

## **SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, 24 JANUARY 2013**

PRESENT:- Councillors Brian Ford (Chair), Robert Wright (Vice-Chair), Abdul Amin, John Ballman, Alan Bishop, Toby Elliott, Mary Friend, John Haines, Colin Lovell, Ann Richards, Joe Tray and Julie Wright

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nick Martin.

### **82. Minutes**

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 be confirmed and signed.

### **83. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **84. Public Question Time**

There were no public questions

### **85. Public and Private Space Violence - Wiltshire Police (to be tabled)**

Superintendent Williams gave a presentation on public and private space violence. He explained that Wiltshire Police had exceeded the benchmark they had set themselves by 3.6%. This equates to 570 less victims of crime than expected. He explained the term 'violence without injury' and advised there were 115 more cases in the North area than anticipated. He advised that:

- There had been 24 more cases of 'violence with injury' cases than anticipated
- Serious Violence was 24% below anticipated
- Robbery was 21.8% below anticipated
- Anti-Social Behaviour was 25% below anticipated
- There were 237 domestic abuse incidents in December 2012, of which 9 were classified as high risk
- Wiltshire Police had a resolution rate of 40.9%

Detective Inspector Carr answered questions from the Committee on issues surrounding public and private violence.

The Committee discussed the work being undertaken in Schools around bullying and domestic violence.

### **86. Public and Private Space Violence - Swindon Borough Council**

Phil Thomas submitted a report containing background information on the work undertaken by the Council in respect of reducing public and private space violence

across the Borough.

He advised that the Council's actions in the run to up and during the Christmas period to help reducing public space violence were mainly targeted at the night time economy in the town centre and old town. This was due to the fact that the night time economy accounts for the majority of public space violence.

He commented that the Community Safety team had worked over the Christmas and New Year period with the police, and other partners to help police Swindon's night time economy.

## **87. Wiltshire Police Question and Answer Session**

Members of the Committee asked the representatives from Wiltshire Police how they felt about the new Police Commissioner role. They replied that they had no specific concerns; it was a new way of working and would take time to embed in the culture.