

WILTSHIRE POLICE



# Community Report

Melksham Community Policing Team

April 2023



# Your CPT – Melksham

**Inspector:**

Andy Lemon

**Neighbourhood Sergeant:**

Gemma Rutter

**Neighbourhood Officers:**

PC Ben Coombs

PC Jennifer Miller

**PCSOs:**

Luke Hosken

Melissa Culliford

Vic Rolph

The Team are keen to welcome Sergeant Gemma Rutter, who has now arrived in the Sergeants post.

She has replaced Sergeant James Twyford, who has taken up a position on the Roads Policing Unit.

Sergeant Rutter brings with her a wealth of experience over a 16 year career; having previously worked on Response, Neighbourhoods and CID as a PC, DC, Sergeant and Temporary Inspector.

# This Month's Focus

## **Domestic Abuse Matters**

Domestic Abuse has been at the forefront of the Force's priorities list for at least the last 20 years. It's been a subject that's been heavily researched by academia over this time, with processes and policies constantly evolving.

We work to an extensive Approved Professional Practice manual which details the process for investigating incidents of Domestic Abuse in considerable detail, as well as the types of Safeguarding that we implement alongside our partner agencies. These investigations are scrutinised heavily at local and a force-wide level, to ensure they are quality focussed and acting in the best interests of Victims (and Perpetrators).

In addition to this; the Force has recently invested in some enhanced refresher training, which is designed to refocus Officers' minds on the first hand effects of this type of offending upon affected households. It has also helped to bring newer offences into the spotlight, such as "Controlling and Coercive Behaviour" and "Stalking", for which there is limited case law so far.

# Crime Exceptions

*Crime Exceptions are described as a volume of offences, outside of the normal range expected; based on the last two years worth of data.*

## Melksham Town

4x Possession of Weapon offences were recorded last month within the Town area, relating to three incidents. All were Charged; half were as a result of proactive work by Officers.

41x Theft Offences were recorded, which is a High by exception. 27 relate to Shoplifting; 2 were Bicycle Thefts. The top four Suspects were responsible for 18 offences (43%).

## Melksham Rural North

Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Berryfield and Bowerhill

11x Theft offences were recorded across this area last month. 4 relate to Shoplifting and 7 were Bicycle Thefts. All of the bicycle thefts related to insecure bikes left unattended.

## Melksham Rural South

Semington, Seend, Seend Cleeve, Great Hinton, Keevil, Bulkington, Steeple Ashton and Poulshot

Nothing outside of normal levels for this area this month.

# Local Priorities & Updates

Priority	Update
Violence Against Women and Girls	As part of wider national focus on this area, we've been investing in refresher training for our staff, within the Domestic Abuse context and a PCC-Led initiative called "Safer Nights" designed at making the night-time economy especially safe for women and girls.
ASB – Vines Court	<p>In the same way as we tackled the issue in Williams Close, we are now focussing on a similar problem in Vines Court.</p> <p>We're working closely with the Housing Association and Town Council to use some new and innovative CCTV technology, to help detect offences which are occurring within the road.</p>

# Useful Links

For more information on Wiltshire Police's performance please visit:

- PCC's Website - <https://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/>
- HMICFRS Website - <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/police-forces/wiltshire/>
- For information on what crimes and incidents have been reported in the Trowbridge Community Policing Team area, which Melksham is part of, visit <https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/wiltshire-police/>



# Get Involved

Keep up to date with the latest news and alerts in your area by signing up to our **Community Messaging service** –


[www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk](http://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk)


## Follow your CPT on social media

- [Trowbridge Police Facebook](#)
- [Trowbridge Police Twitter](#)
- [Melksham Police Facebook](#)
- [Bradford on Avon Facebook](#)

Find out more information on your CPT area at: [www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk) and here [www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk)



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## Trowbridge CPT

CPT Trowbridge covers the areas of Trowbridge, Melksham, Bradford-on-Avon and surrounding areas

To contact your CPT about a community-related matter, such as a school visit, then please email [TrowbridgeAreaCPT@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TrowbridgeAreaCPT@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk). Please note that this mailbox is not monitored 24/7.

You are unable to report crimes of any type via email and please do not report any situations that require an urgent response. In the case of an emergency please contact 999 and for non-urgent crimes and incidents, please call 101 or [Report a crime here](#)

You see a map of [crimes in the Trowbridge area](#)  by visiting [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) 