug) in Warminster town centre to prevent more than 2 youth gathering.

Multi agency intervention work including YOT (Youth Offending Team), Wiltshire Council, schools and Housing associations where relevant will take place with any youths identified as causing issues, ASB or crime.

Priority 4:

Young people in Melksham involved in ASB and criminality

In May a disorder was reported in the Hawthorn Road area of Melksham, which involved a large group of youths.

UPDATE Enquiries are complete and the file will be sent to CPS in relation to potential charges or summons to be brought.

Youth intervention officer Pc Darren Foulger continues to work closely with some of the key youths and their families alongside partner agencies to prevent further instances occurring

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HIGH LEVEL PCC UPDATES

- **Pay increase** - Police Officers are to receive a 2.5% pay increase as agreed by the Government. This is welcome news and well deserved, I only hope that the same increase is also afforded to police staff as well. However, it is expected that we will have to meet this increase from existing Wiltshire Police budgets and that no further funding will come from the Government to fund this rise, which is disappointing and I continue to lobby the Government for fairer funding in Wiltshire.
- **PCSOs** - Last month Wiltshire Police Federation, which represents police officers within the Force, wrote an open letter suggesting that the Force should 'axe PCSOs' and recruit police constables instead. Both the Chief and I strongly refuted this suggestion. We both recognise the key role that PCSOs play in community engagement, intelligence gathering and supporting the most vulnerable. The role of a PCSO is a completely different one to that of a police constable and they play a key role in our community policing teams.
- **Additional police officers** - I was pleased to hear the new Prime Minister's commitment to policing and his promise of 20,000 additional police officers in the next three years. We don't know what this will look like in terms of how many more we will get in Wiltshire but I trust that more detail will soon be forthcoming. I do have some concerns around the practicalities of recruiting so many officers in such a short period of time and it certainly won't happen overnight, with it taking around a year to recruit and train an officer before they're able to go on the beat, but his commitment to strengthening our police forces is welcome nonetheless.

HIGH LEVEL FORCE UPDATES

- **Youth crime** – A Government report into the increase in youth violence has been welcomed by the Force. Chief Constable Kier Pritchard has said that although there hasn't been a significant increase in Wiltshire, it is still a concerning issue for local people. He is calling for a multi-agency approach and focused on the need to engage with young people to help prevent them from falling into a life of crime.
- **Rural crime** – Wiltshire has bucked the national trend when it comes to rural crime, recording a 36% year-on-year drop when it comes to the amount of money this type of crime is costing people in the county. This is believed to be due to the focus our Rural Crime Team has placed on crime prevention advice, including the

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encouragement of CCTV, anti-poaching ditches and the installation of GPS trackers on equipment.

- **Domestic abuse** – As part of our Summer Demand campaign, we have been focusing on highlighting the important topic of domestic abuse and making sure victims know how to access the support available. There is also a focus on encouraging friends and neighbours to report concerns to the police. You can read more online: <https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/article/4820/VIDEO-What-to-do-if-you-have-concerns-your-neighbour-is-being-abused-by-a-partner>

GET INVOLVED

- You can keep up to date with the latest news in your area by signing up to our Community Messaging service – www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk
- You can follow your CPT on social media <https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/Followus>
- More information on your CPT area can be found here: www.wiltshire.police.uk and here www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk

OTHER NEWS

NATIONAL FIREARMS SURRENDER

More than 190 items were handed into Wiltshire Police during the National Firearms Surrender.

The two-week surrender finished on Sunday (4 August) with 65 firearms, 24 flares and 21 rounds of ammunition being handed in.

The firearms surrendered included: air rifles, a deactivated AK-47, shotguns, BB guns, starter pistols and a Mauser Machine Pistol. There were also two First World War bolt-action rifles and even a few even older muzzle-loading rifles.

The surrender also saw members of the public handing in items that could be considered dangerous in the wrong hands, including 82 knives, two pepper spray canisters, mace spray and black powder propellant.

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Inspector Paul Saunders, said “I would like to say thank you to those members of the public across Wiltshire and Swindon, who have surrendered items during the past two weeks.

“Wiltshire continues to be one of the safest counties to live in the country, and thankfully incidents involving firearms remain low.

“Overall, we have had a really positive response from the public and it means there are 65 less unwanted firearms and unlicensed firearms in our community.

“As well as asking people to consider surrendering their firearms, it has given us an opportunity to talk about them.

“Wiltshire is largely a rural county, we know there are people who legally own or collect firearms, so during these two weeks we have been appealing to them to think about the safety of their guns. How they store them, who could have access, where they are using them and how they are transporting them.

“The items handed in during the surrender have demonstrated how air guns, something you do not ordinarily require a license for, are designed to look very similar to live firearms and, if not handled carefully or seen by the public, could trigger a full police firearms response.

The majority of firearms collected will be destroyed. However, some will be kept for training purposes and other antique items are likely to be passed to museums for them to display.

Inspector Saunders added: “Although this firearms surrender has now finished, I would like to remind members of the public that guns, knives and ammunition can be handed in at police enquiry offices at any time.

“Many firearms are held without awareness of their legality or may be overlooked or forgotten in people’s homes. I would urge the public that if you are not using your firearm, or if you have found an old one when tidying out the loft or shed, please take responsibility and safely dispose of it by handing it in to us.

“Firearms can have devastating consequences in the wrong hands, whether that is the hands of criminals, children, or vulnerable people”.

If you know of people involved in illegal firearms activity call the police on 101, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. In an emergency, always call 999.

Every call to Crimestoppers is anonymous and potentially vital to preventing or solving serious crimes; removing an illegally held firearm may just save someone’s life.