

Crime and Community Safety Briefing Paper

Devizes Community Area Board

Date of Meeting 24th September 2012



1. Neighbourhood Policing

Team Sgt: Sgt Ian Thomas

Town Centre Team

Beat Manager – PC Adam Hall
PCSO – Paula Yarranton
PCSO – Lucy Sainsbury
PCSO – Kelly Watts
PCSO – Scott Young

Rural North Team

Beat Manager – PC Emma Reed
PCSO – Gareth Cole
PCSO - Fiona Marno

Rural South Team

Beat Manager – PC Pete Lawson
PCSO – Nina Marsh
PCSO - Fiona Marno
PCSO – Oliver Nash

2. NPTs - Current Priorities & Consultation Opportunities:

Up-to-date details about Neighbourhood Policing Teams including team membership, current priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on our Wiltshire Police Website.

Visit the new and improved website at: www.wiltshire.police.uk

3. Police Authority Representative: Mr Christopher Humphries

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

4. Performance and Other Local Issues

I wish to start this quarterly update with some news on our staffing establishment at Devizes. I am pleased to report that we are fully up to strength. The Devizes South Rural NPT area has a new Beat Manager in post, PC Pete Lawson. Pete is a keen and proactive officer who formerly worked in our Roads Policing Unit. Pete is keen to take on the role and I am sure he will use the skills gained in his previous post to help our rural areas and villages with any traffic-related issues. The South Rural post had been vacant for some time, being covered by PC Emma Reed. I am very pleased that the area now has its own dedicated Beat Manager and I am pleased that Pete has taken on the role. I am sure you will join me in wishing him well in this role.

I am also pleased to report that we are fully up to strength with our PCSOs. We currently have 8 Community Support Officers against an establishment of 6. We have recently been joined by Scott Young and Oliver Nash. Both officers have completed a period of tutorship and are working on the Devizes Town and Devizes South Rural NPT areas respectively. Finally, I welcome PCSO Gareth Cole to our team. Gareth formerly held a PCSO role in Amesbury and now works on the Devizes North Rural area, having swapped with PCSO Wendy Leat. I am determined to fully use this situation to our advantage in tackling community issues.

I am also pleased to report some very good work recently undertaken by our team. You may have seen in the local media recently reports of a significant seizure of cannabis in All Cannings. We had received community intelligence that a local resident was cultivating cannabis in their garden. The area Beat Manager, PC Emma Reed, attended the address with other officers and discovered a significant quantity of mature and young cannabis plants. Needless to say the occupant was arrested and a 73yr old local male has been charged with cultivation of cannabis. This is an example of excellent work following valuable information from the local community. We have taken a large quantity of illegal drugs out of our community.

In a similar vein our PCSOs have been active in dealing with juveniles who have been caught smoking cannabis. Youths have been located during the evenings in Market Lavington and Devizes smoking cannabis. Thanks to the sharp eyes of our PCSOs these youths have been issued with street warnings and reprimands.

PC Pete Lawson is also making his presence felt in Devizes. He and PC Adam Hall were on patrol in Devizes when they were flagged down by staff from a local shop. They reported that 2 shoplifters had just left their store. The offenders were spotted and after a short chase were detained and arrested. They have both admitted to 5 counts of shoplifting and have been charged. I would estimate the total value of the goods stolen to be in excess of £1000.

Having described some of the good work undertaken by our local NPT it saddens me when I see reports of other crimes being committed that we have been unable to detect. One such crime type is non-dwelling burglaries such as sheds and out-houses. We continue to suffer these types of offences and frequently there are few, if any, lines of enquiry. I would urge all of us to ensure that our property is secured as best as we are able and to report any suspicious activity at the time. Thanks to one such report 3 males were arrested following a burglary to a shed in Patney, just outside of the Devizes area. An alert occupant reported suspicious noises and discovered 3 bicycles stolen from their shed. A car with 3 males was stopped nearby with the property in the back and the males were arrested. This demonstrates the value of being alert to such behaviour and the value of organisations such as Neighbourhood Watch.

Finally, we are now entering our round of quarterly consultations to determine the next set of NPT priorities. Local officers will be in their areas seeking your views as to what community safety issues affect you the most. If you see them please take a few minutes to let them know. You can see more about the team, priorities and consultations at www.wiltshire.police.uk and by following us on Twitter under the name @DevizesPolice. One final reminder though, that the old 0845 408 7000 telephone number to contact Wiltshire Police will be turned off on 30th September when the new 101 non-emergency number will be the only non-emergency telephone number available to contact us on. There will be media activity to remind people of this nearer the time but I wish to draw it to your attention now. We can also be contacted via email at devizesnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk.

Most Recent year on year crime and antisocial behaviour statistics

As you can see from the below, there has been a significant reduction in all crime categories in this rolling year, September 2011 to August 2012, compared to the previous year, September 2010 to August 2011. Help us keep it this way by looking after yourselves, looking after your property and reporting anything suspicious to us as soon as you possibly can.

| EZ Devizes | Crime | | | | Detections | |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|----------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | September 2010 - August 2011 | September 2011 - August 2012 | Volume Change | % Change | September 2010 - August 2011 | September 2011 - August 2012 |
| Victim Based Crime | 1407 | 1281 | -126 | -9% | 23% | 20% |
| Domestic Burglary | 69 | 42 | -27 | -39% | 13% | 19% |
| Non Domestic Burglary | 160 | 139 | -21 | -13% | 3% | 6% |
| Vehicle Crime | 143 | 108 | -35 | -24% | 3% | 10% |
| Criminal Damage & Arson | 325 | 301 | -24 | -7% | 14% | 18% |
| Violence Against The Person | 263 | 242 | -21 | -8% | 55% | 35% |
| ASB Incidents (Year to Date) | 657 | 613 | -44 | -7% | | |
| Wiltshire Police are compared against a group of 8 most similar forces. Wiltshire Police have performed in line with peers and better than average for Total Crime & Violence Against the Person in the previous 12 month period (August 2011 - July 2012) | | | | | | |
| * Detections include both Sanction Detections and Local Resolution | | | | | | |

Inspector Ron Peach 8 September 2012
Area Commander