

“ *Working in partnership to
make our community safer* ”

Neighbourhood Policing lies at the very heart of how we work in Thames Valley Police, and it is our aim to work in partnership to make our community safer.

Neighbourhood policing is a truly local policing style, working with local people, partners and voluntary organisations to identify and tackle issues of concern in their neighbourhood. It seeks to increase contact between the police and the public in order for us to be more responsive to the needs of local people and therefore improve the quality of service we give. By tackling local priorities with our partner agencies and making use of the specialist skills within the organisation we can increase public confidence in the police and make a real difference to people's lives. Key to improving public confidence is ensuring we keep our communities up-to-date with the work we are undertaking to address the priorities in our area.

Every neighbourhood now has its own dedicated neighbourhood policing team made up of Neighbourhood Specialist Officers, Inspectors, Sergeants and Police Community Officers supported by Special Constables, Police Staff and Volunteers.

Sara Thornton
Chief Constable

Introduction

Neighbourhood policing is about putting the 'local' back into policing. It's about making sure that the police, working with other agencies, provide the service that people want by tackling those issues that are important to local residents.

Your neighbourhood has its own team made up of police officers and police community support officers whose entire focus is on your area.

Thames Valley Police has led the way to the introduction of neighbourhood policing. It was one of a small number of forces which took part in the Government's national reassurance policing programme which was the precursor to neighbourhood policing.

The Neighbourhood policing team is led by the Neighbourhood Action Group, which is set up to deal with key issues identified by public consultation. This may happen in the form of a public meeting, through surveys done face-to-face or by mail, or a combination of methods.

The Action Group is a volunteer working group made up of representatives from the community. It includes residents, the police, local authority and other organisations, such as local businesses and schools.

This group is key to the success of neighbourhood policing as it is this group who will plan on behalf of the community and organise for tasks to be completed. In effect, they are the 'doers' accountable locally for responding to problems a community wants to tackle.

The group is always open to new members and fresh ideas on how to tackle the priorities. If you wanted further information on the Action Group please contact us at Waddesdon Police Station.

The public consultation survey for 2008/2009 identified that the priorities for the NAG and Neighbourhood Policing team are:

- 1. Excess speed offences,**
 - 2. Parking, and**
 - 3. Criminal damage/vandalism/graffiti**
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Neighbourhood Team



Sergeant Bryn Scott

As the Neighbourhood Sergeant I am responsible for the line management of the NSO and PCSOs. I also act as a quality controller for the work of the team, agreeing tactics and strategies for dealing with locally set neighbourhood priority issues.



Neighbourhood Specialist Officer (NSO) PC Gareth Morley

As the NSO I am dedicated to this area and not removed for any other duties. This enables me to forge close links with the residents and traders in the neighbourhood and with partner agencies such as the Local Authority, Youth Services, Social Landlords, the Fire Service to name just a few. The informed knowledge that I develop from my work not only enables me to target local offenders and bring them to justice, but to deal with those important quality of life issues that affect everybody in the community from low level incivility to anti-social behaviour and disorder.



PCSO Craig Essam PCSO Antony Hurd

As PCSO's we play a vital role by complementing the work of police officers. We provide a highly visible, accessible, familiar, knowledgeable and accountable, patrolling presence within the neighbourhood. We contribute to community safety by tackling quality of life issues such as anti-social and nuisance behaviour, alcohol abuse, anti-social driving and dealing with abandoned or unlicensed cars.



Priority 1: Excess Speed Offences

Speeding through our villages is a problem experienced by residents in many of the villages across the neighbourhood. The Neighbourhood Action Group has decided to concentrate though on three specific areas. These are:



1. Station Road in Quanton

The speed limit on the road is 30mph however the average speed is 44mph.

2. Station Road in Marsh Gibbon

The speed limit on the road is 30mph however the average speed is 50mph.

3. Blackthorn approach in Marsh Gibbon

The speed limit on the road is 50mph however the average speed is also 44mph.

So far our efforts have been focused on enforcing the speed limits and on education. Several schemes are underway which have involved the use of a speed indicator device that shows a smiling or frowning face to drivers depending on whether they are speeding. We have also made use of new laser speed guns issued to stop motorists and issue penalty tickets.

Consideration is being given as to the purchase of the community speed watch equipment which will mean local residents enforcing their own speed limits in their villages. For more information on this please contact the Neighbourhood team at Waddesdon Police Station.

We will measure the average speeds in April next year to see if we have made a difference to these areas.

Priority 2: Parking

The Neighbourhood Action Group decided in April as a result of the survey to focus on the following areas:

- 1. Baker Street in Waddesdon**
- 2. Lower Street in Quinton**

When people park their vehicles on road junctions, block driveways and park on the narrow pavements they hinder access for wheelchair and pushchair users. Also parking on both sides of the road can hinder emergency service access and slow response times.

The Neighbourhood policing team in conjunction with local residents have setup a system of reporting illegal parking. As a result of these reports we distribute letters to car owners who have parked inconsiderately. We have so far distributed over forty letters.

Our partners in Waddesdon Parish Council are also exploring the possibility of providing alternate parking spaces.

So far we have seen a vast reduction in illegal parking down Baker Street. Some repeat offenders have either been spoken to over the telephone or spoken to in person. In one extreme case a ticket was issued as the male driver had received a number of letters.

In Quinton the Neighbourhood team are in consultation with the primary school about the best way to tackle the school parking problem.



Priority 3: Criminal Damage

The Neighbourhood Action Group decided in April as a result of the survey to focus on the following areas:

1. **Waddesdon**
2. **Westcott**



The problem in Waddesdon appears to take place at various locations throughout the village. Main areas include; the skate park, Baker Street and the Football Pavilion. Waddesdon had the highest number of recorded offences last year (46) with the damage being spread evenly between damage to buildings, vehicles and other items.

The largest amount of illegal graffiti found in the neighbourhood was at Westcott. Despite this Westcott residents have reported a low number of recorded criminal damage offences.

So far as a result of patrols carried out at the hotspots at key times, we have arrested and interviewed several youths in relation to various forms of criminal damage, vandalism and graffiti.

We are actively supporting initiatives for young people in the villages in an attempt to tackle some of the boredom issues. One example is the Youth Café in Waddesdon Village Hall and the Youth Club in Waddesdon.

We strongly encourage the reporting of damage in the villages to get a greater understanding of when and where the damage occurs.

So far as a result of our efforts criminal damage has dropped by 50% in Westcott and 18% in Waddesdon on last year.

Schools Liaison

The NSO and PCSO's for the Neighbourhood actively liaise with all the schools, their staff and their pupils. We provide a friendly, accessible face in schools and help with more serious issues of anti-social behaviour and criminal activity. The initiative essentially adds reassurance to school children, parents and supports educational staff with the difficult work we carry out.

As part of this liaison we tackle truancy issues, share information on youths causing anti-social problems in the villages and educate the children through lessons about personal safety, internet safety and other relevant topics.

The schools are very supportive of this intervention and we will continue to work hard with the schools to tackle and change the behaviours and beliefs of children acting in an anti-social or criminal way.

Police Surgeries

The team regularly conducts Police Surgeries in the villages. This is an opportunity to speak to your 'village bobby' and the PCSO's.

At the Police Surgeries you can raise any issues or questions with the team, ask about the work we are doing, ask about how to get involved in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme or the Neighbourhood Action Group, you can also seek crime prevention advice. The Police Surgeries are scheduled as follows:

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|---------------------|------------|----------------------|
| • Marsh Gibbon | 18/01/2009 | 09:00 am to 03:00 pm |
| • Ludgershall | 01/02/2009 | 05:00 pm to 10:00 pm |
| • Grendon Underwood | 15/02/2009 | 09:00 am to 03:00 pm |
| • Ashendon | 01/03/2009 | 05:00 pm to 10:00 pm |
| • Quanton | 15/03/2009 | 09:00 am to 03:00 pm |
| • Westcott | 29/03/2009 | 05:00 pm to 10:00 pm |
| • Waddesdon | 12/04/2009 | 09:00 am to 03:00 pm |

Look out for the posters in your village advertising the event.

Summary

The Waddesdon neighbourhood policing team aims to put your communities – needs, issues and priorities – at the heart of local policing. This is achieved through active collaboration between police, partners and the public to solve local crime and disorder problems, improve the quality of life for residents across the neighbourhood and increase feelings of security.

Contact Details

Visit or write to us at Waddesdon Police Station, our address is:

*Waddesdon Police Station
High Street
Waddesdon
Buckinghamshire
HP18 0JB*

At present our opening hours are as follows:

<i>Monday</i>	<i>10am to 1pm</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10am to 1pm</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>4pm to 7pm</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>10am to 1pm</i>

You can email the team by writing to:

waddesdonstation@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

You can also call the team on the following number:

0845 8 505 505
