

Wiltshire Police Chippenham



Chippenham Police – September 2009

Inspector's Update

Inspector Pain is currently away on Annual Leave and I am pleased to be representing her at September's Chippenham Community Area Board Meeting.

I'm disappointed at having to start this update by telling you that we are seeing the loss of our Taxi Marshalls. Chippenham has been fortunate to keep the Taxi Marshalls for a longer period of time than other towns under an extended pilot scheme, however, the funding has now ceased and they will no longer be in place from 30th August. Whilst they have been very supportive to us here in Chippenham, in all other areas where they have been removed across the county there has been no discernable increase in disorder since their removal. We hope that there will be no increase in problems in Chippenham following their removal.

I'm also disappointed to report that Chippenham has seen a rise in Violent Crime this financial year; the rise is approximately 20% when compared to last years figures. Violent Crime is part of our Control Strategy Priorities and we are tackling it by running Operation Restore.

Operation Restore allows us to call on resources from across the County, including officers from our Headquarters Departments; this allows us to bolster our numbers to tackle problems, and offenders, head-on. Officers from the Armed Response Group, Dog Section, Road Policing Unit and other uniformed roles are helping us provide additional High Visibility and reassurance in the town centre, and other areas identified where Violent Crime and Anti Social Behaviour is happening. We are holding more people to account for their behaviour; this includes people being arrested and an increased use in Penalty Notices for Disorder.

It is important to point out that part of the increase in recorded Violent Crime is caused by our increased use of Penalty Notices. Because we have been taking a tough stance on alcohol related behaviour, especially in the town centre, we have made more arrests and issued more Penalty Notices for offences under Section 5 of the Public Order Act (Disorderly Conduct) and this is recorded as a Violent Crime. The increase should therefore be seen in context that there has not necessarily been a significant rise in violence, but also an increase in robust police activity to combat Violence and Anti Social Behaviour.

We now have a formal action plan by which we are tackling Violent Crime including measures such as:

- Early intervention with licensed premises; holding Dedicated Premises Supervisors (DPS - formally known as Licensees) to account will form a major part of our strategy.
- When we arrest drunken people we will be asking them where they have been drinking. We will then be dealing with the DPS from the premises concerned. If we get continual problems with the same premises we will be seeking a License review and would seek the support of Wiltshire Council whilst doing this.
- We will be looking to 'name and shame' persons convicted of violent and alcohol-related offences and will share this information not only through the Pub Watch schemes, but also with the local media.
- We will be taking positive measures to ensure licensed food outlets close at the correct times - this prevents crowds gathering and reduces tensions and the likelihood for disorder.
- Covert Operations within Licensed Premises to monitor the sale of alcohol to drunk or underage persons will be conducted.
- Covert and Overt recording equipment will be deployed.

By taking these measures we are confident that we will see a reduction in Violent Crime and Anti Social Behaviour.

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To finish on a positive note, we have seen an increase in our detection rates for Violent Crimes, and we are currently detecting over 63% of these offences. Whilst we are not sitting on our laurels, we are really pleased to be bringing more offenders to justice and increasing confidence in our services with more victims.

Mark Gale
Acting Inspector 616

Sergeant's message

I've really enjoyed being in post for a few months now and am enjoying the challenges that Neighbourhood Policing brings. My team has been doing a lot of hard work with our partner agencies and are achieving many positive results. There are a few team changes to update you on...

Sarah Pulman, our Town South Community Beat Manager (CBM), is currently on a period of extended restricted duties. During her absence her role will be covered by PC Emma Higgins.

Emma can be contacted via email
emma.higgins@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Mat Jacobs, our CBM for the Town Centre, has been in post for over two years now and is looking to progress his career in other directions, as a result of which we will shortly be seeing the arrival of Pc Mike Moss, who will take over from Mat. Mike is a well respected officer and will bring lots of experience to the town with him.

Mike can be contacted via email
michael.moss@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Mat and Mike will have a handover period towards the end of September to provide a seamless transition.

Allan George
Sergeant 1291

Chippenham Crime Statistics

31/08/09

	Crime	Detections
Total Crime	1324	395 (29.8%)
Dwelling Burglary	58	15 (25.9%)
Criminal Damage	296	50 (16.9%)
Theft & Handling	379	89 (23.49%)
Robbery	13	3 (23.1%)
Vehicle Crime	89	5 (5.62%)

Target for the year **30%**

I have included above a brief snapshot of some of our Priority Crime types and the associated statistics.

Whilst taken individually they may appear concerning, however, when other crimes are taken into account, you can see that we are only 0.2% below our target of detecting 30% of all crimes.

We will aim to improve our performance in all areas, but at this time our focus is on Violent Crime. If we achieve our aims in this area, we believe our primary aim of increasing public confidence will follow.

Mark Gale
Acting Inspector 616

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PRIORITIES AND ONGOING ACTIVITY

Chippenham Town Centre.

Beat Manager: PC Matt Jacobs (being replaced by PC Mike Moss).

PCSO: Barbara Young & Ali Duncan.

Email: chiptowncentrenpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - Bath Road Car Park

Bath Road car park is still an ongoing issue and I am pleased to report that Acting Inspector Gale attended a joint meeting with Wiltshire Council to address this problem, along with other Council owned/run car parks. It has been agreed that an assessment of the car park will be carried out by an approved Safer Car Parks inspector. This should be carried out week commencing 7th September. When the car parks have been inspected a further meeting will be held to discuss the findings and look at long term solutions. The Safer Car Parks scheme is approved by the Association of Chief Police Officers, the Crime Prevention Initiative and is run by the British Parking Association. If the recommended actions are taken this could see Bath Road Car Park being awarded the Safer Car Parking Award. The car park would then be subject to annual review and advertised on a national web site of approved car parks. Where these car parks already exist (locally Salisbury as an example) there has been an increase in community confidence when using the approved car parks. Sergeant George has also recently run 'Operation Overdrive' along with the Roads Policing Unit to address the Anti-Social use of vehicles.

ANT-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - Chippenham Town Centre

This remains a priority as we have seen an increase Violent Crime within the town centre. I will not elaborate further as this is explained by Acting Inspector Gale above.

Chippenham Town South (Pewsham)

Beat Manager: PC Sarah Pulman.

PCSO: Helen Bray, Matt Dibble & Toni BROWN

Email: chiptownsouthnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Pewsham continues to be a problem. Anti-Social behaviour problems have increased, with more reports coming in over the last month than the previous few months. Patrols are being increased, especially covering the Shelter in the park. We are identifying those who are causing the problems and dealing with them robustly.

Field View (inc Charter Road and Royal Close). Questionnaires were sent to ALL residents living in these areas in June 2009, asking about ASB and any general problems in the neighbourhood. Very few returns were made, mainly complaining about parking issues. ASB are limited, but there is nothing "ongoing".

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Cricketts Lane Industrial Estate/Allotments. PCSO Brown has set up an "Allotment Watch" to address problems that had been caused in the area, since which the problems have ceased.

Chippenham Town West

Beat Manager: PC Arwen Lucena.

PCSO: Will JUDD & Elizabeth HOLLAND

Email: chipptownwestnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - Car Parks

Sainsbury's and Wickes car parks have been used by vehicles during the evening who have been behaving in an anti-social manner, playing loud music, wheel spinning and dropping litter. It has been agreed that barriers will be installed in Wickes car park which will be closed each evening and these should be installed shortly. An operation was carried out by NPT working with Roads Policing Unit and tickets were issued for no seatbelt and two vehicles were prohibited during the operation. The car parks continue to be regularly patrolled and unmarked patrols are being arranged for the evenings in order to observe the behaviour of these youths using the car parks and to deal with any offences observed during these patrols.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - Lords Mead

The school, church and allotments have been subject to youths gathering in the area, causing damage to property and climbing on roofs at the church and school. Some youths have been caught on camera and have been spoken to and their details added to the anti-behaviour system. The allotment holders have been offered an Allotment Watch scheme in order to report any problems at the location to police. Regular patrols have improved this problem and youths found have been dealt with appropriately.

Chippenham Town North East

Beat Manager: PC Rachel Webb.

PCSO: Mike Jones & Lucy SAINSBURY

Email: chipptownnortheastnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Parking/Obstruction at Hardenhuish Lane

A successful partnership meeting was held on the 9th July with members of the Highways dept, local residents, schools and Wiltshire Council. This progressed plans for engineering works to help monitor and control usage of school property. A further meeting to advance these matters is planned for 21st October.

Anti-social behaviour – Heathfield

Our Policing team have increased the number of patrols and visibility in the area. We are working with our Housing Association partners and looking to seek the assistance of the Community Payback Scheme to help further improve the neighbourhood. Other agencies such as Kandu Arts have been working with the young children of Heathfield and Hill Rise involving them in activities keeping them very busy!!!!

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Chippenham Rural covering Biddestone, North Wraxall, Castle Combe, Yatton Keynell, Langley Burrell, Stanton St Quinton, Kington St Michael, Kington Langley, Sutton Benger, Christian Malford, Burton, Grittleton, Hullavington and Seagry.

Beat Manager: PC Heather Barham,
PCSO: Norman Webster & Steven Butler
Email: chippenhamruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

There have been reports of antisocial behaviour by youths within Kington Langley. Regular patrols have been carried out and there have been no further reports to-date.

In Ford and Castle Combe there have been issues with speeding vehicles. Local NPT Officers and the Traffic department have made patrols, staff are also arranging an input about speed and driving to students at Wiltshire College to educate about the dangers and antisocial behaviour aspect that speeding causes.

In Langley Burrell at Birds Marsh Woods there have been reports of antisocial behaviour. This appears to be a seasonal problem linked to the school holidays involving youths camping out and occasionally causing issues.

Patrols have been increased and persons moved on when found to be causing a problem.

Hullavington has also had a few instances of nuisance behaviour, mostly noise related from youths in the mid to late evening. Patrols through the village have been increased and this has dealt with the issue.

The Traffic Roads Policing Unit has been operating across the rural area in recent weeks. As a result of their activity nine vehicles have been seized for a variety of offences including no insurance/driving licence etc, ten fixed penalty notices were issued and three drivers reported for other traffic related offences.

A commercial burglary also occurred in Burton where a number of flat screen televisions were taken from a licensed premise. Enquiries are still ongoing into this matter.

There have been some reports of domestic/commercial heating oil being stolen across the area due to the ongoing economic downturn and increased cost of fuel. A licensed premises in Burton and a commercial premises in Nettleton were targeted.