

# Wiltshire Police Corsham



## Neighbourhood Policing report to Area 4 Committee 23 September 2008

### Crime Report for Year to date April 2008 – July 2008.

#### Crime statistics

07/08 total crime = 319 07/08 detection rate = 15.14% (53 offences detected)

08/09 total crime = 298 08/09 detection rate = 28.84% (92 offences detected)

I am as pleased by the drop in reported crime as the increased detection rate. A drop in crime is evidence that officers are out on patrol at key times in the right place and at the right time to deter and target would be offenders. This can only be achieved by good community intelligence and information.

In relation to the detection rate, this demonstrates good community liaison whereby members of the public are pleased to assist the police with investigations; it is evidence of good partnership working and finally shows that we are catching criminals and bringing them to justice.

Alcohol related offending continues to fall from 28.2% of violent offences having alcohol as a contributing factor in 07/08 to 7.5% in the same period 08/09

#### Anti-social behaviour & Police priorities

I am aware that reports of ASB traditionally increase in the summer months. To combat this we put in place a Summer Patrol Strategy with aims of reducing irresponsible sale & consumption of alcohol, positive youth engagement and maintaining good quality of life for residents.

Some of you may have seen the press articles of Pc Pete CLARKE with the large amounts of alcohol seized from young people, or may be aware of the work Pc Moss, Pc CLARKE and PCSO REDMOND have been doing with the local licensed premises.

#### Town NPT

Beat Manager Pc 1937 MOSS  
Beat Officer Pc 744 CLARKE  
PCSO 6156 REDMOND

#### Corsham South

Beat Manager Pc1877 BALL  
PCSO 6159 STEVENS

#### Corsham North

Beat Manager Pc 2215 LLOYD  
PCSO 6041 WAGSTAFF

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## **Police Contact Management**

The method for contacting the police particularly via the 0845 number has improved greatly. In January 2007 data showed that we were answering on average 32% of calls within 30 sec.

Current data now shows that 95% of all calls placed to central call handling (CCH) are answered within 30 sec. Of all calls forwarded to the crime recording bureau (CriB) 72% are answered within 30 sec. Of all 999 calls to the emergency call centre (ECC) 93% are answered within 10 sec.

These are average figures and can vary at times of greater demand. The force is still actively recruiting and therefore senior managers are confident that these figures will improve.

Mr Peter COOPER, head of contact management has stated that he is more than willing for councillors to visit the contact centre. Should any members wish to take up this offer please arrange through your local Sergeant/Inspector.

## **Closure of Enquiry Offices**

Following a force survey it was concluded that the majority of enquiry offices, particularly those in smaller towns, were not cost effective. The main public concern at that time was the difficulty in contacting the police via the 0845 number and therefore a decision was made that enquiry offices would close and the staff redeployed into the contact centre.

As is well documented the closure of enquiry offices with the exception of Gablecross (Swindon), Melksham and Salisbury met with complaints from the public. It has since been accepted that 3 enquiry office centres was insufficient for a county the size of Wiltshire; in response to public concerns Marlborough, Chippenham and Trowbridge have now been re-established. There are no future plans to reinstate the enquiry offices elsewhere.

## **Recent moves**

### **Arrivals**

As I am sure you are aware Inspector WILLIAMS has moved on, he is now Chief Inspector, North Wilts. Inspector PAIN has been appointed as his replacement.

Pc Debbie LLOYD has taken on a temporary basis taken over from Pc Julia DICKSON for Corsham North and PCSO Tim STEVENS has arrived from Chippenham to take over from PCSO Gemma BLOOMFIELD for the Corsham South area, I am sure you will welcome both Pc LLOYD and PCSO STEVENS.

### **Departures**

Pc Julia DICKSON has moved across to the response teams in Chippenham and PCSO Gemma BLOOMFIELD moved to Trowbridge

I wish them both well and thank them for their contribution to Policing Corsham

### **Support**

Again, in line with the CC's wishes I am looking to support the existing Police family with volunteers and the more structured use of the Special Constabulary

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## An update

Over the last quarter (April to July) crime is down 8.86% and detections are up to 28.84%. This is almost double the detection rate of this time last year.

There has been some excellent partnership working by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, in particular to address Anti-Social Behaviour and disorder.

## Corsham Town

### Priorities

1. **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** - Martingate Centre, Mansion House Mews, Springfield Recreation Park and Alexander Terrace Recreation park
2. **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** - Underage drinking Town centre

The officers of the Neighbourhood Policing team Pc Mike Moss, Pc Pete Clarke and PCSO Shaun Redmond have been continuing their high visibility patrols around the town and this has seen a continued decrease in reports of crime and disorder in the area with calls to the police down 177 on this time last year. During August officers have issued an FPND for disorder, 4 reprimands for criminal damage and 1 for theft. 10 stops have been carried out and a large quantity of alcohol confiscated from underage drinkers.

Work is continuing with local retailers to disrupt the supply of alcohol to young people. I am not saying this is a huge problem, but in the build up to the summer months Beat Manager Pc Mike Moss is keen to highlight the issue and urge parents to be aware of alcohol going missing from home and to question your children should they come home smelling of alcohol.

To improve our processes Pc Mike Moss has been working with PCSO Shaun Redmond to streamline our Anti-social behaviour referrals and 6 letters have been sent to parents to highlight problems caused by their children. Offences at Corsham School are in sharp decline and I was pleased to read a recent press article where the Head praised the work of Mike Moss and his team for the reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour experienced in and around the school.

I recognise that it is important for the police to reflect the needs of the all sections of the community. Past experience tells us that in the summer months reports of anti-social behaviour and underage drinking increase and these offences are mainly committed by young people. To seek effective solutions, last week Shaun Redmond and I patrolled with Town Councillor Ruth Hopkinson to engage with young people and seek their views on causes and to develop long term actions and solutions to encourage those responsible to address their behaviour. This has been a useful exercise for Ruth and I and we will be building the findings into our plans. The Town CCTV has recently moved to Springfield Park an historical problem area for this time of the year and I am looking forward to being able to use this valuable tool to help address problem behaviour.

Corsham is a safe place to live and I am keen to satisfy our community that these we take quality of life issues of this type seriously for the benefit of all. We don't want to spoil anyone's fun, we just want a safe environment that all can enjoy and those who are drinking underage and being disorderly are spoiling it for everyone else.

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## Corsham South

### Priorities

1. **SPEEDING** - Bowden Hill, Lacock
2. **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** - Village Hall, Neston
3. **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** – Former Royal Arthur Site

Speed checks, high visibility patrolling and traffic monitoring will continue at Bowden Hill particularly with the volumes of tourists expected over the next few months. This will be accompanied by additional patrols to address an issue of anti-social behaviour to the rear of the Abbey. This is a summer problem with groups of visitors gathering in the area, underage drinking and using the shallow part of the river for swimming.

The problems at the Neston village Hall have significantly reduced and patrols have reported no issues when visiting the area.

Problems continue at the former HMS Royal Arthur site and Pc Mandie Ball and PCSO Tim Stevens have been speaking with the developers about graffiti and use of the site by people using cars and motor cycles. The clearance of the site is imminent but people have been gaining entry for anti-social aims. We will continue to work with NWDC Environmental services and the landowners to prosecute any offences, a number of people have already been issued warning notices regarding their use of vehicles.

The investigation into the recent theft of chickens from Lacock has been concluded with two men from Somerset and a man from Hawkeridge near Westbury having been charged with theft and handling. They will appear before Chippenham Magistrates on 7 October.

## Corsham North

### **Priorities**

1. **CRIMINAL DAMAGE** – Colerne village
2. **GRAFFITI** – Rudloe estate

Partnership work is continuing in Colerne to address the problems of damage and anti-social behaviour. We have been working closely with the church and the Army to develop long term and sustainable solutions to anti-social behaviour in the village.

The anti-social behaviour and damage are being caused by a small minority of young people. We know who these people are and they are actively being targeted by Pc Debbie Lloyd and PCSO Val Wagstaff. In the last month four of this group being prosecuted for offences of burglary, theft, damage and disorder.

Our strategy in Colerne is to divert young people from offending while preventing those currently offending from re-offending. Work is ongoing to target and prosecute offenders and in the long term the Church, Army and Police have developed Colerne Youth Connections to provide a youth facility in the village. The aim of CYC is to involve young people in the design and development of a youth facility to provide a safe meeting place and encourage responsibility and ownership for a

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community project. Key members of the community have been identified to work with the project, including offenders from the problem group, mothers and victims. North Wilts District council have a Community Sports project starting on Saturday in Colerne.

As a result there is evidence of the community coming together to show unity against the problem group and some of the group have recognised the effect of peer pressure and have moved away from the area.

In Rudloe there have been no new reports of graffiti or damage and enquiries are ongoing to identify those responsible with the help of Ian Whiteway the partnership anti-social behaviour reduction officer

We have an emerging issue of reckless driving in the Selwyn Hall car park, Box that had initially reduced following police intervention against some named individuals.

Steven McGrath

Sergeant Corsham NPT