

June 2018 Bulletin from Superintendent Tim Metcalfe, Local Police Area Commander, Aylesbury Vale.

This update presents a brief outline of the last three months work that my team, working with our local partners, have undertaken to make Aylesbury Vale safer. It also suggests some ways in which you can help us in realising this objective. It feels like it has been a busy spring but I will do my best to highlight the key issues.

1. Summer events

Since the last update the local policing team have been involved in a number of national and local summer events. Saturday 19 May 2018 saw Thames Valley Police deliver its single largest operation to date involving the deployment of over 2,500 personnel from across the force. It was a remarkable day and a great privilege for the force to police such a historic occasion. A considerable number of Aylesbury officers lined the route in Windsor in what was a very memorable, and rather warm, day. Local officers have also supported the Ascot races, are currently working at the Henley Regatta and will be deployed to police the visit of President Trump next week and the Reading Festival at the end of August. Within Aylesbury Vale neighborhood officers have been busy at a number of local events including the Aylesbury WhizzFizzFest and the Aylesbury Soapbox Derby (where the Aylesbury Vale Police Cadets not only achieved 12th place but also helped marshal the event).

2. Hidden harm

'Hidden Harm' refers to abuse that is happening in the heart of our communities which remains undetected or unreported. It continues to be a focus for is both locally in Aylesbury Vale and across the Thames Valley Police area in order to raise awareness and understanding. Hidden Harm offences include crimes such as modern slavery, online child abuse, domestic abuse and hate crime. Unfortunately, these offences are occurring in Aylesbury Vale but are often 'hidden in plain sight' and sometimes are not reported to us. My message is really simple – it is happening in our communities, so please, if you suspect it please, report it. We, and our partner organisations, will be far more effective at keeping vulnerable people safe with your help. There is more information regarding Hidden Harm at <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/news/campaigns/hidden-harm-campaign/> and #HiddenHarm will allow you to follow the campaign on our social media channels.

3. Knife crime

There have been a number of very serious incidents involving knives in Aylesbury over the last few weeks. Aylesbury officers are working hard to investigate these offences and insure that criminals using knives are brought to justice. Officers are also very active in using a variety of tactics to target individuals who chose to carry weapons. In June one team of six officers took four knives, a 'stun gun' and a considerable volume of heroin, cocaine and cannabis from five individuals as a result of separate deployments. All will be appearing, or have appeared, in court and can expect custodial sentences. Knives and drug dealing appear to be closely linked with one another at the moment and my plea is please stop more people from being seriously hurt by letting us know about drug dealing or, people who may be

carrying weapons, by calling 101. Alternatively, you can anonymously contact [Crimestoppers](#) on 0800 555 111.

4. Residential burglary

Last year we had the same number of residential burglaries as we did in 2016-17. So far this year we have seen a 16% decrease across Aylesbury Vale. This is really positive and I hope that we can continue to reduce this crime type across the area. The team are very focused on catching the offenders and are increasingly working with colleagues in neighbouring forces in order to do so. However, reducing the opportunities for burglars is also important and we have seen a number of 'sneak in' thefts where opportunist thieves have used open windows and doors to commit offences. In the hot weather please be conscious of leaving homes insecure and valuables, particularly vehicle keys, on display.

5. Facebook

Our Facebook account is doing well with over four thousand followers. It presents a good insight into some of the work that the team are doing on a day to day basis as well as witness appeals and general updates. If you are interested in a more dynamic updates regarding your local police team please follow us at [@TVP AylesburyVale](#).

6. Awards

One of the humbling things about undertaking the commander's role is the quality, and bravery, of the colleagues with whom I work. In early June I presented the following commendations to local officers for their excellent work. The commendations included:

- PCs Crown and Ross-Perry were commended for their role in locating a missing person and preventing him from causing serious harm to himself.
- PC Harding was awarded for her role as the area's safeguarding officer, having protected numerous children from serious harm
- DCs Hemming and Francis were commended for their role in bringing a dangerous offender to justice.
- PS Dover and PC Duthie were commended for their work in balancing deterring criminality and community work.
- PC Labrum was commended for his efforts to secure 23 charges for two persons involved in a rural crime spree across a number of force areas.
- PCs Ransome, Millward-Samuels and Piercy were commended in securing the assistance of Channel 4 to create a burglary crime prevention video with our cadets (https://twitter.com/TVP_Aylesbury/status/943458076530827264).

In April PC's Gray, Burns-Bright and Dudley and Sgts Clarke and Perks all received Chief Constable's Commendations for their professional response to the Waddeson Air Crash in November last year. Finally, in April PC Glen Crossland was awarded the Community Police Officer of the Year award not only for Buckinghamshire but also for the whole TVP area which is a tremendous achievement.

