Knife Crime

Detective Superintendent Guy Elkins
Swindon Hub Commander





Crimes Involving Knives & Blades

County recorded 16 crimes involving knives and blades in April 24 (-18 YoY), 4 were DA related

Swindon recorded 18 crimes involving knives and blades in April 24, 2 were DA related

Decline in volume most notably in Public Order offences.

- Recorded a 26.2% decrease YoY equates to 34 less offences over 12 months
- Public order offences declined over 12.3%
- Robbery declined 27.2% equates to 28 less offences over 12 months

Wiltshire is the 6th lowest nationally for the total number of offences involving knives and blades per 1000 in the last 12 months. (0.41 against a national average of 0.86)

Where we are

Intel

- Daily scanning and scoping to identify persons & hotspots presenting risk
- Dedicated Source Unit for individuals with knife crime information
- All knife crime outstanding offenders arrest opportunities prioritised
- Increase community reporting through Crime stoppers and schools.

Neighbourhood Harm Reduction

- Mapping of habitual knife crime carriers & hotspot locations
- Diversionary measures in place and schools training packages such as 'Blunt Truth'.

Swindon & County Gangs Partnership

- Revised tactical to strategic delivery of knife crime.
- Gathering of information through local networks and key groups
- Greater data sharing across the partnership to collaberate the threat and harm.

Response

- Use of appropriate stop search powers to target offenders / hot spot locations
- Improved governance of section 60 powers and training.
- 24/7 targeting on catch and convict nominals.



The Future

- 2024-25 funding for Blunt Truth delivery within Educational settings
- Home visits alongside YJS children identified as participating in gang activity
- Responsible Retailers Scheme.
- Increased surrender bins, knife wands and knife detection arches
- Peer advocate engagement with the young people of Swindon
- Courts ensure they better understand the police approach in order to improve outcomes.
- Increase use of Child Abduction Warning Notices (CAWN)
- Improved intelligence sharing with partner agencies increasing the response to knife crime.

Structure

