



Devizes Rural

October 2017



Hello and welcome to this Community Policing Team report.

Wiltshire Police has launched its autumn recruitment campaign for Police Community Support Officers – known as PCSOs – who play an important community facing role within Community Policing Teams across Wiltshire and Swindon.

Applications are being accepted until Sunday 15 October 2017 with successful candidates starting training in April 2018.

PCSOs provide a visible patrolling presence, acting as an effective crime deterrent, especially with regard to minor crimes. They connect schools, community organisations and local authorities, working on issues such as anti-social behaviour and safeguarding vulnerable adults and children.

Wiltshire is a diverse county and the PCSO role can be hugely varied. As well as community liaison, they can also be called on to support operational teams with intelligence gathering for cases, ranging from cracking down on rural and cross border crime, to human trafficking, drugs networks and counter terrorism.

Successful candidates do not need formal educational qualifications and must be at least 18 years old at the time of application. There is no upper age limit for applications and the normal retirement age applies. Confidence, good communication skills, decision making and problem solving skills are all important.

They will join more than 100 PCSOs, including the latest 11 recruits who began their training at Devizes HQ a few weeks ago.

Current Priorities

Theft from Motor Vehicles

We have experienced twenty two thefts from vehicles during September. Seven of which occurred in Devizes and surrounding areas, which included three in Market Lavington; tools from works vehicles and 900 litres of diesel from a vehicle in Devizes.

Ten incidents have occurred in Marlborough and surrounding villages, which included three incidents in Mildenhall – theft of property from insecure vehicles, two forced entry to vehicles parked on The Avenue at Avebury and a handbag stolen in one incident and tools from a works vehicle in Marlborough.

Of the Pewsey area five incidents have occurred – forced entry at Alton Barnes and overnight bags stolen, two incidents in Burbage High street and theft of fuel from a tractor, Shalbourne area.

We have commenced the fitting of Area Board funded signage at relevant locations; to warn motorists of the risks at such locations.

Crime prevention advice:

We would like to remind motorists to adhere to the following advice whenever possible.

- **Don't leave any valuables including laptops, satnavs, mobile phones, handbags, credit cards or vehicle documents in your car.**
Do not leave items of value in the boot, you are being watched.
- **Don't leave coats/jackets on show in the vehicle as a thief will want to see if there is anything valuable in the pockets.**
- **Clean satnav suction marks off your windscreen, as leaving them is an immediate advert to thieves that a satnav is in the vehicle. Make sure no satnav attachments are left visible in your vehicle.**
- **Remove your stereo if you can, mark it with the vehicle registration number if you can't.**
- **Leave your glove box open to show there is nothing in it.**
- **If you own a van, make sure you remove your tools overnight and display an appropriate sign in the rear window making this clear.**

Dwelling and non-dwelling burglaries

Twenty one incidents of burglary have been reported during September; five within the Devizes are and include the theft of a set of alloy wheels from a business premises, a computer from another and tools from a garden shed in Horton.

Within Marlborough six incidents have been reported, including one attempt and include the theft of two motor cross motorcycles and a mountain bike from a shed in Herd Street, overnight to 9th September 2017. Also stolen was a handbag from a motorhome, daytime during 19th September 2017, from Clench Common.

Within the Pewsey villages nine occurrences have been reported – three of which occurred overnight to 13th September 2017 in Wootton rivers. Two high value pedal cycles were stolen from a shed; a Fondriest R20 and a Raleigh Equip and chainsaws and an axe were stolen from another garden shed in the village, entry to a third property was also obtained but nothing stolen.

A further incident involving forced entry to a garage on Church street, Great Bedwyn has occurred between 15th to 17th September, nothing stolen. Power tools have been stolen following forced entry to a garage in Sharcott between 19th and 26th September. Overnight to 27th September in Ham a Stihl leaf blower and trimmer were stolen from a shed in Ham.

Crime prevention advice

- **Lock your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even if you're in the garden, and make sure you have approved locks or bolts on all doors and windows**
- **Never leave a spare key in a hiding place like in a plant pot or letterbox - a thief knows all the hiding places**
- **Keep all keys, purses and wallets out of sight and away from the letterbox**
- **Consider installing a burglar alarm, and only use a company that is registered or certified with the NSI or the SSIAB**
- **Do not open the door to anyone you don't know or are not expecting. Always check by using a spy-hole or look through a window**
- **Make sure that you have up to date contents insurance**
- **Register all serial numbers from electrical items, tools and garden equipment with Immobilise.com the free national property register. Mark items without serial numbers with an artificial DNA property marker such as Smartwater or SelectaDNA**
- **Do not keep large amounts of cash at home - it is much safer in a bank or building society**
- **Trim back any plants and hedges at the front of your property to no higher than 1 metre to remove hiding places**
- **Always report any suspicious activity, note any vehicle registrations, descriptions of persons involved and direction of travel**
- **Use a timer to set lights to mimic your usual activity when you are not at home**
- **Take photographs of all jewellery including hallmarks and keep them safe. Also consider using an artificial DNA property marker on jewellery or other valuable items**
- **Make sure any bolts are low enough so they cannot be opened by reaching over the top of the gate**

New Priority: Hare coursing and Poaching, All Areas of East Wiltshire.

During September activity has been reported in areas including Avebury Trusloe, Beckhampton and Pewsey Vale. Officers continue to target patrols to locations vulnerable to this activity. A policing operation was conducted daytime on Wednesday 27th September by members of the East Community Policing and the Rural Crime Team, in partnership with a number of farmers and gamekeepers who assisted as spotters for the area.

The event resulted in a number of vehicles and occupants being subject to stop searches. No incidents of coursing occurred during this time but intelligence was gathered in relation to other incidents involving a van seen at Roundway, an area where we experience theft from vehicles. This vehicle and its occupant were located at Broad Hinton during our area search.

Pc Marc JACKSON of the Rural Crime Team has launched Operation Artemis this week in a bid to tackle all aspects of poaching across the country.

The public are encouraged to report all incidents of poaching to help build a better intelligence

picture and enable our officers to target offenders through rural operations.

The operation will also aim to advise our rural communities how they can best prevent and disrupt poaching activity on their land.

The operation sits under the nationally recognised poaching operation Project Trespass which aims to coordinate action across England and Wales through prevention, intelligence, enforcement and reassurance.

Rural Crime Officer PC Marc Jackson said: “As part of the rural crime partnership we have listened to the concerns of landowners, farmers, game keepers and agricultural workers within Wiltshire.

“We understand the impact poaching has on their livelihoods and the resulting fear of crime that comes from this.

“We want Operation Artemis to reassure our rural communities that we do take poaching seriously, and anybody found to be committing such offences here will be dealt with robustly. Wiltshire is not a soft touch and we will use the full legislation powers that have been given to us as the police.

“The image of poaching has drastically changed over the years. The idea of poachers just taking one for the pot is no longer the case.

“Many of the groups involved are very organised and travel vast distances, across numerous counties to participate in poaching.

“Often poaching involves vast amounts of money through illegal betting and can be connected to other crimes like burglaries, thefts and can involve intimidation and violence towards landowners and gamekeepers.”

Poaching becomes more frequent when the harvests come down at the end of the summer, peaking in October and December. This year harvests have been early so potential poachers can access the fields earlier than usual meaning we are already seeing an increase in poaching in September.

Poaching can take many forms, from hare coursing, shooting deer at night to using catapults to take pheasants.

Police and Crime Commissioner Angus Macpherson said: “Wiltshire is a rural county and those living in isolated locations can be vulnerable to crime types that do not affect urban areas.

“It is important that the Force police rural crime as part of its overall policing.

“Rural crime can have a huge impact on local people and businesses. I welcome this new operation and applaud the ongoing work being done by the Rural Crime Team and the Wiltshire Rural Crime Partnership to help keep Wiltshire safe.”

When reporting incidents, call 101 and quote ‘Operation Artemis’. If a crime is in progress call 999.

Policing Operation.

Working in partnership with members of Wiltshire County Council Enforcement Team Pc HERBERT and PCSO’S WATTS and BURNSIDE conducted a two day operation involving visits to Scrap Metal Merchants throughout the area. Their focus of attention related to unlicensed persons disposing of scrap metal at such sites. The event also allowed for engagement with the scrap metal merchants and offer target hardening advice in reducing their risk of being victim to crime.

Get Safe Online.

Please refer to and distribute the enclosed leaflet to community members. Thank you.

Local Crimes

EZ13

Bromham – Criminal damage has been reported at the VW Audi centre in Bromham where a parked vehicle had windows smashed in the garage area and the theft of a fridge-freezer from the driveway of a property in Church Hill.

Rowde - Over the last month several thefts have been reported in the area. 4 Alloy wheels in Close Lane were stolen on the 14/09/17. At Lower Road Farm x 38 sheets of building cladding were stolen from the premises. We have also received a report of dogs worrying livestock. This occurred on 19/09/17 at Ox Lea Barn. Suspects have been identified and the investigation is ongoing. Dog owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to keep their dogs under control and that they are liable to prosecution should this not be the case.

Caen Hill Locks – A boat being moored at the location had its ropes cut by an unknown person. Fortunately a member of the canal boat trust was able to retrieve the boat and informed the owner.

EZ14

West Lavington - parking problems in Duck Street are continuing to be an issue. I am aware of how narrow the street can become when vehicles are parked and would ask that residents, staff and visitors to the area park with consideration of all types of vehicles including those of the emergency services and council refuse lorries.

In Russell Mill lane we had been alerted to a group of unknown teenagers that had gathered and were playing loud music and taking drugs. This may have been an isolated incident having only received one report of this nature. However should this behaviour continue please continue to report so that we can direct resources to the area.

Hare coursing continues to be a current hot topic with EZ CPT planning Operations to impact on this. Eastcroft Farm in Eastcott and land in Lydeaway have been local areas affected by this and have suffered damage as a result.

Great Cheverell – A stationary vehicle parked at The Green was struck by a moving vehicle which did not stop or make contact with the owner to leave any details. Unfortunately there is no CCTV in the area so should anyone have any information relating to this please contact Wiltshire Police.

Erlestoke – Unknown person/s have forced the padlock from the shed door lock to gain entry at the Golf club. Once inside they have pulled a irrigation computer from the wall and taken it. Property to the value of £675. At Gore Cross a parked vehicle had the rear window smashed causing damage to the frame. No items were stolen.

Market Lavington – Three males have entered the Co-op and after being told, due to not having ID, that they can't have cigarettes one of the males has become abusive to staff. Investigations have not located a suspect. Theft of a Steel chain saw and Steel petrol disc cutter occurred in Park Road.

<https://www.police.uk/>

This link will allow you to check stats in more detail for your area, and all surrounding areas.

If you wish further detail please contact PCSO 6005 Fiona MARNO and PCSO 3965 Sam BURNSIDE.

Please dial 101 to report a crime and 999 in an emergency.

Please follow us on:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice/>

Or sign up to Community Messaging <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>



Thank you, kindest regards,

Pc 2460 Teresa HERBERT

CPT East Community Co-ordinator,
Devizes, Marlborough and Pewsey.