

Report of: The West North West Area Leader

Report to: Outer West Community Committee (Calverley & Farsley, Pudsey, Farnley & Wortley wards)

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Title: Outer West Community Safety Partnership Annual Report

Purpose of report

1. To provide members of the Community Committee with an overview of the performance of the Outer West Community Safety partnership. The report focuses upon the period 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014.
2. To update members on the development of partnership ward tasking arrangements and the progress of the West Yorkshire Police Programme of Change.
3. To report on the performance of the Outer West Community Safety partnership including crime statistics, public confidence and user satisfaction.

Main issues

Performance Framework

4. The Outer West Partnership Ward Areas sits within the North West Locality Community Safety Partnership and will continue to develop activity and management performance against the strategic outcomes of the city as defined by the Safer and Stronger Communities Board Partnership plan 2011-2015, which will focus on delivering the following strategic priorities:
 - Reducing levels of crime and its impact across Leeds
 - Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities

Safer Leeds have agreed the following 6 priorities during 2014/15

- Domestic Violence and Abuse
- Anti-social & Nuisance Behaviour
- Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking
- Burglary Dwelling and Acquisitive Crime
- Offender Management
- New & Expanding drug markets

West Yorkshire Police Programme of Change and New Agreed Tasking arrangements

5. A number of partners (50+) came together on 26th March 2014 to discuss the Police Programme of Change (from three police divisions to one district) and closer partnership working including co-location / tasking arrangements. The North West area workshop was organised by Safer Leeds and West Yorkshire Police and brought together a number of partners including elected members, Housing Leeds, Youth Offending Service, Leeds ASB Team, West Yorkshire Fire, Environment Locality Team and the Area Support Team amongst others.
6. From the meeting and subsequent discussions, there are now four partnership working areas in the West North West area of Leeds and eight neighbourhood management tasking meetings in total.
7. The tasking meetings in the Outer West area have been arranged to be more responsive to local need and are held at Pudsey Police Station. The tasking meetings occur every six weeks (with progress checks conducted midway between 'full' meetings) and are chaired by West Yorkshire Police Sergeants or Police Constable ward managers and a co-chair from a partner agency. The main focus of the meetings is to work with local communities to problem-solve issues of concern by bringing partner agencies together to reduce crime and disorder and avoid duplication. Currently the tasking teams are configured as follows.

Outer West Tasking Teams

- Calverley & Farsley and Pudsey ward
- Farnley & Wortley ward

A review is ongoing to assess how the new Partnership Working Area reports and tasking arrangements are operating across the city. Feedback to date has been very positive about the new tasking arrangements for Outer West.

Performance Highlights

Total Crime

8. During the annual year of 2014, total recorded crime across the Outer West wards decreased by 255, compared to the annual year of 2013.

Ward Breakdown

9. Calverley & Farsley ward had the biggest reduction in total crime with 157 fewer offences than the previous year. It has experienced:

- A reduction of 28 burglary other offences
- An increase of 33 criminal damage offences
- A reduction of 37 drug offences
- A reduction of 7 robbery offences
- A reduction of 48 theft from vehicles offences
- An increase of 3 theft of motor vehicle offences
- An increase of 16 violent crime offences

10. Pudsey ward had the second biggest reduction in total crime with 82 fewer offences than the previous year. It has experienced:

- A reduction of 12 burglary other offences
- An increase of 3 criminal damage offences
- A reduction of 2 drug offences
- A reduction of 2 robbery offences
- A reduction of 43 theft from vehicles offences
- An increase of 5 theft of motor vehicle offences
- An increase of 12 violent crime offences

11. Farnley & Wortley ward had a reduction in total crime of 16 offences over the previous year. It has experienced:

- An increase of 5 burglary other offences
- A reduction of 38 criminal damage offences
- An increase of 5 drug offences
- A reduction of 8 robbery offences
- An increase of 26 theft from vehicles offences
- An increase of 7 theft of motor vehicle offences
- A reduction of 7 violent crime offences

Burglary Dwelling

12. Burglary Dwelling remains a key priority in relation to the allocation of human and financial resources. Tackling burglary dwelling remains the key priority across the whole of Leeds and in Outer West there is one ward of strategic concern - Farnley & Wortley. We are working closely with Safer Leeds Strategic Burglary Group and partner agencies to maximise opportunities for closer working, sharing good practice and continuing to deliver initiatives at a local neighbourhood level through the development of a Farnley & Wortley burglary and vehicle crime action plan.

13. In the crime recording year of April 2014 – April 2015 to date (week 40), 3496 burglary dwelling offences have been recorded across Leeds – 70 fewer than at same point the previous year; a 2% reduction.

Ward Breakdown

14. During the annual year of 2014, burglary dwelling offences across Outer West reduced by 87.

15. Calverley & Farsley ward experienced 25 fewer burglary dwellings than the previous year. Of note, burglary dwelling offences in this ward have reduced year-on-year for the past four years and have effectively halved over this four year period.

16. Pudsey ward experienced 44 fewer burglary dwellings than the previous year.

17. Farnley & Wortley experienced 18 fewer burglary dwellings than the previous year.

Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team Performance

18. The tables below outline the number of enquiries received and new cases opened across all three wards comparing 2013/14 with 2014/15.

| LASBT Cases 2013/14 | Active | Closed | Grand Total |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|-------------|
| Calverley and Farsley | 0 | 27 | 27 |
| Pudsey | 3 | 48 | 51 |
| Farnley and Wortley | 2 | 107 | 109 |

| LASBT Cases 2014/15 | Active | Closed | Grand Total |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|-------------|
| Calverley and Farsley | 9 | 11 | 20 |
| Pudsey | 11 | 30 | 41 |
| Farnley and Wortley | 16 | 63 | 79 |

19. During 2013/14, residents that used the service were asked how satisfied they were with the service they received. The results below show that all of those who responded were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied':

| Overall satisfaction with service provided (closed case surveys 2013/14) | Calverley & Farsley | Pudsey | Farnley & Wortley |
|--|---------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Very Satisfied | 2 | 16 | 29 |
| Satisfied | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied | | | |
| Dissatisfied | | | |
| Very Dissatisfied | | | |
| Grand Total | 3 | 17 | 34 |

20. Examples of partnership action to tackle anti-social behaviour

Calverley & Farsley ward

During the summer there were a number of complaints about youth anti-social behaviour (ASB) and nuisance motor bikes in and around Westroyd Park, Farsley. Staff from both Parks & Countryside and WYP did joint operations and patrolled the park on a regular basis to combat the issues.

A partnership action day also took place in July which included gathering names of young people causing problems and issuing them with ASB warning letters. Numerous motorcycles were also seized along with alcohol from youths in the park. The partnership has also looked at engagement with youth services to divert young people away from causing issues at this location. Further actions being progressed are a bike restrictor to stop motorcycles utilising the main thoroughfare ginnel onto the Sunfields and a readiness to use the new ASB dispersal powers should problems re-emerge in the warmer months of the new year. Feedback to date is that the ASB issues have reduced, calls for service to the police have reduced and residents are happy with the progress

made.

Pudsey Ward

In relation to youth ASB at Swinnow Lane, LASBT has issued eight ASBO Warnings, three Acceptable behaviour Contracts and obtained four interim ASBOs to deal with youth problems. A Problem Oriented Policing Initiative was set up with the police patrolling Swinnow Lane on a regular basis to disrupt and move on large groups of youths who were hanging around. Whilst this has not solved the ASB completely it has significantly reduced it.

Action is still ongoing with three youths remaining on interim ASBOs until 23rd January 2015 when there is a further court hearing. The Police are also applying for a Criminal Behaviour Order on one member of the group who has been involved in the anti-social behaviour.

Support referrals have been made to agencies such as Signpost who have been doing work within families to try and engage the youths and improve their behaviour.

LASBT has an ongoing case at Pudsey bus station working with the Police, Metro and local retailers along with Leeds Watch to tackle ASB in Pudsey centre at the bus station and park. LASBT has issued a number of ABCs / ASBO warnings and 48 hours dispersals have been issued by the Police exercising the new ASB legislation. There has also been a joint LASBT / Police Trojan bus operation to tackle ASB in this area.

Farnley & Wortley Ward

A major focus has been issues relating drugs, noise, damage and harassment from tenants within private properties on Blackpool Terrace in Farnley. With Police / LASBT engagement, three tenants were issued with eviction notices by their landlords. LASBT issued a noise abatement notice and Police issued a Closure Notice following intelligence being received about a planned party prior to them being evicted. LASBT submitted an injunction application in an attempt to keep a visitor to one of the problem properties away.

The family who were suffering the ASB from these tenants was moved to a new home as part of a direct let offer after LASBT linked in with Housing. LASBT also arranged for the out of hours team to visit the area whenever possible as the sight of the van would often cause those involved in the ASB to disperse.

Priorities and Challenges for 2015

21. Vehicle crime (theft of and theft from) is a concern within Farnley & Wortley ward as both have increased this annual year, as has burglary other slightly. Whilst reductions in burglary dwelling have been good in this ward (-18), it appears offenders may have diversified into other crime types. Outer West is committed to its programme of Integrated Offender Management with 'amber' and 'red' nominals to divert them from criminal behaviour.

A general, ongoing challenge within the context of ongoing budgetary pressures being experienced is the need to still address lower-level community concerns such as parking or speeding whilst still delivering against more strategic concerns such as serious acquisitive crime. A planned influx of newly-recruited special constables may prove crucial to us being able to balance these demands.

Criminal damage within Calverley & Farsley and Pudsey wards is also a concern as it increased in both these wards this year. A significant volume of offences are attributable to the practice of marbles, ball bearings or bolts being thrown or fired at windows via high-velocity catapult. Engagement has taken place with local secondary schools to give guidance out on this very dangerous activity and it has also yielded new lines of enquiry the police are following up.

Of note, the Outer West NPT Facebook site has grown massively this year (now 3376 likes) and has proved a very effective way to engage with local communities, provide crime prevention advice, detect crime and increase community confidence. Public confidence in Outer West currently stands at 58.6%; this is 1.8% higher than the Leeds District average.

Corporate Consideration - Consultation and Engagement

22. The North West Locality Community Safety partnership works in partnership with the voluntary and community sector and when necessary carries out statutory consultation as appropriate.

Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

23. Consideration is given to the equality impact of delivering the Safer Leeds Strategy across the North West Locality Community Safety Partnership . Where a negative equality impact is identified action will be taken to mitigate the impact or risk.

Council Policies and City Priorities

24. The North West Locality Community Safety Partnership delivers directly against The Safer and Stronger Communities Board Partnership plan 2011-2015.

Resource and Value for Money

25. The work undertaken by the Outer West Locality Safety Partnership is underpinned by maximisation of resources through effective partnership work.

Conclusion

26. Overall, a successful year for Outer West with performance improvements in public perceptions of dealing with anti-social behaviour. Safer Leeds Partnership will continue to prioritise burglary dwelling during 2014/15 to ensure reductions are sustained and further improvements are made.
27. In terms of current position, in the crime recording year of April 2014 – April 2015 to date (week 40), there have been 242 fewer offences in Outer West. Of these, there have been 92 fewer burglary dwelling offences.

Recommendations

28. Members are asked to continue supporting the locality Community Safety Partnership in relation to the Safer Leeds priorities including tackling Burglary Dwelling during 2015 through partnership work in Outer West at neighbourhood level.