

**Report of the Director of Environments and Neighbourhoods**

**Outer West Area Committee**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

**Subject: Community Safety Issues, Outer West Leeds**

<p><b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b></p> <p><b>Calverley &amp; Farsley</b> <b>Farnley &amp; Wortley</b> <b>Pudsey</b></p> <p>Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>Specific Implications For:</b></p> <p>Ethnic minorities <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Women <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Disabled people <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Council Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p>

**Executive Summary**

This report provides the opportunity for Inspector Richard Cawkwell to provide the Outer West Area Committee with information on crime trends, partnership initiatives and future joint projects between Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Police in Outer West.

**1.0 Purpose Of This Report**

This report introduces Inspector Richard Cawkwell from West Yorkshire Police who will give an update on Crime and Community Safety Issues in Outer West Leeds since the previous Area Committee on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

**2.0 Background Information**

- 2.1 The North West Divisional Community Safety Partnership is responsible for delivering actions to reduce crime and disorder in the West Wedge. It is made up of representatives from key statutory agencies.
- 2.2 Community Safety is one of the priority areas for the Area Committee. Regular reports are received from West Yorkshire Police on key issues and activity in the Inner West Area

### **3.0 Main Issues**

- 3.1 One of the priorities for the Outer West Neighbourhood Police Team is focusing on the hot spot areas in relation to burglary and a number of initiatives including Operation Allport 3 have taken place within the division. Operation Allport 3 saw officers from the West Inner and West Outer neighbourhood policing teams set out to target 14 suspected drug dealers over 14 days. It is known that there is a direct link between the commission of acquisitive crime such as burglary to drugs use and drug dealing. Armed with information fed to them by local people, the teams were able to execute 17 separate search warrants under the Misuse of Drugs Act at addresses across the Bramley, Armley and Pudsey areas. In total, they seized more than £200 worth of Class A drugs, including heroin, and £100 worth of cannabis. The value of plants recovered from two cannabis factories uncovered during the operation is still being estimated. Of those arrested, two people have been charged with possession of heroin; six people charged with possession of cannabis; two people charged with cultivation of cannabis; and one person charged with possession of an offensive weapon. Five others are currently on police bail after being arrested on suspicion of possessing drugs with intent to supply and making off without payment.
- 3.2 The initiative also saw the arrest of three people wanted by the courts for failing to appear at previous hearings and for breaching the terms of their release from prison. Officers liaised with West North West Homes and Leeds City Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit so that tenancy enforcement action can be taken against those involved. The operation came as a direct response to local residents' concerns about drug dealing and drug use in their communities.
- 3.3 Tackling Anti Social Behaviour continues to be a priority within the Outer West and this includes working with partner agencies to divert young people away from ASB in the Farnley and Pudsey area . Community intelligence has also resulted in the execution of drugs warrants across the West Outer.
- 3.4 Inspector Cawkwell will also brief the Area Committee on the following issues;
- Current crime trends in the West Outer area including house burglary, vehicle crime and robbery.
  - Operation Titan and the forces focus on tackling house burglary and cross border criminality.
  - How ASB is being tackled with greater vigour by the force and partners, a recent ongoing case will be discussed relating to Owlcotes Terrace in Pudsey. The success in the Nutting Groves area of Farnley will also be discussed.
  - The current levels of public confidence and satisfaction in the Police and local authority.
  - The recent success of embedding and Policing the DPPO in Farsley.
  - The performance of the off road motorbike unit.

### **4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance**

- 4.1 Tackling crime and disorder and addressing the fear of crime is a top priority for the citizens of Leeds as evidenced by previous consultation undertaken by Safer Leeds and West Yorkshire Police on a citywide and local level.

4.2 The citywide community safety partnership, Safer Leeds, has identified a number of key priority themes for 2008 – 2011 these are:

- Creating safer environments by tackling crime;
- Improving lives by reducing the harm caused by substance misuse;
- Supporting victims and reducing the risk of victimisation;
- Reducing offending and managing offending behaviour;
- Improving community confidence and public satisfaction;

Locally delivered actions will contribute to these priorities. In addition Operation Champion has been rolled out throughout the city and will be targeting hot spot areas by Police division.

## 5.0 **Legal And Resource Implications**

5.1 The West Area Management Team includes an officer with specific responsibilities for Community Safety who co-ordinates activity and acts as the link officer with West Yorkshire Police.

## 6.0 **Conclusions**

6.1 Crime and Community Safety is a priority for the Area Committee, and a representative from West Yorkshire Police, North West Division, attends the Inner West Area Committee meetings to provide a regular update on key issues.

## 7.0 **Recommendations**

7.1 Members are asked to note the update from West Yorkshire Police

## **Background Papers**

No background papers were used in writing this report.