



## **Crime and Community Safety Briefing Paper Devizes Community Area Board 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011**

### **1. Neighbourhood Policing**

**Team Sgt:** Ian Thomas

#### **Town Centre Team**

Beat Manager – PC Adam Hall

PCSO – Paula Yarranton

PCSO – Lucy Sainsbury

#### **Rural North Team**

Beat Manager – vacant

PCSO – Wendy Leat

#### **Rural South Team**

Beat Manager – PC Gareth Milnes

PCSO Nina Marsh

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April the structure of our Neighbourhood Policing Teams changed. The 55 NPT's in the Unitary Area have been reduced to 20 to correspond with the 20 Community Areas.

The public will not see any change to staffing levels as each Beat will retain its Community Beat Manager and Police Community Support Officer(s).

The changes have been made in order to enhance the service delivery to the public, namely...

**Wiltshire Police - 171 years of public service**

**I. Increased police visibility, community engagement and more time to spend dealing with priorities:**

Due to a reduction in bureaucracy there will be a reduction in Neighbourhood Tasking Group (NTG) meetings where priorities are set each quarter. Currently up to 76 are held but in the new structure this will be reduced by 49 meetings per quarter. There is also a new NPT IT system which will make things easier and quicker for staff to enter information. There will also be one quarterly Newsletter for each Community Area with a dedicated page for each Beat Area.

**II. Service delivery will be enhanced:**

- a) If a significant priority is identified in a Beat Area, staff from other Beats within the NPT can be tasked to the area to target the issue. Staff will still be primarily dedicated to working on their individual Beats.
- b) Each NPT will have a dedicated Sergeant who will provide support for the NPT and enhance supervision.

**III. There will be greater partnership working with local authorities and stakeholders:**

Due to the rationalisation of the number of NPTs, which will lead to improved targeting of priorities.

**Current Priorities:**

Up-to-date details of the current news about Neighbourhood Policing Teams, including, profiles, priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on the Wiltshire Police Website.

 Visit the new and improved website at:  
[www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk)

**2. Performance and Other Local Issues**

Since the last Area Board meeting there have been a number of staffing changes at Devizes. Inspector Ron Peach replaces Andy Noble as Sector Commander and Sergeant Mark Gale replaces Andy Peach as second in command.

PC Gemma Rutter has moved from the NPT Rural South post to Response Policing and PC Gareth Milnes has taken her place.

I am pleased to report that the overall crime trend for Devizes area continues downward. This is really good news as the current figures are yet to be influenced by the significant arrests reported at the last meeting. I am therefore confident that we will see further reductions in the months to come. However, we cannot be complacent as we know from experience that the summer months can see a sudden spike in some offence categories, specifically violent and sexual offences, often linked to alcohol abuse and the night time economy. In order to counter this 'spike' we have developed a tactical plan, 'Operation Pinnacle', which supports the delivery of our Violent Crime reduction strategy. We will be working closely with our partners to ensure that this plan is a success.

### **Crime Performance – Devizes Community Area**

<b>DEVIZES &amp; MARLBOROUGH SECTOR</b>						
<b>DEVIZES</b>	<b>CRIME</b>				<b>DETECTIONS</b>	
	APR 2010 - MAR 2011 cf previous year				APR 2010 - MAR 2011 cf previous year	
	2009/10	2010/11	+ / -	% Change	2009/10	2010/11
Violence Against the Person	353	306	-47	-13.3%	53.5%	48.4%
Dwelling Burglary	36	58	22	61.1%	13.9%	10.3%
Criminal Damage	346	290	-56	-16.2%	15.9%	14.8%
Non Dwelling Burglary	110	120	10	9.1%	4.5%	2.5%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	55	96	41	74.5%	3.6%	2.1%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	23	16	-7	-30.4%	39.1%	0.0%
Total Crime	1319	1412	93	7.1%	30.7%	25.0%

County Division is compared with 15 most similar divisions in other Forces. Currently we are performing well e.g. ranked 1st (out of 15) for All Crime and 3rd (out of 15) for Violent Crime

### **Reported Anti-Social Behaviour Figures**

1st Quarter 1Apr-30Jun10	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 1July-30Sept10	3rd Quarter 1Oct-31Dec10	4th Quarter 1Jan-31Mar11	YEARLY ¼ AVE 09-11
402	411	399	312	381

### **3. Police Authority Representative:**

Councillor Chris Humphries is a member of the Wiltshire Police Authority and has the responsibility for overseeing matters in the community area.

Please contact via Wiltshire Police Authority Tel. 01380 734022 or <http://www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk/feedback.asp>

### **Vision Wiltshire**

Vision Wiltshire has been set-up to deliver a new policing model to meet the projected funding cuts over the next 4-years.

Wiltshire Police Authority (WPA) must reduce its budget from £108million in 2009-10 by £15million over the next four years. In order to identify where the public felt these savings might be made and what services should be protected, a special public consultation was conducted between 23rd November 2010 & 11th February 2011. There were 1,134 responses.

#### **What did we do?**

A questionnaire was posted on the WPA website which also sent to every town and parish council in Wiltshire and Swindon.

WPA Members attended Area Board meetings to present an overview of the situation and to encourage the public to express their views.

WPA Chairman, Christopher Hoare, presented similarly at meetings arranged by Wiltshire Council to consult with the public on their budget and that of partner agencies.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams distributed the questionnaire within their communities.

All Neighbourhood Watch Members and members of the public who had signed up to the Force website were alerted to the consultation.

WPA members also met with five of the six MPs in Wiltshire and Swindon to seek their views.

#### **What you said**

The conclusions that can be drawn from the results of the survey are as follows:

Many people were concerned about how public sector cuts will affect policing in their local area.

There was an overwhelming agreement that removing Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) from neighbourhoods should only be done as a last resort.

85% of respondents said they would be happy with an answer rate of **up to** one minute for the non-emergency police number.

The public did not want to lose police stations and they were the primary choice for accessing police services. However, there was strong support for the use of shared facilities and of greater use of internet and telephone.

The majority of respondents agreed that we should spend the same or more than is now spent on the services we identified in our questionnaire.

WPA should be sourcing policing goods and services from others if it was more effective and efficient.

The respondents ranked the given priorities as follows:

1. Tackling crime
2. Answering 999 calls
3. Neighbourhood Policing
4. Keeping people safe
5. Being available 24/7

### **What we have done**

The results of the consultation have been used along with a strategic assessment by Wiltshire Police to inform our Policing Plan for 2011/14. This directs policing effort as follows:

#### **Strategic Priority 1 - Reduce Violent Crime**

As part of our vision for Wiltshire to be the safest county in the Country, we are committed to further reducing violence and supporting the victims and witnesses of violent crime. Specifically, over the next year we will focus on reducing alcohol related violence and domestic abuse and further improving our quality of service to victims of sexual abuse.

#### **Strategic Priority 2 - Manage the people who cause the most harm in our communities**

It is estimated that one in ten offenders are responsible for up to half of all crime in Wiltshire. It makes sense, therefore, to focus on those people who are causing the most harm in our communities and deal with them through an integrated approach with our partners in the justice system.

#### **Strategic Priority 3 - Tackle Antisocial Behaviour**

The level of antisocial behaviour in Swindon and Wiltshire increases in the summer. Overall levels are low and falling, and most people view Wiltshire as a safe place. The Force will be working to protect the most vulnerable and to support the communities within

Wiltshire to develop and implement their own solutions to local problems

#### **Strategic Priority 4 - Developing Sustainable Policing**

The scale of the cuts requires a wholesale review of what the police do and how they do it. This means a re-focus on the core role and a much keener focus upon productivity and resource usage. Minor adjustments to the operating model will not allow us to maintain performance whilst reducing cost. WPA has agreed the development of a new operational policing model, supported by new technology. To minimise risk that comes with change, we will introduce the new operational model gradually, ensuring that each component is properly consulted upon and tested before implementation.

For the full report on the WPA *Vision Wiltshire* public consultation or for a full copy of the *Policing Plan* visit the WPA website at: [www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk)

In June, WPA will publish its review of the performance of Wiltshire Police during 2010/11, and we will look to update the Area Board shortly thereafter.

Ron Peach  
Sector Inspector  
10/05/11