

Wiltshire Police Marlborough



Marlborough Community Area – April 2010

Inspector's Update

Wiltshire Police are currently embarking on a programme entitled 'Vision Wiltshire'. Many of you will have heard media speculation around the future of public services funding and this will become more acutely focussed as the election approaches.

Our Chief Officer Group is working closely with our Police Authority to prepare Wiltshire Police for the likely lean years ahead. The intention is to ensure that we are ever leaner, fitter, more cost effective, yet still capable of delivering the level of performance you deserve and expect.

Vision Wiltshire is looking at every area of our business to ensure that we are as efficient as possible. I am pleased to report that the Police Authority has placed my areas of responsibility at the heart of its core service delivery strategy: Neighbourhood Policing and Patrol. These teams provide you with your local officers working on the local priorities listed below and initial 999 response to incidents. This means that these front line services will be maintained at the level we are accustomed and the rest of our organisation will feed that common goal. You can find out more about this longer term strategy here:

<http://www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk>.

What follows is a list of key areas where we have identified an ability to deliver more for less:

- Scoping of regional collaborative work in some areas of 'protected services' e.g. major crime investigation and intelligence;
- Greater regional collaboration in acquisition of the things we need to do our business e.g. uniform and equipment;
- Scoping of areas where Wiltshire Police can contract out to other forces its own specific areas of expertise e.g. we are the national lead in Domestic Violence and some areas of Chemical, Biological, Radioactive and Nuclear Response.
- Looking robustly at what we spend 'running ourselves' e.g. HR & Administrative functions.
- Increased emphasis on effective local partnership work. Salisbury will form part of a national pilot where varied services will seek to come together under one roof with police and provide a 'one stop shop' for areas as diverse as anti-social behaviour, social care, alcohol & drugs advice, etc.
- We have already begun to roll out the Mobile & Remote Working Initiative. Changes in the way we do our business and the level of our accountability has increased the administrative burden on front line officers and increased their dependence on I.T. Following a significant investment from our Police Authority, front line officers can now complete their paperwork 'on the spot' using a mobile terminal. The aim is to increase visible patrol by our uniform staff.

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We enter one of the most challenging periods of our history, but one where meaningful partnership work at your Area Board becomes ever more important. I look forward to updating you further as we move forward.

Andrew NOBLE
Inspector
East Wiltshire Sector

Sergeant's Update

Neighbourhood policing in the Marlborough Community Area consists of three teams of Neighbourhood Policing Officers. These are servicing the areas of Marlborough Town and Manton, Marlborough east (Ramsbury, Aldbourne, etc.), and Marlborough west (Lockeridge, Avebury, etc.). We have recently been joined by PC Sarah Watts who you will meet soon.

During the start of 2010 an increase in rural theft occurring in our more isolated rural areas was noted. Over a period of seven weeks extra patrols were mounted utilising your Community Beat Managers assisted by Sector Management and the Rural Crime Team, working series of night shifts through to 4 a.m. A minimum of two double crewed cars were patrolling your rural communities during each night of the operation, and occasionally three. These patrols were tasked with being proactive in respect of disrupting travelling criminals, and checking isolated rural farms/properties. We also joined up with our colleagues from Thames Valley Police who mounted similar activity on their side of our shared border.

The net result of our proactive patrol strategy was that the numbers of night time crimes across our rural parishes were reduced dramatically from around 9 per month to the more usual 2 or 3.

Our rural night operation was not mounted without cost and reduced day time visibility of Community Beat Managers resulted during the operation period. However, I am pleased that we have responded quickly to a problem that touches our farmers and other rural businesses at a time that is already difficult in the current economic crisis.

Ben BRAINE
Sergeant
Marlborough & Pewsey Neighbourhood Policing Team

Wiltshire Police Marlborough



PRIORITIES AND ONGOING ACTIVITY

Neighbourhood Policing Team: Marlborough Town

Beat Manager: PC Stan BOARDMAN

PCSO: Mark BRAITHWAITE

Email: marlbtownnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

PRIORITY: Anti-Social Behaviour, Waitrose Car Park, Marlborough

Throughout the winter months, regular patrols have been made of the car park, play area and Priory Park. Police presence has disrupted groups in the area, aided also by the cold spell we have experienced. With lighter evenings approaching we will continue to pay attention to this area.

PRIORITY: Use of mobile phone whilst driving a motor vehicle

Officers have been conducting patrols aimed at reducing the use of phones by motorists. Roads Policing Officers have also been prominent in the town conducting road checks. This priority will continue with particular emphasis being placed at peak times.

Other Activity

High visibility foot patrols have been maintained in the town centre of Marlborough. This has resulted in a decline of reported purse thefts which became a particular problem in 2009.

Marlborough Town NPT has worked with the Town Council, in the issuing of lanyards to shoppers allowing them to be able to keep their purses fixed and more secure. Further batches of these are being purchased. NPT surgeries are being held at different venues in the town centre on a regular basis, together with "Street Stalls". Further venues are being arranged for the near future.

PC Boardman and PCSO Braithwaite have recently attended a National Pubwatch conference. The aim of this was to learn best practise on how successful and sustainable schemes are run. We will be re-launching the Marlborough scheme shortly. Our aim is to ensure that people who enjoy a night out in Marlborough do so in a safe and enjoyable environment.

It is pleasing to report that for the 3 month period ending January 2010, there has been a small 4% decrease in overall crime compared to the same period last year. Burglary and vehicle crime have both shown a decrease of almost 4%; anti-social behaviour has shown a large decrease of 27%.

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Neighbourhood Policing Team: Marlborough Rural West

Community Beat Manager: PC 2377 Sarah WATTS

Community PCSO: 6115 Polly RITCHIE

Email: marlboroughruralwestnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

PRIORITY: Traffic Related Issues - Lockeridge

This became a priority for the Neighbourhood Policing Team after consultation with the residents of Lockeridge. Motorists are perceived to travel at excessive speed through Lockeridge en route to the A4, at all times of the day, but particularly at school times and during the morning/evening rush hour. The problem is compounded by parking issues when parents are dropping off and picking up children from the school.

This issue is being dealt with through regular patrols and speed enforcement initiatives set up by the Community Beat Manager. Advice has been given where applicable, and moving forward, offenders will be offered a Speed Awareness Course. Where the speed is excessive enforcement will take the form of fixed penalty tickets or summons to court.

Other initiatives include working with Kennet Valley School to provide a consistent message to parents about the impact of their parking choices, an agreement has been set up with Wadsworth Brewery so that parents can park in the *Who'd a Thought It? Public House Car Park* and road safety lessons are planned for the children at the school.

Other Activity

Over the last 3 months the Marlborough Rural West Neighbourhood Policing Team has been conducting a programme of consultation in the Avebury / Beckhampton / West Kennet areas to identify key issues within those communities. In addition a number of public meetings/surgeries have been held in Avebury and Lockeridge and the team has been busy attending Parish Council meetings. Work is on going to strengthen relationships with the schools in the area and a programme of lessons/visits is being planned.

A warrant has been executed under the Misuse of Drugs Act in the Avebury area and all intelligence that has been received is being actively worked on. The Community Beat Manager is now back to full duties, so the team is back to full strength.

Wiltshire Police Marlborough



Neighbourhood Policing Team: Marlborough Rural East

Community Beat Manager: PC 1661 Jeremy BATCHELOR

Community PCSO: 6093 Jonathan MILLS

Email: marlboroughruraleastnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

CLOSED PRIORITY: Anti-Social Behaviour – Aldbourne

Engagement with local teenagers through hi-visibility patrols and advice given has had a positive effect. There have been no further reports of anti-social behaviour in the Westfield Chase area or Whitley Road playing fields over the last few months. Neither have there have been any further reports of illegal use of bikes in the area. Although this is historically a seasonal problem, it has reduced through targeting individuals. Feedback from the Parish council was positive and they had nothing to report.

CLOSED PRIORITY: Speeding - BAYDON

Hi visibility patrols by PC Batchelor & PCSO Mills in the village continue and reports of speeding have reduced within the village. The NPT continue to have regular contact with the well run village Traffic Calming Working Group and Parish Council. They are actively considering a Community Speed Watch scheme (CSW).

NEW PRIORTIY: Anti Social Behaviour – RAMSBURY

Consultations with local residents, the church, Parish Council, local surgeries and direct reports to police, have identified ongoing underage drinking in the covered entrance to the Holy Cross Church and vandalism in surrounding areas. Probable offenders have been identified and spoken to. High visibility mobile and foot patrols concentrating on the church area will be conducted.

Other Activity

The team are now equipped and trained in the use of Mobile Remote Working (MRW). This enables us to complete our computer based admin anywhere and increase our time on visible patrol. We are also exploring the use of the IT systems at Aldbourne and Ramsbury libraries which are already used for consultation meetings.

We will take part in community events over the summer months. The recent Transport Event at St John's School Marlborough attracted over a thousand visitors and all of our Marlborough Teams supported an extensive police stand supported by other specialised departments.