Calne Police - May/ June 2009

Sergeant's message

As mentioned in my last message in April you will now see that this report only includes Calne Town and Calne Rural following the restructure of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

I would like to mention that we are pleased to welcome PCSO Shelley Gray to the team; she has just arrived in Calne having previously worked in Trowbridge. Shelley has already begun to find her way around the area and got to know a few of the local residents and some of our customers! I feel confident that Shelley will be an asset to the dedicated team we have here.

This last week has seen two Drug warrants executed within the town – both of which were positive with Class B drugs seized from one home and what is believed to be Class A drugs seized from the other.

Over the last 8 weeks there has been an increased number of shed burglaries, with very little evidence left at the scene to indicate who was responsible. Working with local residents, good intelligence and information has been received which indicated a possible suspect. This male has been arrested and is currently on Police Bail, a further male has now been arrested and our enquiries are continuing. A quantity of property has been recovered; some of the items have been positively identified by the owners. Without information coming from the community these offences would have undoubtedly continued to occur. The actions of the community really can make a difference!

I continue with PS Connor's sentiments that there is an "open door" policy at the station, and we welcome any suggestions from our community that will continue to maintain Calne as one of the safest towns in one of the safest Countys.

Marina Boardman Acting Sergeant Calne NPT

Statistics

As a result of beat areas being amalgamated following the restructure of the NPT's I am unable to provide accurate details regarding crime committed on each area; our Corporate Development department are working on the records to solve this.

Since April 2009 we have received 5 reports of dwelling burglary, 43 non dwelling burglaries, 45 reports of criminal damage, 43 violent offences & 25 reports of vehicle crime.

Crime Prevention

Please see the Neighbourhood Watch section for advice on crime prevention

Neighbourhood Policing Teams

Calne Town: PC 893 Hans Monahan

PCSO 6043 Gaynor Bennett PCSO 6128 Barry Mussard PCSO 6240 Shelley Gray

nptcalnetown@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Calne Rural: PC 1215 Alan Blake

PCSO 6077 Sarah Hardwidge <u>calnerural@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk</u>

Priorities & ongoing activity.

Calne Town

Current Priorities

- 1. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR Castle Park/Skate Park
- 2. TRAFFIC ISSUES Fynamore Primary School, Isis Close, Calne
- 3. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR Grierson Close, Calne

The Calne Town Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team welcomes PCSO Shelley Gray. Shelley replaces PCSO Mark Braithwaite who has transferred to Marlborough Town Centre. Shelley is already becoming familiar with her patch and we wish Mark well in his new role.

The Calne Community Safety Forum on 27th May 2009 agreed to put in place three new priorities which have been arrived at by the consultative process. The team will be working on these during the summer.

They include providing high visibility and reassurance in the area of Castle Park and the skate bowl. This is to address reports of anti-social behaviour and to discourage littering and contravention of the drinking ban.

There will be a focus on Fynamore School where there have been reports of congestion and hazardous car manoeuvring. Efforts will be made to enter into a dialogue with parents to address the problems and work with partner agencies to improve road signage.

Finally, the residents in Grierson Close have been in need of attention. Reports from a number of sources indicate that the elderly residents in this area have been subject to anti-social behaviour. Over the summer months the NPT team will make personal visits to the residents. There are also already plans to use the services of The Bobby Van, funded by locally raised monies, to improve home security.

Statistics for Calne Town:

We cannot currently supply this information due to an issue regarding the recent restructure of the NPT's and beat changes.

Calne Rural

Current priorities

- 1. **SPEEDING** Stockley and Heddington
- 2. **SPEEDING** Hilmarton and Goatacre
- 3. **SPEEDING** Derry Hill

All of these priorities currently remain having been carried forward from the previous quarter. Speed enforcement will continue to be conducted by the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) staff, along with the visible presence and assistance from colleagues attached to other departments, such as the Roads Policing Unit.

I can report that at this stage speed checks have been carried out by the NPT at Church Road, Derry Hill. On these occasions, no excess speed was recorded, however residents are still reporting that traffic is regularly travelling at what they perceive to be excess speed, and vehicles travelling through the village flouting the weight restrictions. This is a matter that requires some continued monitoring to effectively present the findings to the Tasking Group. Currently no vehicles have been found to be contravening the weight limit and only a very small number of motorists have been captured travelling very slightly over the speed limit. In line with the Wiltshire Police Policy on Speed Enforcement, no fixed penalty notices were issued and the drivers were advised.

The speeding through Stockley and Heddington is still being monitored by the Beat Manager, with periodic speed checks being conducted. Very few vehicles have been found to be travelling above the recognised speed limit. Those vehicles travelling over the speed limit were only a few M.P.H. above the limit and words of advice were given. No fixed penalty notices were issued during this period.

At Hilmarton and Goatacre, the H.A.G.G.I.S. group are continuing with their surveys and investigations, supported by the Beat Manager with periodic speed checks.

H.A.G.G.I.S. are in consultation with Wiltshire Council regarding the placement of warning gates on the speed signs entering both villages.

Statistics for Calne Rural NPT:

We cannot currently supply this information due to an issue regarding the recent restructure of the NPT's and beat changes.

Neighbourhood Watch

Crime Prevention

As mentioned in my report, shed and garage burglaries are once again on the agenda in Calne. I would actively urge and encourage you all to ensure that you have adequate security and locks installed on ALL buildings and outbuildings. You provide the thief with such easy pickings if left insecure.

Likewise with the summer holidays fast approaching and thoughts of going away for the day or holidays, please be security conscious. Speak with a neighbour, ask them to keep an eye on your property, arrange for post/deliveries to be collected and not left on the doorstep and, if possible, arrange for lights to be turned on and off in the later evening and curtains drawn and opened. Make sure window locks are locked. Don't leave spare keys in a place that is visible to any potential burglar. These types of measures really can make a difference in protecting your home, and not leaving it vulnerable by drawing attention to the fact that it is unoccupied.

Theft from vehicles in beauty spot locations also may come to the forefront during the summer months, due to the increased amount of visitors to these sometimes isolated locations. Don't allow yourself to become a victim. Ensure your vehicle is locked. Don't leave any valuables on view, including clothing as a thief may think the clothing is hiding something underneath. Try to park your car in an area that is visible to passers by and other motorists. If you see anything suspicious try to record registration numbers and descriptions and phone the Police.

All of the above are common sense precautions, which I would respectfully remind you of.

I wish to also bring to the forefront of your minds distraction offences and bogus callers. Please check on elderly and vulnerable neighbours and confirm identification of any unexpected callers, especially from utility companies such as water companies. Genuine utility company officials will not be offended if you ask for identification and often encourage people to check their identity with their companies.

Do not allow people to 'hold' you on the doorstep if other parts of your property such as the back or side door are insecure. Make sure no-one else enters your house when you are talking to someone at the door.

Be aware of people calling door to door offering services such as roof repairs, gardening work and driveway maintenance. Be sure to check out their reputation with agencies such as trading standards. Agree a price **before** any work is carried out and agree with the contractor that any additional or unexpected costs are agreed **before** work is carried out. **If in doubt ask a friend or relative to be present in negotiations**.

Legislation provides a cancellation or cooling off period. There are five pieces of legislation covering this under consumer protection. It allows a customer to cancel without financial penalty. Be aware of your rights and be wary if a sales person or representative does not tell you your rights under this legislation.

Neighbourhood Watch is an easy way of being part of your community and ensuring that everyone works together to reduce the likelihood of a crime occurring.

Anyone interested in joining or setting up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is welcome to make contact with the NPT Team and we will pass your details onto one of the Community Area co-ordinators.

When providing information, please make sure you remain safe and don't put yourself into any danger. Information that is particularly useful to the Police should include: What has happened, times, dates, locations, descriptions of those involved. Direction of travel and

vehicle registration numbers and descriptions. Please remember that you can always phone anonymously should you so wish.