



Marlborough NPT

Town Council Report April 2016

Current Priorities

The current priorities for the Marlborough area are still to tackle Non-Dwelling Burglaries, and theft from vehicles in our beauty spot areas.

1. **Thefts from vehicles**

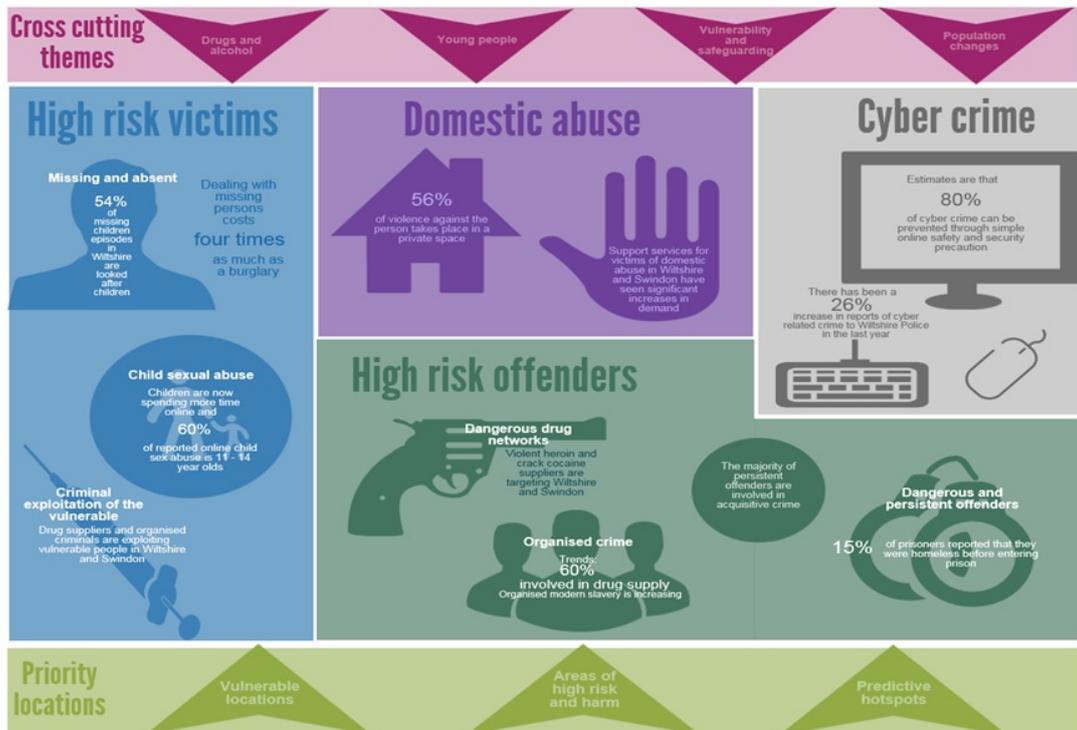
There have been no reported thefts from motor vehicles in our beauty spot locations in the last month. However, we have had reports of other vehicle crime in Marlborough: three number plates have been removed from vehicles in the area – The Green (overnight 21/03-22/03), Hyde Lane (overnight 21/03-22/03), and Marlborough Rugby Club (between 24/03-31/03). We believe the plates are stolen to be put on other vehicles to be used to commit crime elsewhere. On the 22nd March three males were arrested in relation to one of these offences and enquiries are ongoing.

2. **Non-dwelling burglaries**

The number of burglaries in Marlborough has gone down in the last month but we continue to tackle it as a priority, working with other forces on overnight operations to stop and search vehicles in order to prevent and detect crime and gather intelligence.

There still seems to be reluctance for people to report suspicious incidents so we continue to urge our communities to report anything suspicious by dialling 101 (or 999 if it is believed that a crime is about to happen or is in the process of happening).

Wiltshire Police Control Strategy



Cybercrime

Marlborough NPT has recently visited a community Centre to offer advice to elderly and vulnerable people about cyber-crime and general safety.

We have recently been made aware of a new type of phishing email which includes the victim's home address. Phishing emails are designed to steal your personal details or contain links to websites that are infected with malware (such as computer viruses).

The perfectly written email states that a large amount of money is owed to a UK firm, which varies per email, along with an exact address of the victim.

It contains correct spelling and grammar and, along with the victim's name and address, can appear genuine at first sight. The demand is in the range of £800-£900.

Advice for dealing with any phishing emails:

- Do not click or open unfamiliar links in emails or on websites.
- If you have clicked on a link, seek professional advice by contacting Action Fraud on what steps to take.

- Check the legitimacy of the email with the company that has supposedly sent it.
- It is a good idea to find a telephone number for the company independently from the email, such as through Google, as the phone number provided in the email may be fake or go directly to the suspect.
- Ensure you have up to date anti-virus software and perform regular scans to prevent most malware from ending up on your computer.
- Be aware of any financial requests via email. People can easily pose as management in emails – call the person if in doubt.

Please report any suspicious emails to Action Fraud online or by telephoning 0300 1232040.

Domestic Abuse

We are informed about all Domestic Abuse incidents in our area and, where appropriate, we offer support and safeguarding. Recently, PCSO Ritchie has been visiting the victim of a domestic assault who was considered at high risk of being a repeat victim. These visits are important as they offer the victim a chance to talk about the incident, to report further abuse, or to ask for advice.

High Risk Victims

We continue to help to reduce the criminal exploitation of the vulnerable. In the last month, four elderly people have been the victim of purse dips whilst in shops in Marlborough:

16/03/16 – Waitrose

17/03/16 – Oxfam

25/03/16 – Waitrose

31/03/16 – Waitrose

The suspects use techniques such as restricting exit from a shop so that when in close contact the suspect can take a purse from a bag; or by working in pairs, one creating a distraction whilst the other commits the theft.

In all four incidents purses have been taken. One was later found in a bin in Marlborough, and in another incident a card was used in another town.

These thefts are all being investigated by the Neighbourhood Policing Team. CCTV in the town and shops has been checked, and wider enquiries are being carried out.

We have also been in contact with the victims to provide reassurance and offer crime prevention advice.

On a separate matter, on the 3rd April we had reports of a male in the recreation ground in Marlborough approaching young girls and making inappropriate comments to them, such as asking if they want to 'go out' with him. This matter is currently being investigated.

High Risk Offenders

In previous reports we have mentioned a persistent offender in the Marlborough area whose anti-social behaviour was affecting the quality of life of a neighbour. Recently the matter was taken to court and, as a consequence, the housing association was awarded possession of the property and the tenant is due to be evicted, which will come as a relief to the victim of the ASB.

Other Local Issues

- In the early hours of 14/04, two people were assaulted at the Rugby Club in Marlborough. One victim suffered a small cut to the head and eye and one received a minor head injury. One male was subsequently arrested for both assaults and is currently on bail.
- On the 21st March it was reported that an unknown suspect sprayed swear words on to a fence in The Upper Churchfields area. We do not know who is responsible but we are carrying out regular patrols.
- On the 21st March a male was arrested for being Drunk and Disorderly in the High Street after being verbally abusive to staff and customers in a shop. The male, who persistently causes similar Anti-Social Behaviour, was subsequently charged to appear in court at a later date. Marlborough NPT have referred the male to ASBRAC (Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference) with a view to preventing his behaviour from continuing.

We are continuing to use Community Messaging and would like more residents and businesses to sign up to it:
www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk

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