

**Thames Valley Police Report & crime figures which were used for the December
Community Forum held in Wing on 2nd December 2019**

1. NHPT Priorities

NHPT priorities are:

- Prevent and reduce rural crime
- Prevent and Reduce Theft from motor vehicles

2. Overall Crime on the LPA

The overall crime figures for Aylesbury Vale LPA between 1st August 2019 and 29/11/19:-

In the same rolling period in comparison to the previous year, overall reported crime has dropped by 1%

This includes a 10% decrease in business/commercial burglaries.

However, there was a 12% increase in burglary dwellings and a 16% increase in Theft from Motor vehicle.

There has been very little change in violent crimes, with a 3% increase reported.

3. Overall Crime and Operations for the LAF area

The overall crime figures for the area this Local Area Forum covers between 1st August 2019 and 29th November 2019:-

In the same rolling period in comparison to the previous year, overall reported crime has dropped by 33% (340-227).

We have had three more reported burglaries this period compared to last year, with 10 reported in total.

We have also had 3 more reported business/commercial burglaries (26 in total)

The biggest decrease has been in reported theft from motor vehicles, with a 46% decrease compared to this period last year. Again many of these have been theft of number plates.

Despite some vehicles being stolen recently in Ivinghoe, we have still had a 3% decrease in theft of vehicles (9 have been reported in total).

There has been no reported change in violent crimes.

What does this mean for you?

The good news is that overall crime has dropped by 33% (340 crimes down to 227 crimes). We are pleased to report the continued drop in theft from motor vehicles in our area, which hit us hard last year. We actually buck the trend, as most other areas have seen a slight increase in this type of crime. We have been in regular contact with Beds and Herts Police to swap intelligence and we know that this crime is hitting Beds particularly hard still. There has been less reported theft of tools from vans, with many of the thefts being theft of number plates. It would be worth investing in anti-theft screws for your vehicle registration plates.

Whilst there has only been 3 more reported residential burglaries, it would appear that a lot of these can be attributed to garage and shed break ins. Bicycles and tools have been the target in these offences. Edlesborough seemed to suffer the most in terms of the garage and shed breaks, but these have slowed considerably now. Residents living in this area should consider security lighting and proper locking mechanisms for their garages and sheds.

The burglaries where entry has been gained to the homes appear to be mainly targeting car keys, so they can steal high performance cars from the driveway. Cars targeted seem to be Audi RS, sport lines; BMW's and VW Golfs sport types. This has been part of a nationwide crime group which are being looked at by the Serious crime department. We would urge that all persons do not keep their keys near the front door and hide them away. Even a simple steering wheel lock would deter, if not delay, the offender's chances of getting away.

What have we done in response to these crimes?

In preparations for any movement of Beds offenders for TFMV moving to us again, we maintain this contact with Beds Police and ensure the Eastern borders (Leighton Buzzard through to the Traveller's Rest roundabout and Pitstone) has been patrolled heavily this period to make it a hostile area to commit crime.

Regular conversations and meetings with Beds Police and Herts Police to swap intelligence.

Regular contact with intelligence department for Milton Keynes, as the villages nearer that end of town historically get targeted by the same offenders.

We have ran 4 ANPR operations in this period, to cover as much of the routes used by the criminals as possible. We have been able to use the recently purchased mobile ANPR kits to identify vehicles with criminal markers against their names and those committing driving offences. We worked with Northants Police on one of these operations and Aylesbury Shift Officers. These operations lead to the seizure of vehicles for driving with no insurance, driving otherwise than in accordance with a licence and two prolific drug dealers being arrested. Following their arrests, searches of their homes located class A and class B drugs and resulted in their prosecution.

4. ASB for Local Area

We have not had the same level reports of ASB in the villages. We are aware that there continues to be reports of cannabis smoking around the Memorial Hall in Pitstone and Hever Close. We have run a plain clothes operation in those areas, resulting in several stop searches, but no cannabis was found. We will continue to monitor this situation.

We received several complaints about dog bites in Soulbury. As a result we successfully applied for a warrant to seize the dogs and they are still in Police control. The owners have been reported for having dogs dangerously out of control and the case is with the CPS.

We have received a large increase in hare coursing activity in the Wing, Mentmore and Cheddington area. This is just not a cruel past time, but it costs the farmers thousands of pounds worth of damage to gates, fencing and crops. The offenders can often offer violence when confronted too. Thankfully, we have had some good recent results in prosecuting offenders. One male was arrested outside Wing, his car and three dogs were seized on scene. He has now been prosecuted for 2 x Deer hunting offences. A further 2 males were arrested last week in Mentmore and have now been charged with hunting offences and

criminal damage to land. These offenders are likely to commit other offences in the area, so their arrests and prosecutions are a great deterrent.

5. Changes anticipated in coming 12 Months or Events

6. Personnel Changes

PCSO Natalie HALL is due to leave Wing NHPT at the end of December to join as a Police Constable with TVP. She has worked with us for 8 years and so her presence will be missed. I am aware that a very experienced PCSO from another area is keen to take over her role, so this will help a smooth transition.

7. Other news

We are taking part in OPERATION SIGNATURE which is a national campaign to help victims of scams (be it either cold calling, online, dating scams). These scans tend to target the elderly and we visit those who have received attempts to defraud them, as well as those already a victim to best safeguard them.

We have been in contact with Trading Standards about some of the incidents and I am aware that they are building a case against a persistent rogue trader. We will continue to work together to tackle this issue. Please look out for your vulnerable neighbour's and report any suspect activity regarding this.

I will be working with Trading Standards next week to deal with HGV's ignoring weight restrictions on a bridge in the area. I will be issuing on the spot fines and they will be dealing with the logistic firms.