

Report of the Director of Environments and Neighbourhoods

Outer West Area Committee

Date: 28th January 2011

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> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<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 Gill Hunter and 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 17th December 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 Outer West Area

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 There will be a fresh impetus on vehicle crime and burglary in Pudsey during the start of 2011, in particular theft from motor vehicles in ward 28 centre Pudsey. A proactive approach will be taken where increased disruption of criminals takes place. The capture car will also be used.
- 3.2 Covert work in Pudsey resulted in the arrest of known criminals for theft from motor vehicle. There are a group of young men who are breaking into cars and these are being targeted. Excellent work by PC Laura Hartford who got bolt on ASBOs following conviction of a known nominal and prohibited from association with known nominal's.
- 3.3 During 2011 there will be a focus on theft of metals such as copper /lead from unoccupied houses and other premises. Police Sergeant Steve Williamson is involved in work with the Environmental Action Team to visit scrap metal dealers and ensure that they are complying with rules and regulations on appropriate record keeping and ensuring that they are being vigilant around potential stolen goods. There will be future projects aimed at reducing metal thefts and by targeting known nominal's.
- 3.4 Inspector Cawkwell is heading up the launch of "Faithwatch" in the division which is similar to neighbourhood watch. The aim is to get Faithwatch leaders / representatives to form watch groups to share information about crimes such as metal theft etc and anti social behaviour. A launch is taking place for the evening of Tuesday the 11th January at Headingley where a number of partners will be present and we are hoping for a good turnout from faith groups.
- 3.5 Work in Calverley and Farsley continues following a man from Ravenscliffe, Bradford committing offences in Calverley and Farsley. Excellent work between PC Colin Wight and PC Laura Hartford Anti Social Behaviour link officer resulting in the offender being subject of an Anti Social Behaviour Order prohibiting him from being in Calverley by a defined map.
- 3.6 Operation Champion will be focusing on the on Nutting Grove and Bawn area of Farnley during February and further action days will be planned with the police and partner agencies during 2011.

4.0 Tackling Anti Social Behaviour

- 4.1 Extensive work (again) regarding Anti Social Behaviour on Nutting Grove Terrace / Bawns. A spate of small fires linked to ASB has now come to an end. Good work done has been done by PC's Donna Stacey and Rachel Smith with arrests made of perpetrators. The Arson task force have done work in Farnley High School regarding education over fires.
- 4.2 Extensive work regarding a Pudsey resident who is an Anti-Social Behaviour perpetrator taking a partnership approach to dealing with this man, an arrest was made and on going work with housing and negotiations with mental health services, has taken up a lot of staff time.
- 4.3 The dismantling of an enormous cannabis factory in Wortley, the biggest discovered in the year in the entire county. Approx 3,000 mature cannabis plants with a value approaching just short of a million pounds - this was "bagged and tagged" by the Outer West Neighbourhood Police Team and enquiries are ongoing to trace Vietnamese nationals.

5.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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;
- 5.3 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.

6.0 Legal And Resource Implications

- 6.1 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.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 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.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 Members are asked to note the update from West Yorkshire Police

Background Papers

No background papers were used in writing this report.