



Melksham Area Board October 2013

Neighbourhood Policing

Current NPT Priorities:

Up-to-date information about Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) including profiles, priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on the Wiltshire Police website www.wiltshire.police.uk

Team Structure:

Sergeant:	Sean Brady
Town Centre:	PC Kane Fulbrook-Smith, PCSO Helen Wilson PCSO Christopher Pugh
Rural North:	PC Barry Dalton PCSO Janet Gould PCSO Maggie Ledbury
Rural South:	PC Emily Thomas PCSO Rose Baldock

I apologise for the brevity of this report. Having returned from a very pleasant period of annual leave I find myself with a number of matters to resolve in a short period of time.

Crime Overview

The most important thing to highlight has been the overall reduction in crime for the preceding two months. The volume and percentage change for all crime types reported in the table at the bottom of this report have reduced since my last update in July. This is very pleasing and a continuation of the overall trend for crime reduction.

While there is no significant crime series to report on our focus remains on the overall reduction in crime, targeting those causing us most harm and reducing repeat business for both people and places.

Violence against the person: I have seen a number of recorded incidents of violence linked to dwelling houses and licensed premises in August and September. Significantly four incidents have resulted in numerous crime reports being recorded as there may be several injured parties or reporting persons. The figures for violence are made up of reports of both violence with injury and violence without injury. For example an adverse comment or threat made against someone via social media can be recorded as 'violence non-injury' as can an assault where no physical injury is sustained.

The NPT team review all violent offences on the sector to analyse where we can be impactful and reduce crime. In one instance following in incident in a pub, the Area Manager was invited to meet the Police licensing team and through this interaction significant changes were made to the local management of the pub for the better.

It is more problematic to deal with those offences within family units or behind closed doors. To target this we identifying repeat offences through location or named individuals. Our efforts then concentrate on prevention of further offending.

There has been some media attention for Police activity labelled 'Operation Harness'. This is a Wiltshire Police led operation to promote our engagement with local communities through organised days of action. The operation utilises staff and officers from a wide range of departments and endorses key messages to local communities. The key message of community engagement is further endorsed through the support from our partners within the wider community and Wiltshire Police welcomes the involvement of our partnership agencies. We aim to keep all Area Boards and partner agencies up to date with the results of each Operation Harness activity and welcome suggestions from Area Boards about future activity in their locations.

On the 27th September OP Harness took place and additional resources were deployed to King George V playing field and the area of the Adventure Centre in support of the existing NPT priority and also to the known car parks and other areas where groups gather in cars. As a result of this activity 13 youths were stop checked, community engagement was conducted in known areas of ASB and all licensed premises in Melksham town were checked for adherence to licensing conditions.

Burglary remains the focus of attention although numbers remain low in volume.

Please report any suspicious activity to Police (descriptions of people and vehicle registration numbers are most useful).

Lock your property away, record serial numbers on www.immobilise.com , take photos of your valuable property for future reference and add additional security measures to your houses and outbuildings.

ED Melksham NPT	Crime				Detections*	
	12 Months to August 2012	12 Months to August 2013	Volume Change	% Change	12 Months to August 2012	12 Months to August 2013
Victim Based Crime	1193	1213	+20	+1.7%	23%	22%
Domestic Burglary	46	62	+16	+34.8%	4%	3%
Non Domestic Burglary	99	157	+58	+58.6%	7%	1%
Vehicle Crime	145	115	-30	-20.7%	4%	6%
Criminal Damage & Arson	268	230	-38	-14.2%	26%	22%
Violence Against The Person	229	262	+33	+14.4%	45%	44%
ASB Incidents (YTD)	385	457	+72	+18.7%		

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 Victim Based Crime and significantly better than peers for Domestic Burglary in the previous 12 month period (April 2012 - March 2013).

Matthew Armstrong
Inspector, Devizes, Melksham, Pewsey