



# **Marlborough NPT**

## **Town Council Report December 2015**

### **Current Priorities**

The current priority for the Marlborough area is to focus on Non-dwelling burglaries and overnight thefts.

Over the last month or so there has been an increase in the number of thefts from vehicles, particularly in the Aldbourne, Ramsbury and Baydon areas.

Overnight 03/12-04/12 suspects gained entry in to a property in Ramsbury through an insecure side door and took items from within. A vehicle was also taken. The stolen vehicle was subsequently located in Swindon and two males were arrested for this offence and are currently on bail. The same two males were also arrested and are on bail for two other thefts from vehicles in the Ramsbury area over the same time period.

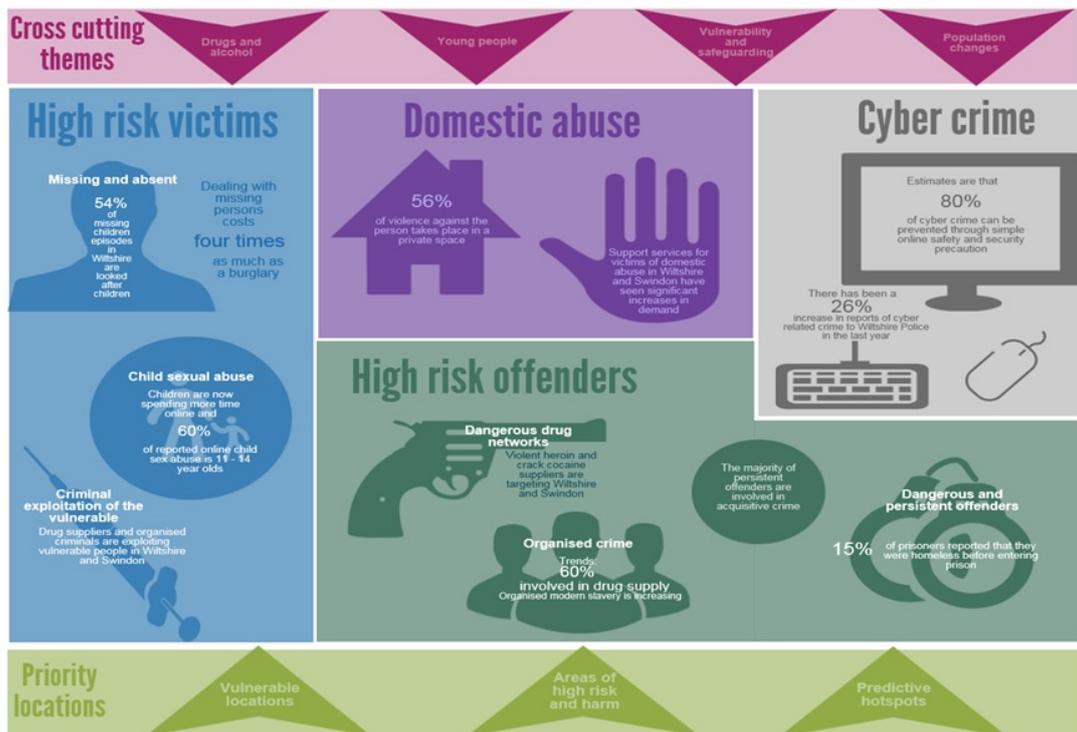
Two other vehicles were also reported stolen during November from the Baydon area. These vehicles were subsequently recovered and four males were arrested and are on bail.

At the end of November 2015 there were two burglaries reported in Marlborough where outbuildings were entered. Two males were arrested for these and other offences in the Marlborough area and are currently on bail.

Marlborough NPT continues to work hard to tackle this issue.

### **Wiltshire Police Control Strategy**

Last month's report mentioned that there will be a change to the structure of future police reports to focus on the Wiltshire Police Control Strategy which describes the current and emerging threats that are of greatest impact to Wiltshire's communities.



## Cybercrime

Cybercrime is a growing area of crime (Wiltshire Police has seen a 26% increase in reports of cyber related crime in the last year). Criminals are moving online and there is an increasing cyber element to many traditional crimes.

Marlborough NPT have been visiting local schools to deliver lessons on cyber-crime and bullying. The course is aimed at primary school aged children. Five lessons have been delivered across the Marlborough and Pewsey areas recently and there are further lessons planned.

Wiltshire Police has a dedicated Cybercrime Facebook page 'CyberBee WiseWilts' which aims to help people to avoid becoming victims of cybercrime. There are regular cyber safety message and updates so this is well worth visiting, particularly as 80% of cybercrime can be prevented by following simple online security advice.

## Domestic Abuse

Marlborough NPT regularly has involvement in attending incidents of domestic abuse and through liaison with other departments within Wiltshire Police we are able to identify those people who are repeat victims so that safeguarding measures can be put in place.

## **High Risk Victims**

Marlborough NPT have recently been engaging with schools, giving stranger danger talks and assisting Wiltshire Life Education Centre with inputs to primary school aged children. These inputs are a great way for younger people to engage with police and for them to take on board valuable information to reduce the risk of them becoming victims.

Last month we reported on a phone scam whereby vulnerable and elderly residents were being targeted by people purporting to be police officers asking for bank details, PIN numbers and residents to withdraw all of their savings. Thankfully, there have been no further reported incidents but Marlborough NPT have been revisiting the victims of these crimes, and giving advice to elderly residents to help reduce the criminal exploitation of the vulnerable.

On 13<sup>th</sup> November an elderly couple had their bank card taken from their house after being distracted outside. It is believed that the suspects watched the couple using the card in town and saw them type in the pin number and followed them home. One person has been arrested for this and is currently on bail.

Thankfully, this type of crime is rare but it highlights the importance of our focus on High Risk Victims: the criminal exploitation of the vulnerable.

## **High Risk Offenders**

Thankfully, Marlborough is a safe place with few high risk offenders. However, we do work closely with the Public Protection Department to identify persistent or dangerous offenders. We regularly engage with persistent offenders and take positive action where required.

## **Priority Locations**

Marlborough NPT regularly identifies areas of vulnerability, high risk and harm. We have recently identified an area in Marlborough where a resident regularly engages in Anti-Social acts which has started to affect the quality of life of many local residents. We have worked in partnership with the local housing association to build up evidence which has led to an Acceptable Behaviour Contract being served on the tenant.

As a result of recent thefts and burglaries, and following up on concerns raised by local communities, Marlborough & Pewsey NPT, officers from the Rural Crime Team, Roads Policing Units, VOSA, and HMRC carried out a rural crime operation on 26<sup>th</sup> November around Marlborough. The aim was to remove illegal vehicles from the roads and also to target vehicles involved in rural offences, like hare coursing and burglaries.

During the day a total of 166 were stopped, two arrests were made, 6 penalty tickets were issued, 4 prohibitions were issued to commercial and agricultural vehicles for not being roadworthy and 25 verbal warnings were issued for minor vehicle faults.

Sadly, thefts from vehicles are continuing to occur at our beauty spot locations, particularly Fyfield Down and Manton, which is unusual for this time of year. We have been working hard to educate visitors not to leave valuable items in their vehicles and we aim to target this in the next month.

Finally, the Marlborough Christmas Lights Switch on went extremely well, with only one report of a minor disorder in the later evening, which was quickly resolved.

On behalf of Marlborough NPT, I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas.

**Nick Mawson**

Sector Inspector

Devizes, Melksham, Pewsey, Marlborough