

Crime and Community Safety Briefing Paper

Devizes Community Area Board

May 2013



1. Neighbourhood Policing

Team Sgt: Joanne Spencer

Town Centre Team

Beat Manager – PC Adam Hall
PCSO – Paula Yarranton
PCSO – Lucy Sainsbury
PCSO – Luke Woodward
PCSO – Kelly Watts

Rural North Team

Beat Manager – PC Emma Reed
PCSO – Gareth Cole
PCSO – Fiona Marno

Rural South Team

Beat Manager – PC Pete Lawson
PCSO – Oliver Nash

2. NPTs - Current Priorities & Consultation Opportunities:

Up-to-date details about Neighbourhood Policing Teams including team membership, current priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on our Wiltshire Police Website.

□ Visit the new and improved website at: www.wiltshire.police.uk

3. Police and Crime Commissioner: Mr Angus Macpherson

PCC website: www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk

4. Performance and Other Local Issues

PC Adam Hall has been the Devizes town beat Officer for 7 years. In fact he has been the only town beat officer since the introduction of Neighbourhood Policing. He has decided it is time for him to move on to another role, further expanding his horizons. Adam has committed to remain with my team until a replacement is in place and I am currently proceeding through the internal recruitment process for this. I wish Adam the very best of luck for the future and thank him for the service he has given to Devizes town.

We are continuing to work hard to prevent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

A large number of incidents of damage to vehicles and walls had been reported to us with no known or identifiable offender. During a routine enquiry PCSO Watts and PCSO Sainsbury identified a possible suspect. This small lead started an enquiry which led to identification of three offenders who are now within the judicial process. The proactive work investigating these offences, identifying additional aggrieved parties and another series of damage we are currently investigating has led to the increase in the number of incidents recorded under criminal damage.

CRIME & DETECTIONS (April 2012 – April 2013 compared to previous year)

A great deal of proactive work has been undertaken to reduce the number of offences being committed under the most significant crime groups listed below. While overall victim based crime is reduced, the number of offences for burglary and non-domestic burglary has seen small increases over the rolling 12 months. These figures reflect a series of sporadic offending I have previously reported on.

The positive impact of the proactive work is the increase in detections under all categories. One offender was imprisoned for 8 years for committing a number of domestic burglaries throughout Wiltshire and a youth who admitted to 23 offences for non-domestic burglary in Devizes.

The new year which commenced in April has seen a good start however we refuse to take the foot off the gas and my team are determined to move forwards.

There is a current series of thefts from motor vehicles. Catalytic converters contain precious metals and secure a good price if traded (this is not a suggestion to start!). Offenders will cut exhaust systems apart to remove these, often causing more damage than the cost of the unit itself. Most commonly targeted vehicles are commercial vans and four by four vehicles. If you own one park it in such a way to restrict access, within a lit area or somewhere subject to CCTV.

Report any suspicious activity to Police (descriptions of people and vehicle registration numbers are very useful).

Lock your property away, record serial numbers on www.immobilise.com take photos of your valuable property for future reference and add additional security measures to your houses and outbuildings.

If our residents and communities take responsibility to take all reasonable precautions to look after their property I can concentrate my team on targeting the offenders, not reacting to offences already committed.

EZ Devizes NPT	Crime				Detections*	
	12 Months to April 2012	12 Months to April 2013	Volume Change	% Change	12 Months to April 2012	12 Months to April 2013
Victim Based Crime	1362	1346	-16	-1.2%	19%	23%
Domestic Burglary	54	55	+1	+1.9%	13%	33%
Non Domestic Burglary	128	151	+23	+18.0%	3%	19%
Vehicle Crime	128	122	-6	-4.7%	5%	7%
Criminal Damage & Arson	308	330	+22	+7.1%	15%	14%
Violence Against The Person	281	236	-45	-16.0%	37%	46%
ASB Incidents (YTD)	116	84	-32	-27.6%		
<p>Wiltshire Police are compared against a group of 8 most similar forces. Wiltshire Police have performed in line with peers and better than average for Victim Based Crime and significantly better than peers for Domestic Burglary in the previous 12 month period (April 2012 - March 2013).</p>						
<p>* Detections include both Sanction Detections and Local Resolutions</p>						

Matthew Armstrong
Inspector, Devizes, Melksham and Pewsey

15th May 2013