



## Public opinion survey – Trowbridge, Melksham and Bradford on Avon Area – Melksham Community Area

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) commissioned M.E.L. Research to consult local residents. During 2012/13 4408 Wiltshire residents completed the survey. A minimum of 384 people took part in each of the eleven policing sectors<sup>i</sup> ensuring that the results for each sector were significant<sup>ii</sup>

The aims of this survey are:

- To measure public perception of Wiltshire Police and how communities are policed
- To consult the public and enable the OPCC and Wiltshire Police to prepare policing plans
- To enhance the OPCC and Wiltshire Police's understanding of how policing influences people's sense of security and wellbeing

The report below sets out the results for the Melksham area. A summary for the whole Force area will be available shortly on the Commissioner's website. If you have any queries please contact the OPCC on the details below.

### Public perceptions linked to the Police and Crime Commissioner Priorities

	Melksham Community Area	Trowbridge, Melksham and Bradford on Avon Area	Wiltshire Police Force Area
Feel safe when outside in their local area during the day	90.3%	95.1%	93.4%
Feel safe when outside in their local area after dark	69.2%	63.1%	63.9%
Satisfaction with the level of police visibility in their neighbourhood	62.5%	61.5%	59.1%
<b>Number Surveyed</b>	114	390	4408
<b>Population</b>	26590	85810	684028

Key:

	significantly better than Wiltshire average*
	in line with Wiltshire average*
	significantly worse than Wiltshire average*

\* Wiltshire average is the Wiltshire Police Force Area

### What types of crime and anti social behaviour (ASB) cause a problem in your area?

Issues in the local area	There are no crime and ASB issues in my local area	Domestic burglary	People being drunk or rowdy in public places	Teenagers hanging around	Non-dwelling burglary
Melksham Community Area	55%	15%	11%	10%	6%
Trowbridge, Melksham & Bradford on Avon Area	50%	10%	13%	12%	5%
Wiltshire Police Force Area	54%	8%	10%	16%	3%

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**What are the concerns in your area?**

Concerns in local area	Melksham Community Area	Trowbridge, Melksham & Bradford on Avon Area	Wiltshire Police Force Area
Lack of facilities for young people	61%	61%	56%
Unemployment	35%	40%	37%
Lack of local amenities	30%	30%	25%
Crime	27%	26%	29%
Standard of public transport	26%	23%	20%
Anti-social behaviour	26%	30%	34%
Drug misuse	21%	25%	30%
Standard of health services	16%	21%	16%
Poverty	13%	11%	14%

**What should the priorities be in your area?**

Priorities	Melksham Community Area	Trowbridge, Melksham & Bradford on Avon Area	Wiltshire Police Force Area
None - not a problem in my area	37%	28%	24%
More police out and about	19%	23%	29%
None - police do as much as they can	12%	14%	16%
Tackle minor crimes and anti-social behaviour	7%	7%	6%

**Perceptions of Crime and ASB**

Perceptions of Crime and ASB being a problem in the Trowbridge, Melksham and Bradford on Avon Area are just above the average for the Wiltshire Police area.

- The average perceived level of crime on a scale of 1 – 10 (with 1 being 'none' and 10 being 'a lot') is 3.39 for Wiltshire Police as a whole. For the Trowbridge, Melksham and Bradford on Avon Area, the average score is slightly above the force average at 3.57, the average score for the Melksham Community Area is in line with the force average at 3.36
- The average perceived level of ASB on a scale of 1 – 10 (with 1 being 'none' and 10 being 'a lot') is 3.34 for Wiltshire Police as a whole. For the Trowbridge, Melksham and Bradford on Avon Area, the average score is slightly higher than the force average at 3.42, perceptions of ASB in Melksham Community Area are below the Force average at 3.01

The perceptions of low levels of crime and ASB are in line with the actual crime and ASB levels with both just above the force average.

- There were 52 crimes per 1000 population in the Trowbridge, Melksham and Bradford on Avon Area in 2012/13, this compares to a Wiltshire average of 46 crimes per 1000 population.
- There were 41 reported ASB incidents per 1000 population in the Trowbridge, Melksham and Bradford on Avon Area in 2012/13, in comparison to a Wiltshire average of 37 incidents.

\* Wiltshire Police is divided geographically into 11 local policing areas. These areas are then further divided into community areas - these usually consist of a large town and the neighbouring villages.

\*\*Statistical significance; If the survey was completed using an alternative set of respondents there is a 95% chance that the result would fall within  $\pm 1.5\%$  of the current result at force level. At sector level there is a 95% chance that the result would fall within  $\pm 5\%$  of the current result.

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<sup>i</sup> Wiltshire Police is divided geographically into 11 local policing sectors. These sectors are then further divided into sections - these usually consist of a large town and the neighbouring villages or community areas.

<sup>ii</sup> Statistical significance; If the survey was completed using an alternative set of respondents there is a 95% chance that the result would fall within  $\pm 1.5\%$  of the current result at force level. At sector level there is a 95% chance that the result would fall within  $\pm 5\%$  of the current result.