

Police Report

WILLITON POLICE STATION 29 OCT 2017

Key Issues/Incidents

Armed Robbery in Williton.

On Saturday 28th October, 2 x unknown males committed an armed robbery at the Co-op in Williton.

Staff at the store were allegedly threatened with a knife, but a prompt response from local Officers, assisted by members of the public facilitated effective progress the same evening, where the suspect vehicle was seized.

At this time there are two named suspects, who are not local, & the investigation is currently ongoing.

Nobody sustained any injuries during this attempt.

In order to reduce incidents of **theft from motor vehicle** (TFMV) and **non-dwelling burglaries**. TFMV – Mainly occurring within beauty spot car parks which is a seasonal issue due to the increase in visitors to beauty areas in West Somerset.

Particular areas include all car-parks on the Quantock Hills, and car parks giving access to beaches and other coastal landmarks, we have increased patrols around those areas targeted and that has resulted in fewer reports of this type of crime

Specific locations include Staple Plain and Kilve / Lilstock Beach car-park. Users of these areas are requested to ensure that all valuables are removed from their vehicles, or at the very least, they are removed from display. This type of crime is opportunistic with offenders identifying easy targets and offending mostly at times when there are no witnesses.

We have been exploring the use of a covert capture car for the area to deploy as and when it is available and staff and officers have now been trained on the use of this vehicle which is set up with covert cameras which can capture offenders breaking in to the vehicle.

Non-dwelling Burglaries – This has shown a spike recently, especially in rural locations, and please note, there has been some very recent interest shown in the Roughmoor Trading Estate. Sheds and outbuildings are the main targets with power tools the main items stolen. Power tools are easily sellable hence their value to the offender. People can reduce their chance of becoming a victim by ensuring that valuable tools are kept in a secure location, with consideration that they are locked within their homes rather than in vulnerable outbuildings.

Night time patrols in targeted locations have been increased, and we liaise with our intelligence department to identify likely offenders. The beat team contacts victims of burglary to assess evidence, complete house-to-house enquiries, and to review their

crime prevention measures. The bobby-van is available for victims who require additional security measures but would not necessarily be able to install themselves. This is particularly helpful for vulnerable victims and elderly victims.

Hate crime

Victims of hate crime receive the highest level of service from us as an organisation. There is a scheme in place which ensures that the victim has a single point of contact with the police throughout the investigation, without needing to call 101 to be put through to the investigating officer.

General Crime

Crime is on the up year on year. There are a multitude of reasons for this but it is likely to include the reduction in the number of front line officers, the improvement in ways in which crime can be reported, and the force's commitment to ethical crime recording. There is no simple solution to the increase in crime. You can be assured that if there are any developing crime series occurring in the area, the beat team will do all they can do to tackle it, target it, reduce it and utilise a multi-agency approach to find solutions. An individual can photograph high value items on the website immobilise.com. Include any serial numbers. The Police do use this website to restore stolen items to the rightful owner.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Other than some reports from Stogumber re low level ASB, there are no current issues highlighted to the beat team. No particular perpetrators. We are dealing with some Neighbourhood issues which are being successfully managed using a multi-agency approach.

Please ensure that our beat contact details are forwarded to anyone who wants them so that issues can be reported.

Crime Statistics

Can be found by following the below link:

<https://www.police.uk/avon-and-somerset/AW052/crime/>

This relates to crime covering the entire beat area.

The contact details for the Neighbour Police Team in Williton and Watchet are as follows:-

Neighbourhood Beat Manager

PC 4376 Jamie Munro

Williton Police Station

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Police Community Support Officer

PCSO 7292 Peter Bolton

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