

Police report to Malmesbury Area (1) Committee July 16th 2008.

Crime Report for Year to date April 2008 – June 2008.

Crime statistics

07/08 total crime = 127 07/08 detection rate = 11.81% (15 Det)

08/09 total crime = 116 08/09 detection rate = 22.41% (26 Det)

This is an area I am making a priority to improve, during my time in post (3 wks) this detection rate has increased by 5%. I fully intend for this to improve further.

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

In relation to the detection rate, this is evidence that we have a good community liaison whereby members of the public are happy to assist the police in our investigations, it is evidence of good partnership working and finally shows that we are catching criminals and bringing them to justice.

Anti-social behaviour Police priorities

Town NPT

1. The area of Station Yard Long Stay Car Park in Malmesbury has been brought to my attention this week. This relates to ASB by young drivers who have identified themselves on their own website. Ongoing work is taking place now between the police and NWDC, namely Ray Sanderson and Ian Whiteway. Various options open to us, such as Sec 59, PG9 officers, prosecution if applicable, ABC's.
2. We are aware that Cloister Gardens, situated behind the Abbey is becoming a popular place for under 18's to meet and consume alcohol and this results in ASB. Regular patrols of this area are taking place by NPT, youths moved on, confiscation powers utilised and where offences exist positive action is and will be taken by PND's / Arrests.
3. Persons gathering in the Market Cross area late Friday/Saturday nights are often heard with raised voices and broken glass is regularly found in the area the following morning. (action as above)

EY RURAL NPT

4. Hullavington Village - Local youths hanging around the streets, minor ASB, this is occurring mostly during the evenings.
5. Brinkworth Village - Youths who live in the area are hanging around on the street causing noise and minor damage to property.

A large proportion of offences are as a result of drunkenness therefore we also regularly target off licensed premises. These have been conducted by both the local police and by joint operation with Trading Standards officers. This will be ongoing.

Underage drinkers have unfortunately become wise to the police strategy and are known to ask passing adults to purchase alcohol on their behalf. A number of such adults have been identified and PND's issued.

Outcomes

The majority of crimes associated with ASB are either Criminal Damage or assaults. The cumulative figures for these offences are:

Crimes recorded = 43 of which 10 offences have been detected.

We have also issued a number of PND's (Penalty notice for disorder) regarding non-recordable offences such as urinating in the street and drunk and disorderly.

Police Contact Management.

The methods 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 complaint 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 office at Wootton Bassett, Malmesbury and Cricklade.

I am however looking at the option of opening the stations front door at set times (possibly advertised using local media) to hold NPT surgeries.

Malmesbury library has now been established as a policing point, a trained member of staff is able to assist members of the community in receiving lost property, giving advice on recording crime etc.

In addition to this PCSO Samantha WALSH who is part of the Cricklade NPT travels at least once a month on the Mobile Library to assist in reaching all sections of the community, this has been recognised as good practice and I am looking at working with the library service to extend this further.

Recent moves.

Arrivals

As I am sure you are aware Inspector LEVITT has now moved to headquarters and I have been appointed as his replacement. (Detail)

Pc 2383 Angela SHIPP joined the sector in June and has been assigned as a Patrol officer based at Wootton Bassett. Angela has worked for the Wiltshire police for a number of years and was formally employed as a civilian trainer based at Headquarters. Angela has degrees in both law and teaching. Although a newly appointed police officer Angela brings a lot of knowledge and experience to the team and I am sure will be a great asset.

Departures

Pc Andy RYMELL left the sector in May and has moved to Ireland where he now works as a private fraud investigator.

Ps Andy FORTUNE leaves in September to take up a new position as Custody Sergeant in Melksham.

Ps Joy MATTIS leaves the sector this month to take up a patrol Sgts position at Devizes.

A replacement will arrive, details to be confirmed.

Current Establishment.

We currently run 3 shifts which comprise of a Sergeant and 4 Constables. Each shift covers Wootton Bassett, Cricklade and Malmesbury. In addition each area has a Neighbourhood policing team comprising of a Community Beat Manager (Police Constable), and depending of the area size either 1 or 2 PCSO'S. There are no plans to increase this number.

Malmesbury Town NPT – PC Mike TRIPP, PCSO Dee CURAN, SPC's FREEGARD and ASHTON.

Malmesbury Rural NPT – PC Louis BOWDEN, PCSO Durry MAULE, SPC's WARREN and TODD.