Police and Crime Commissioner joins Swindon officers on Operation Sacramento [#543567056]

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Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson joined frontline officers in Swindon as part of Operation Sacramento - a proactive policing initiative targeting serious and organised crime.

The operation, led by Wiltshire Police, involves high-visibility patrols, intelligence-led raids, and community reassurance activity. It forms part of a wider strategic approach to disrupt criminal networks, safeguard vulnerable individuals, and deliver on the priorities set out in <u>Making Wiltshire Safer: Wiltshire Police and Crime Plan 2025-29</u>.

Officers focused on tackling drug offences, gang-related violence, and exploitation linked to county

lines activity – key areas identified in the Plan under the priority to reduce violence and serious harm.

Mr Wilkinson joined officers during the evening deployment to observe the operation in action and gain further insight into the practical realities of frontline policing.

"Being out with officers on the ground gives me a vital perspective on the challenges they face and the impact their work has on our communities." he said.

"Operation Sacramento is a clear demonstration of our commitment to proactive policing and community safety. It is about sending a strong message that criminal behaviour will not be tolerated in Swindon or anywhere in Wiltshire."

The Commissioner also praised the collaborative efforts between Wiltshire Police, local authorities, and community partners, which underpin the success of operations like Sacramento.

Mr Wilkinson added: "This is not just about enforcement—it is about prevention, partnership and protecting the most vulnerable. I'm proud to support our officers and ensure they have the resources and backing they need to keep our streets safe."

Swindon Inspector Lawrence Copeland said: "Op Sacramento is a proactive policing initiative where we tackle high-harm offences and focusing on creating safer spaces for our communities.

"It is vitally important that we hear from residents which enables us to more effectively target our work.

"We often say that the public are our ears and eyes on the ground and that remains the case.

"If you have any concerns around drug dealing, antisocial behaviour or violence in your area, please report it to us. All intelligence submissions are received and enable us to create a fuller picture of what's happening on the ground.

"Information can be reported on 101 or via our website.

"If a crime is in progress, always call 999."

Operation Sacramento will continue over the coming weeks, with further activity planned across key areas of Swindon.

For more news from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, visit <u>www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/about-us/news</u>









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