



Neighbourhood Engagement Commitment

Section or department	West Neighbourhood Policing Team
Period Covered	July – September 2021

Our Vision - To provide an outstanding service to the people of Dorset

Our Mission - To keep people safe. To do the right thing. To make a difference. To collaborate

Our Promise – To proactively engage with you the community to listen, learn and respond to your concerns effectively and efficiently in order to build trust and confidence in local policing.

Local Policing Priorities for Reporting Period

1. Deliver engagement to prevent and educate the community against scams and fraudulent activity
2. Disrupt 'County Lines' networks and criminal exploitation of vulnerable people
3. Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour
4. Policing our rural communities in partnership with the Rural Crime Team



Work towards our priorities:

1. Deliver engagement to prevent and educate the community against scams:

- We visit victims of scams and attempted scams reported to police to offer bespoke advice around crime prevention and to address any safeguarding needs with Safe and Independent Living (SAIL) referrals or other relevant agencies backed up by a Police Protection Notice (PPN) to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Referral Unit (MASH) where necessary
- We support online media campaigns against Scam Prevention
- We link into community groups more likely to become victim to scams to offer prevention talks and advice
- We have access to the West Dorset Partnership Coordination Group (PCG) with a wide range of partners to address issues with partners at a strategic level
- We utilise the expertise of our Cybercrime prevention officer to give inputs to groups and businesses to prevent them becoming a victim of scams. Much of their advice can be accessed on our website by [clicking here](#)
- If you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cybercrime [click here](#) for details of how you can report this to Action Fraud

2. Disrupt 'County Lines' networks and criminal exploitation of vulnerable people:

- We provide a police presence at Youth Exploitation meetings held in West Dorset with partners agencies to share information and help to protect children at risk of exploitation and harm
- We collaborate with other services such as Mental Health, Housing, REACH drug and alcohol help to assist vulnerable people in need and protect the wider community from harm
- We discuss county lines at the West Dorset Partnership Coordination Group (PCG) to assist in problem solving with a wider network of partners
- We conduct Safe and Well checks (in coordination with the County Lines Team) on individuals who are deemed to be at risk of exploitation



- Where Youths are found to be exploited by criminals to commit crime of their behalf, we take action to keep them safe and utilise the National Referral Mechanism (NRM)
- We gather intelligence from the community in relation to county lines and drugs supply in West Dorset to enable us to take action against those who cause harm in our communities
- In coordination with the County Lines Team and Force Intelligence Officers we deal promptly and positively to any information in relation to County Lines in West Dorset. If you believe someone is being exploited by county lines, this is an emergency and we need you to [report this](#) straight away
- We provide attendance at multi-agency risk management meetings where individuals are at risk from county lines to work collaboratively to reduce the risks to individuals and tackle offending

3. Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB):

- We work in partnership with the Dorset Police Prevention Department, local authorities and owners of locations attracting ASB to Design out Crime and reduce the likelihood of ASB reoccurring
- We work in partnership with Targeted Youth Workers and third sector organisations to address the root causes of Youth ASB
- We provide a single point of contact with local schools in order share information and intelligence to reduce ASB in the community
- We collaborate with Town Councils and Dorset Council to provide a visible presence to deter and deal with ASB with use of targeted patrols
- We work with Dorset Council Community Safety Team where persistent ASB is identified and issue Warning Letters to parents of youths, Community Protection Notices to adult offenders and utilise other legislation under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- We discuss ASB at the West Dorset Partnership Coordination Group (PCG) to assist in problem solving with a wider network of partners
- We provide attendance at multi-agency risk management meetings and child exploitation meetings reduce the risks to individuals and tackle offending



4. Policing our rural communities in partnership with the Rural Crime Team:

- We provide regular and meaningful engagement in rural communities ensuring that we are visible and accessible to them
- We provide crime prevention advice to victims of rural crime, making use of [The Bobby Van](#) where necessary to provide free prevention materials to victims. [The Rural Crime Team](#) provide a wealth of prevention advice on their webpage which rural communities can use to help prevent offences from livestock worrying to theft from happening in the first place
- We conduct intelligence led, proactive patrols of rural areas to target hotpots. It's therefore essential that all crimes are reported, [click here](#) to report a crime or suspicious incident to Dorset Police online
- We work with neighbouring police forces to complete joint operations on our borders targeting rural crime offenders
- We discuss Rural Crime at the Rural Partnership Coordination Group (PCG) to assist in problem solving with a wider network of partners
- We link into the Rural Crime Team to receive information and intelligence from across Dorset to inform our rural policing activities

[Crime trends, emerging issues and responses for the period covered:](#)

The main emerging crime across West Dorset has been the theft of catalytic converters which has received recent publicity from our Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner in relation to our countywide efforts to tackle this crime. This is a country-wide issue and isn't confined to a small group of offenders. Dorset Police is completing prevention work with our partners in Dorset Council and are working with car manufacturers nationally to tackle this crime. [Our Catalytic Converter crime prevention advice is available here.](#)

There have been a number of arrests in relation to this series and offences have significantly reduced across the entire county throughout June 2021.



2020 was a challenging year for all and as we move into what we expect to be a bumper 2021 summer season, West Dorset Neighbourhood Team are patrolling tourist & ASB hotspot locations to ensure that the residents and visitors to Dorset this year are able to enjoy our beautiful county.

We will engage with our communities by holding face to face events

Whilst planned engagement events are on hold until the final stage of the government's roadmap out of lockdown, we still police 24/7 and are here for you.

What did we learn?

People like to see their police patrolling and preventing crime in their community and engage with us positively when we do.

How are we responding?

We continue to patrol the varied communities across West Dorset and engage face to face with victims of crime and anti-social behaviour and patrol tourist and ASB hotspots.

What's Next?

We are planning to resume face to face engagement events when the final stage of the government roadmap is complete. We will attend community groups and engage with the public at events and in public spaces such as outside supermarkets, to offer crime prevention advice and address any questions or concerns the community have.

We will continue to engage face to face with victims of crime and anti-social behaviour and patrol tourist and ASB hotspots.



We will develop and increase the effectiveness of our digital engagement.

We have adapted to meet digitally with:

- home watch groups
- schools
- local community groups
- voluntary groups

and we have maintained our close links to partner agencies including

- Dorset Council
- Town and parish councils
- Health and other emergency services

We welcome requests from community groups if they would like their local policing team to speak to them at a digital event.



We will improve and increase our use of social media to engage with the public and keep them informed.

We use Social Media to inform and reassure the public in relation to upcoming crime trends and preventative actions they can take, appeals for witnesses and local police activity of interest. We have made good use of new mobile technology to ensure that officers are able to post information without having to return to the police station. The Neighbourhood Police Inspector maintains an overview of all the West Dorset social media channels to ensure that they are relevant, consistent and of sufficient quality.

We will consult and engage with our communities to make them integral to the decisions we make.

We hold regular priority surveys with the public to canvas them for their priorities to ensure that they match and / or influence our priorities.

We engage with our town councils and parish councils regularly to allow them to feed into us any concerns or policing issues raised to them by local residents.

We will increase and broaden our engagement across all communities ensuring we are inclusive of seldom-heard communities.

Reflecting over the Covid period we have listened to our communities as we have engaged with them and as we move out of the government restrictions, we are focussing our efforts to increase our contact with seldom-heard and vulnerable communities.

One of the methods we are using to do this, is by using a Dorset Police secure system to create a Key Community Contacts database of people and organisations who are able to represent various seldom heard and vulnerable communities. This in turn allows us to understand these



communities and engage with them as they prefer. If you would like to be one of our Key Community Contacts please inform your Local Neighbourhood Team via their webpage on the Dorset Police Website.

Neighbourhood Policing Team

Click on the links below to see your local policing team and for links to their social media platforms:

[Sherborne | Dorset Police](#)

[Bridport | Dorset Police](#)

[Dorchester | Dorset Police](#)

Neighbourhood Inspector

Inspector 1822 Darren Stanton

Neighbourhood Chief Inspector

Chief Inspector 1824 Gerard Want