

Report of the Director of Environments and Neighbourhoods

Outer West Area Committee

Date: 9th July 2010

Subject: Community Safety Issues, Outer West Leeds

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>Calverley & Farsley Farnley & Wortley Pudsey</p> <p>Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Specific Implications For:</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 26th March 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 **Crime Trends** - since the start of the Crime year in April 2010 the West Outer area has seen fluctuations in crime levels but at the time of preparing this report the current statistics are as follows;

Theft of motor vehicles – 20 fewer than this time last year.

Theft from motor vehicles – 29 fewer than this time last year

Burglary Dwelling – 4 fewer than this time last year.

Burglary Other (Commercial, garages, sheds etc) - 3 fewer than this time last year.

Robbery – 2 fewer than this time last year.

Criminal Damage – 24 fewer than this time last year.

Assault with injury – 4 more than this time last year.

The most recent crime trends have seen rises in vehicle crime in Pudsey and house burglaries in Farnley. Leeds as a city continues to experience higher levels of house burglary than other parts of the country.

- 3.2.1 **Initiatives** – at this moment in time Operation Achnaba is a pro active initiative aimed at patrolling the areas of highest crime and disrupting those criminals who are believed to be the most active in the division. There are extended tours of duty being worked by NPT Officers into the early hours of the morning as well as officers from Operation Anvil who are the division's pro active element focused on burglary. There have been some excellent arrests during this initiative including a young man from Bramley who was caught at 5am in Pudsey by my officers on patrol. He was found nearby to a car with a smashed window, a sat nav device was found near to him and he was arrested for this matter. Operation Allport 4 in April and May 2010 was another pro active initiative where again a number of Policing departments came together to concentrate on burglary hotspot areas of

- 3.3 **Tackling Anti Social Behaviour** - the past 3 months have seen a greater focus on ASB and it being tackled through a partnership problem solving approach. Through daily analysis of ASB incidents, risk assessments take place to identify vulnerability and a proportionate response. "Red" ASB locations are those which have seen not just repeated incidents but where vulnerable people have been subjected to the behaviour causing them extreme levels of harassment, alarm and distress. A good example would be Owlcotes Terrace in Pudsey.

The problem for Owlcotes Terrace was simply increased calls for service in relation to ASB in that area. The ASB took the form of criminal damage and rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour.

A public residents meeting took place where partners and Councilor Coulson spoke to local residents. This meeting proved to be successful as public confidence increased and people were prepared to come forward and speak to the Police.

Following the gathering of community intelligence, a group of perpetrators were identified. A partnership meeting involving ASBU, TET, Housing, Youth services and the area co ordinator took place where an action plan was devised. This consisted of tenancy enforcement, ASB sanctions and arrests for criminal offences. There was also diversionary work carried out by youth services.

Following the work done there is very little ASB now in that area and some of the young people have agreed to work on a project to improve the environment. This will entail creating a community garden for the enjoyment of residents.

- 3.4 **Operation Champion** - this took place in Pudsey from the 26th to the 28th May 2010. As usual there was a partnership approach to solving crime and grime issues. From a Police perspective there were a number of arrests made for crime, test purchasing at 8 off licenses, red diesel testing, a drugs warrant executed, civilian warrants executed and environmental action team assisted with a clear up. ASBU worked alongside housing in relation to recent ASB perpetrators.
- 3.5 At this time most PCSOs are trained in the use of the Pro Laser speed monitoring device. This has been used to good effect in Calverley, Swinnow and Farsley to combat the issue of speeding motorists.

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.