

## **From 25<sup>th</sup> February Forum at Chalfont St Peter**

### **Community Forum – Top 3 + 1**

**1; Burglary**

**2; Drug dealing**

**3; ASB**

**4; Parking to be reviewed by Forum Working Group**

#### **1; Burglary**

We managed to reduce burglary by 1% in the last year. This is the first reduction that we have been able to achieve in 5 years. At the start of last year we had over a 30% increase so you can already see the hard work is making a huge impact and I hope over the next few weeks as demand is reduced, we can continue to target those tasking areas to increase intelligence and disrupt offenders. Operations organised by the Neighbourhood Team and Local CID played a huge part in obtaining this results whilst supported by patrol units and our intelligence department.

Head of Force crime, Ailsa Kent has stated:-

*Just wanted to say a really well done to your team for the burglary reduction that you have delivered this year. I know that this is absolutely a whole team effort in Chiltern and South Bucks and after the increases that were experienced in the late autumn and winter of last year, the work that you have done to drive offending down to this level is tremendous – you have achieved something that has not been achieved for a number of years. You should be proud of this as it demonstrates that your plans, focus and drive are making a real difference.*

*Really well done – please pass my thanks and ‘well dones’ to all involved.*

As previously stated the burglars targeting our addresses and vehicles are frequently organized crime gangs, who will work in teams, are from other parts of the country. Keyless car thefts have also become more common. With advances in technology comes with it new opportunities for villains. Offenders have been going to front doors with scanners and getting car details from keys left on the sideboard then driving off with the car. Keep your keys safe and away from doors and windows.

Latest crime trends show a group of burglars using stolen motor vehicles are targeting local businesses in the early hours. Enhanced patrols in our area to deal with this threat related to the arrest of 3 persons in South Bucks for theft of a motor vehicle, possession of an offensive weapon and dangerous driving. NHPT has also assisted CID in raising awareness of this series and going through crime advice with potential targets.

After the work we did in the winter in regards to promoting the NHW it was good to read that their membership has gone up 25%. This is a worthwhile group to be part of and it has been shown that roads which are in the scheme are more resilient and less likely to be attacked.

Neighbourhood Policing has been involved in a number of cross border operations with other departments and forces in targeting criminals whilst they are travelling into our area from

predicted locations. The following Operations took place in response to dealing with the threat of burglaries.

Chesham has unfortunately seen a rise in Burglary offences over the past couple of months. Some of the locations that have been targeted are in the more rural areas. With this in mind, dedicated patrols have ensured that stop checks and sightings have taken place, intelligence gathered and potential suspects identified. Numerous suspects have been arrested in connection with these offences and are still under investigation.

Op Chicha 4 took place on 18th, 19th and 20th March across Surrey, Thames Valley, Herts and the Met. This coincided with the increased guidance from the government regarding covid-19. TVP experienced 88 offences 3 weeks prior to Op Chicha, which decreased to 68 during Op Chicha week (22.7% reduction), and further decrease to 43 offences 3 weeks after Op Chicha (51.1% reduction).

We will carry on with the Op Go pilot, with more details being broadcast with current intelligence of vehicles involved in crime being shared with people signed up for Neighbourhood Alerts.

***Burglary between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 23<sup>rd</sup> May***

Chiltern CSP	73	46	-37%
Amersham	26	9	-65%
Chalfonts	29	9	-69%
Chesham	11	20	82%
Missendens	7	8	14%

**2: Drug dealing and usage**

Neighbourhood Teams have been working on and developing intelligence. With the lockdown conditions it has made it harder for drug dealers to ply their trade discretely. The use of stop and search powers are being used. Year to date 57 people have been stopped and searched by the Amersham NHPT. The Neighbourhood Teams are constantly developing intelligence from reviewing cases to being out on patrol.

We are currently working on a new protocol with partners in dealing with Neighbourhood disputes where cannabis is being used by residents and we will aim to have an update for the next bulletin.

The Operation Stronghold team is leading the response to County Drug Lines and working with NHPT in safeguarding potential victims of CDL. Your NHPT were involved in assisting CID with several arrests of a suspected gang who were targeting children in Chesham. This is an ongoing investigation.

### Drug offences 1<sup>st</sup> March and 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Chiltern CSP	38	40	5%
Amersham	9	7	-22%
Chalfonts	11	8	-27%
Chesham	12	18	50%
Missendens	6	2	-67%

### **3; ASB**

ASB was a big issue earlier in the year for the residents of Chalfont St Peter. Often this was low level ranging from groups of people loitering in an area to shouting and smoking drugs and being intimidating. This has a significant impact on the people who live nearby to where the behaviour is taking place. The Amersham Team have been working with parents and identified youths in challenging them on their behaviour and getting people to sign up to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. I am pleased to say there has not been the need for any dispersal orders since January.

The COVID-19 lockdown has led to a reduction in the “usual type” to ASB such as loitering.

COVID-19 has introduced a new problem for the police to manage and this has been a particularly big area for us in day to day policing. Falling under the ASB category, the NHPT have had to deal with incidents from large gatherings to smaller gatherings in residential properties. Although dedicated patrols have been targeting Covid related issues, the NHPT team’s community support officers have been working extremely hard to Engage, Explain and Encourage compliance.

Press release;

On the 15<sup>th</sup> April 20 the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) released figures of the total number of fines that have been given out by police forces across the country for breaches of the Coronavirus restrictions for the period between 27 March to 13 April. During this time Thames Valley Police handed out 219 Fixed Penalty Notices.

In response Thames Valley Police Chief Constable John Campbell said: *“This is an unprecedented public health emergency and an extraordinary national effort is needed to fight this virus.*

*“Since the new measures were introduced we have had thousands of positive interactions with the public and the overwhelming majority of people have had either a legitimate purpose for being out, or have listened to the advice given by our officers.*

*“However, on some occasions we have had to enforce the legislation. In the last three weeks we have fined a total of 219 people of the 2.3 million population in the Thames Valley.*

*“Most of the fines we have issued have been to groups, inappropriately gathering together in public places, or driving together in a car, for example ten fines were given to one group alone.*

*“We have also made a number of arrests which have led to people being jailed for breaching Coronavirus restrictions or coughing at officers or members of the public.*

*“Some of these breaches have been identified by patrol officers but a significant number have been reported by the public. In particular this Easter Weekend, as with many Forces, we had a significant increase in these types of calls.*

*“We will continue to engage with the public, explain the restrictions and encourage people to stay indoors. However, when necessary, we will take enforcement action if people are not listening to the advice and are putting others at risk.*

*“The restrictions are in place to protect the public and protect the NHS.*

*“The great majority of the public have been staying in and stopping the spread of the pandemic, and I want to thank them for their ongoing cooperation and support.”*

*Police and Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley, Anthony Stansfeld, said: “We entirely support the approach of Thames Valley Police in engaging with the public, explaining why the new rules are so important, encouraging people to follow the rules and, as a last resort, enforcing.*

*“Some of those issued with Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) were also charged with other serious offences not related to Coronavirus. As one of the largest forces in the country covering one of the largest populations, and also the force with the largest roads network, I would expect Thames Valley Police to issue more FPNs than most other forces.*

*“We have found that compliance within the Thames Valley is extremely good and I’d like to personally thank members of the public who are doing their bit and staying home. We will continue to monitor the situation closely as the pandemic progresses and have every confidence in Chief Constable John Campbell and his team.”*

#### **4: Parking**

At the last meeting the common theme of parking complaints were discussed and in particular I parking around schools. It was identified that school pupil sizes were increasing, with the increase in school age it was now not uncommon for some pupils to even drive to school and park on neighbouring roads. School drop off areas were often small in size, chaotic and resulted in misery for local residents and other road users.

The panel decided that this was something that we should look at and would approach the council and schools over what they were doing and what they could do.

Due to the unique current situation this will be reviewed when schools are back to normal.

**VICTIM BASED CRIME:** 1st March to 20<sup>TH</sup> May

Chiltern CSP	1,004	731	-27%
Amersham	258	181	-30%
Chalfonts	248	153	-38%
Chesham	374	300	-20%
Missendens	107	73	-32%

**Violence offences** - 1<sup>st</sup> March to 20<sup>th</sup> May

With Injury

Chiltern CSP	108	58	-46%
Amersham	23	16	-30%
Chalfonts	21	15	-29%
Chesham	50	21	-58%
Missendens	12	6	-50%

GBH

Chiltern CSP	1	1	0%
Amersham	0	0	
Chalfonts	0	0	
Chesham	0	1	
Missendens	1	0	-100%

Violence against the person

Chiltern CSP	324	292	-10%
Amersham	69	71	3%
Chalfonts	68	58	-15%
Chesham	135	120	-11%
Missendens	46	33	-28%

**Next meeting**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 20, 6-8 p.m. at the School Library, Amersham School, Stanley Hill, Amersham.