

Rural, Wildlife, and Heritage Crime

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Introduction



PC Richard Salter



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RURAL CRIME



What is Rural Crime?

- There is no national definition on what Rural crime is!!

Fly Tipping

Tractor thefts

Burglaries

Traveller encampments

Hare coursing

Poaching

ANYTHING that effects the rural community.....is a rural crime

- Farming Minister George Eustice said: “Food and farming is our largest industry in this country, it is worth over £108bn a year - bigger than aerospace and automotives put together. It is a huge industry.” (Sep 2016, Westminster - Back British Farming Day)



Rural Crime impact

- 2015 National Rural Crime Survey
- 170000 People surveyed
- Cost could exceed £800m
- £200 per household
- £2500 and £4100 for rural businesses
- fear of crime as increasing
- low satisfaction rate of police performance in rural areas
- Underreported

Rural Crime Partnership
for Wiltshire and Swindon



Protecting rural communities in partnership

NRCN

National Rural Crime Network

SURVEY 

Get involved and
make a difference



Rural Crime impact

NFU Crime Report 2020

Rural crime cost the UK £54.3m in 2019. This is an increase of nearly 9% on the previous year, making it the highest cost recorded in eight years

- Agricultural vehicle theft - £7.4m (2018) to £9.3m (2019)
- Quad/ATV theft - £2.6m (2018) to £3.1m (2019)
- Livestock theft - £2.8m (2018) to £3.0m (2019)
- Land Rover Defender theft - £1.6m (2018) to £2.1m (2019)

- Wiltshire £527,774 (2018) to £1,066,343 (2019)
- Increase of 102.0%



NFU Mutual

Farm Machinery, Plant, and Vehicle Theft

FARM MACHINERY, PLANT & VEHICLE THEFT (FMPV)

- Quad bikes and all-terrain vehicles
- Modern and vintage tractors
- Tools and equipment from outbuildings

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEeDOny9Zx8>



Livestock Offences

LIVESTOCK OFFENCES

- Livestock theft
- Livestock worrying and attacks

Increase of 15%

Thefts risen by 19%

Worth £3 million

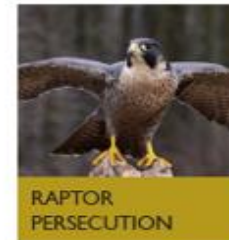
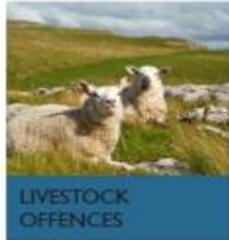
A perceived lack of action taken when a crime is reported.

A belief police forces don't have enough power to be effective against rural crime

The fear of intimidation or being targeted by the criminals as a result.



Rural Crime Priorities



The National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) has developed a Rural Affairs Strategy which sets out police priorities in relation to Rural Crime.

The setting of wildlife crime priorities is done by the UK Tasking and Coordination Group (UKTCG) chaired by the NPCC lead for wildlife crime.

Wildlife Crime

- Hare coursing, fish and deer poaching
- Illegal badger persecution
- Bat persecution
- Raptor (Bird of prey) persecution through
- Freshwater Pearl Mussel (FWPM)

The illegal trade in Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species:



Poaching/Hare Coursing

Reports in Wiltshire since 2016 have increased from 350 reports to over 1000 reports in 2018.

Groups are travelling from Sussex, Surrey, Wales, Northamptonshire, London, Dorset, Hampshire and A&S to Wiltshire.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Illegal+Hare+Coursing&ru=%2fvideos%2fsearch%3fq%3dillegal%2bHare%2bCoursing%26FORM%3dVDMHRS&view=detail&mid=8104FF6927211AFED43D8104FF6927211AFED43D&&FORM=VDRVRV>



Badgers Persecution

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtlMpg5Gl-A&feature=youtu.be>



Raptor persecution

Shooting is the most common way of killing Birds of Prey
Of those convicted of Raptor persecution related crimes since 1990 - 67% were Gamekeepers
In 2017, there were 68 confirmed incidents of raptor persecution, but only four prosecutions relating to raptor crime. Of those, only one resulted in a conviction



Bat Persecution



CITES

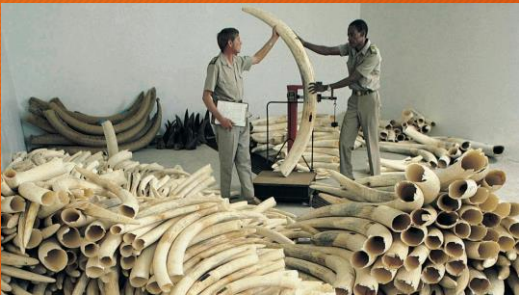


Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

Appendix 1 - The Asiatic lion and tigers

Appendix 2 - American Alligator

Appendix 3 - Honey Badger



Heritage Crime

What is Heritage Crime ?

Heritage crime is ANY offence that harms heritage assets and their settings

Heritage assets include:

- Listed buildings
- Scheduled monuments
- Protected marine wreck sites
- Registered Battlefields
- Registered Parks and Gardens
- Conservation areas
 - Areas of archaeological importance or potential
- Protected military remains of aircraft and vessels of historic interest
- World Heritage Sites
- Undesignated but acknowledged heritage buildings and sites

Crimes impacting on Wiltshire's heritage include

- Arson
- Anti-social behaviour
- Criminal damage/graffiti
- Unauthorised development or excavation
- Damage caused by vehicles
- Unauthorised metal detecting (night hawking)
- Theft of metal

Theft of historical or cultural artefacts and cultural property, such as pieces of art

Questions and Answers