

Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 7th November 2011

Subject: Annual Community Safety Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Adel & Wharfedale, Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth and Otley & Yeadon		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

1. This report provides crime statistics for Outer North West Leeds and details of key activity to address crime and anti social behaviour issues.

Recommendations

2. The Area Committee is asked to:
 - note the report and offer comments

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report is the annual community safety report, providing Members with details of the community safety activity undertaken during the last 12 months. The report will also provide details of crime data, making comparisons with the previous year.

2 Background information

- 2.1 A number of factors have a bearing on crime, criminologists have placed these factors into three broad categories:

- A suitable target or opportunity, for example: valuable items which can be removed relatively easily such as laptops near an open window, vehicles with unlocked doors and a valuable item on show, etc
- A motivated offender, for example: someone whose values or beliefs make stealing acceptable, drug dependency, someone motivated by greed, etc
- A low likelihood of getting caught, for example: no Police or security guards, a neighbourhood with a low level of reporting crime, no natural street surveillance, etc

- 2.2 Traditional problem solving techniques aim to reduce crime by impacting on these three categories:

- Working to educate the victim (leaflet drops, face to face crime prevention advice, etc)
- Tackle the offender (known as offender management; visit known offenders, tenancy action, curfews, criminal sanctions – prison, etc)
- Undertake community based work to improve natural surveillance such as community engagement and capacity building to increase reporting (eg neighbourhood watch), environmental works such as cutting hedges back, secure by design, etc)

- 2.3 However it should be acknowledged that other factors also have a bearing on crime;

- Seasons
- Weather
- Release of offenders
- Location
- Population

- 2.4 It is also important to note that one offender can commit many offences in a short period of time and this can lead to significant increases in crime figures. For example, where six cars are damaged in a street, this would lead to six reports of criminal damage.

3 Summary of Key Actions

- 3.1 The North West Divisional Community Safety Partnership is a multi agency partnership chaired by the Police and West North West Homes and includes partners from Fire Service, Leeds University, Youth Service, Youth Offending Service, Safer Leeds and Community Safety Lead Member representatives from each of the four Area Committees in West North West. The Partnership meets four times a year and sets the strategic direction for partnership work, examining performance and agreeing

priorities. The work of the group is accountable to the Safer Leeds executive, who receive regular reports of the activity undertaken.

3.2 The key actions highlighted in this report have been delivered through the Divisional Community Safety Partnership during the last 12 months.

3.3 Multi Agency Tasking. This group meets monthly and it's membership includes; Safer Leeds (Co-chair), Police (Co-chair), Area Management, West North West Homes, Fire Service, Youth Service, Attendance Management, Environmental Action Team, both Universities and Leeds ASB Team. The group aims to direct partnership resources to tackle the priorities set by the Divisional Partnership and from local agency intelligence.

Examples of the work undertaken by the Multi Agency Tasking group during the period September 2010 – August 2011 includes:

- Planning and delivering 2 Operation Champions and 2 action days to tackle specific problems
- Tackling anti social behaviour problems at Holt Park, St James, Westfields, Henshaws, Weston estate, Cookridge golf course, Netherfield Road car park to name a few.
- training of Council staff on spotting cannabis farms
- planning and contributing to 12 months of community engagements events held across Outer North West. Partners used these events to engage with residents about crime, grime and anti social behaviour priorities and work being undertaken in communities.

3.4 Operation Champion. This is a multi agency operation aimed at tackling crime, anti social behaviour and environmental issues within an agreed area. A number of agencies come together to focus their activity in a geographical area, joining together to have a greater impact. During the last 12 months, 2 Operation Champions have been held in the Outer area focusing on Holt Park and Horsforth. The combined results for the year include:

- 30 door knocks for burglary to promote CASAC
- Over 200 ASB leaflets distributed
- Over 25 visits made dealing with various asb issues
- Over 200 tenancy visits by West North West Homes
- Over 200 leaflets promoting home fire safety checks from Fire Service and over 50 smoke detectors installed
- 5 locations cleared of rubbish
- Over 1000 automatic number plate reads, 2 hits, 4 stop searches
- 5 arrests

3.5 A further 2 Operation Champions are scheduled during the next 12 months. These operations will be supplemented by action days as required. During the last 12 months action days were held in Holt park, Weston Estate and Henshaws. Action

days are usually focused to tackle specific problems such as youth nuisance, litter, graffiti or criminal damage.

- 3.6 Off Road Bikes. The cost of this project is shared across the four Area Committee areas, with each Area Committee contributing £1,500 per annum towards the running costs of two vehicles. The Bikes are deployed across the Division to patrol greenspaces or to target specific problems. The vehicles are effective in reducing anti social behaviour and low level crime, particularly on green spaces providing reassurance to those using parks and greenspaces. The vehicles have also been used during specific initiatives such as Operation Champion or more focused initiatives in conjunction with the council's Park Ranger Service. A dedicated (answer phone) telephone number has been set up for the service (0113 2395092) to deal with calls about nuisance bikes and this number is publicised in community newsletters and the Police Neighbourhood Policing Team Website.
- 3.7 No Cold Calling Zones. The Area Committee has provided funding to set up a Cold Calling zones in Yeadon and Rawdon. A Cold Calling zone aims to stop people cold calling and signs are placed on the streets in the scheme. The intention is that the scheme will make it easier to spot bogus traders, who will stand out, as genuine traders will abide by the signs. The scheme would cover 904 homes across 29 streets and is progressed in collaboration with Trading Standards.
- 3.8 Capture Technology. This project uses high tech equipment to track and trace stolen property. The project includes capture cars where sat navs are left on display, houses set up to look like they are occupied with a laptop on display, or bicycles; the items in question contain tracking equipment or software which is used to track where stolen items are taken. The project has had successful outcomes, leading to offenders pleading guilty earlier because of the weight of evidence against them. Valuable evidence is also gained about where stolen goods are taken and the action taken against those receiving and handling stolen goods. During the last 18 months the project has led to the arrest of 25 individuals and the most notable success being the sentencing of a burglary nominal to 876 days in prison. The team is currently in the process of purchasing 2 sets of covert cameras to be deployed in asb hotspots to capture information about those involved in anti social behaviour such as arson, graffiti, rubbish dumping, etc
- 3.9 CCTV. The Area Committee funds the permanent citing of a number of CCTV cameras in Horsforth (2), Yeadon (3) & Otley (5). The cameras are monitored by LeedsWatch based within Safer Leeds. There are five additional cameras in Horsforth. CCTV footage has been used in relation to 190 arrests within the North West Leeds, for a variety of offences including burglary, robbery, theft, criminal damage, sexual assault, outraging public decency, offensive weapons, drug offences and public disorder.
- 3.10 Operation Alaska. This operation targeted vehicles who transport refuse (particular focus on metal) and involved stopping the vehicles and examining the type of waste they were carrying, any defects evident on the vehicle, the type of fuel being used and if the driver had appropriate insurance and a waste carriers license. Taxi License Officers also assisted and took the opportunity to undertake checks on taxis. Agencies involved in the Operation include DVLA, Environmental Action Team and taxi Licensing Officers. Three successful Operations have been run so far.

- 3.11 Speed Indication Device / Speed Gun. This project was funded during the last Area Committee cycle and the project continues to run. The Wellbeing grant was used to match fund the purchase of a Speed Indication Device (available to community groups) and a speed gun for use by the Police. The process for identifying speeding concerns is now well established and PACT (Partners and Community Together) help identify priorities and community members to go out with this equipment. Where concerns are evidenced through the SID, these are referred for attention using the speed gun. Vehicles identified through the SID are sent a letter about their speed, to date 1,400 letters have been sent through this initiative.
- 3.12 Test Purchasing. This project was funded through a wellbeing grant in 2010 /11 and aimed to develop and utilise local groups to undertake local test purchasing for on and off licensed premises. The project worked with Trading Standards to develop a process to officially warn premises and then refer for license review. During the life of the project, 25 on-licensed premises were visited and 272 off licensed properties, 10 on licensed premises and 23 off-licenses failed test purchasing a range of measures were used to deal with these failures including, fixed penalty notices, action plans to improve, control measures and 1 repeat offender referred for court action.
- 3.13 CASAC. The Area Committee has funded £40,000 of target hardening to be used to provide match funding for residents. The scheme pays £100 towards the cost of a basic target hardening package, with the resident paying the remaining £50. If additional work is required beyond the basic package then residents are asked to fund this, examples include additional external door locks. Police statistics are used to identify streets to promote target hardening and PCSOs undertake door step engagement with residents and encourage them to contact CASAC and arrange an appointment for the free home security checks. The Community Safety sub group receives regular update reports about the work undertaken through this project and the last project returned showed that 312 target hardening jobs had been completed with 12 jobs remaining.
- 3.14 The Arson Taskforce, part of West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service, has undertaken a number of projects in the area working with partners to develop work in hotspot areas and at high risk times such as mischief night and bonfire night. Examples of work undertaken in Outer North West include:
- Contributing to environmental audits to identify rubbish which should be removed before it maybe set alight
 - Working with schools to highlight the danger and risk of fire, different products are delivered with different year groups in partnership, eg Fire Service and Police delivering 'Prison me no way' which shows where the wrong path in life may lead to, working with year 9 in relation to the dangers around bonfire night
 - The Possible Arson Targets (PAT) project working with building control to identify empty buildings which could be possible arson targets to make sure they are secure and clear of danger
 - Strikeout Campaign which sees the Arson Taskforce, Police and Trading Standards working together to visit commercial premises and remind them of their responsibility in relation to the sale of matches and lighters to underage children, particularly around mischief night / bonfire night

4 Analysis of Crime Figures

- 4.1 Appendix 1 provides an overview of crime figures for all 4 wards which make up Outer North West Leeds (Adel & Wharfedale, Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth, Otley & Yeadon). The figures presented cover the period April 2009 – March 2010 and April 2010 – March 2011 and relate to all crime types, including Fraud & Forgery, handling stolen goods, sexual offences and other thefts.
- 4.2 During this period crime has increased slightly in three of the four wards, with Horsforth maintaining the same performance. When we examine the figures for each ward there are significant variations in the statistics for each crime type, the following tables will explore these variations in more detail. It is important to note that these figures include all crimes as mentioned above. The following paragraphs will explore these outcomes in more detail.
- 4.3 The following Appendices (numbered 2 – 5) will concentrate on the following crime types: burglary, robbery, theft of and theft from vehicles, criminal damage and violent crime.
- 4.4 Appendix 2, provides an overview for Adel & Wharfedale ward and shows that the bulk of the crime increase mentioned previously, relates to theft from motor vehicle increase of 25 (49%), burglary with 33 (26%) more burglaries and violent crime 31 (35%) more offences than the previous year. Criminal damage and theft of motor vehicle reduced with 64 (38%) and 7 (29%) less offences.
- 4.5 Theft from motor vehicles remains a challenging area with vehicle users leaving valuables on display in vehicles or leaving vehicles unlocked or with windows open. Various tactics are used to help get the message across about not leaving valuables on display, examples include knocking on doors to inform residents that they have left their vehicle insecure or with items on display, making a note of vehicle registrations and asking DVLA to write to vehicle owners and remind them not to leave goods on display and capture car deployment into hotspot areas.
- 4.6 CASAC has undertaken specific work in Adel to tackle burglaries through the well being target hardening project. There is strong demand from residents in this area to work with CASAC and address lock vulnerabilities.
- 4.7 Guiseley and Rawdon ward achieved reductions in Burglary (12 fewer offences, 9%), criminal damage (17 fewer offences, 10%), robbery (4 fewer offences, 40%) and violent crime (22 fewer offences, 16%), Appendix 3. However, theft from motor vehicle increased by 36 offences which equates to a 40% increase.
- 4.8 Horsforth ward experienced increases in burglary up by 72 offences (41%), theft up from motor vehicle by 50 offences (58%) and an increase in violent crime 31 offences (31%). Criminal Damage and robbery fell by 78 (35%) and 5 (45%) offences respectively. The increase in burglary in the ward is a worrying trend and work has started to address this by identifying the underlying causes of the increase, using this intelligence to target specific activity such as door knocking to areas where sneak ins are a problem and talking to residents about home security, including referrals to CASAC, targeted evening patrols and disruption visits to known burglars.

4.9 Appendix 5 shows a reduction in criminal damage and violent crime in Weetwood ward with 47 (19%) and 16 (7%) fewer offences, respectively. Burglary increased by 18 offences (14%) and robbery and theft from motor vehicle also saw relatively minor increases (7 and 9 offences.)

5 Conclusion

5.1 Whilst burglary did increase in most wards, the numbers remain relatively low when compared with other parts of the city. Significant work is undertaken in collaboration with CASAC in identifying streets which would benefit from target hardening and ensuring those residents are aware of CASAC and the opportunity to have target hardening subsidised through the Well being grant provided by the Area Committee. In addition, significant attention will be paid to delivering a darker nights awareness campaign over the winter months. Leeds traditionally experiences an increase in burglary during the darker months and work in Outer North West will include a “bobby in the lobby” campaign in supermarkets targeted to areas of key footfall to engage with shoppers about keeping a light on when they go out or using timerswitches, PCSO targeted visits to elderly and vulnerable persons, property marking initiatives in key areas, leaving “lightbulb” leaflets at houses in darkness and key messages going out across the neighbourhood watch network.

6 Corporate Considerations

6.1 Consultation and Engagement

The projects highlighted in this report will include consultation and engagement under the theme of crime and anti social behaviour with the aim of providing crime reduction advice and to increase reporting.

6.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

Engagement events and projects take account of equality and diversity in their delivery. Considerations such as date, time, venue, access all have an impact on equality and diversity in relation to ensuring events are accessible to all members of the community.

6.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

Effectively tackling crime and anti social behaviour is a strategic priority in the Safer Leeds Plan 2011-2015.

6.4 Resources and Value for Money

Projects and work highlighted in this report have been funded through a mixture of Safer Leeds, Area Committee and West North West Homes. Further opportunities for partnership funding will be explored through the coming year.

6.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

There are no legal implications or access to information issues for this report. This report is not subject for call in.

6.6 Risk Management

Risk implications and mitigation are considered for each project.

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 The report outlines potential projects through the Area Committee's Well-Being budget. These are projects which assist in the work programme of the Area Management Team. The report outlines the budget remaining for the Area Committee's use for the rest of the financial year.

8 Recommendations

- 8.1 Members of the Outer North West Area Committee are requested to:

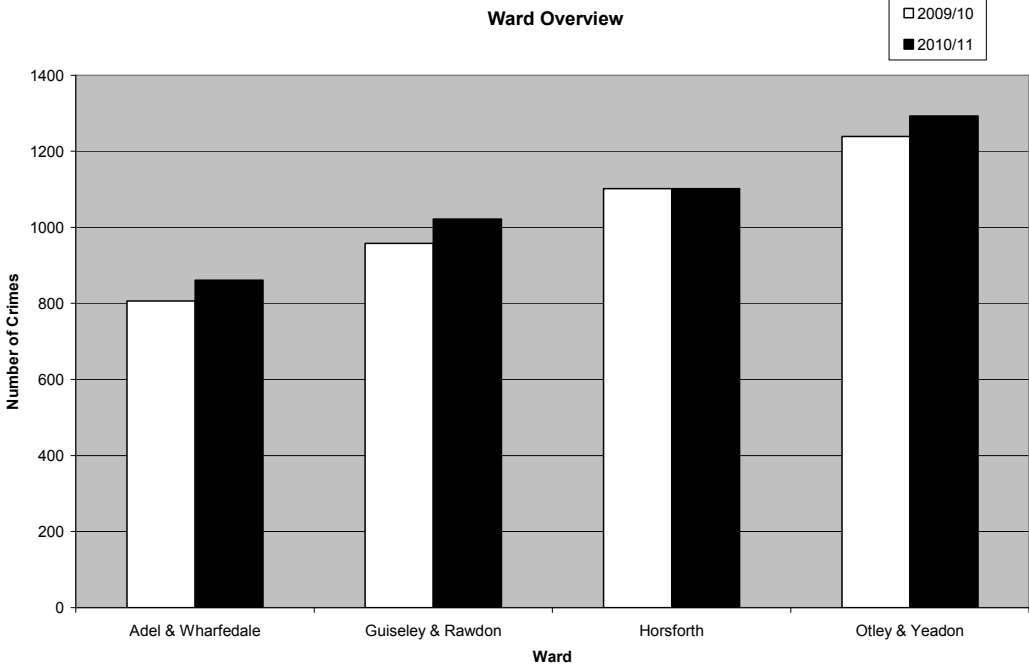
Note the contents of the report and offer comments

9 Background documents

- 9.1 None

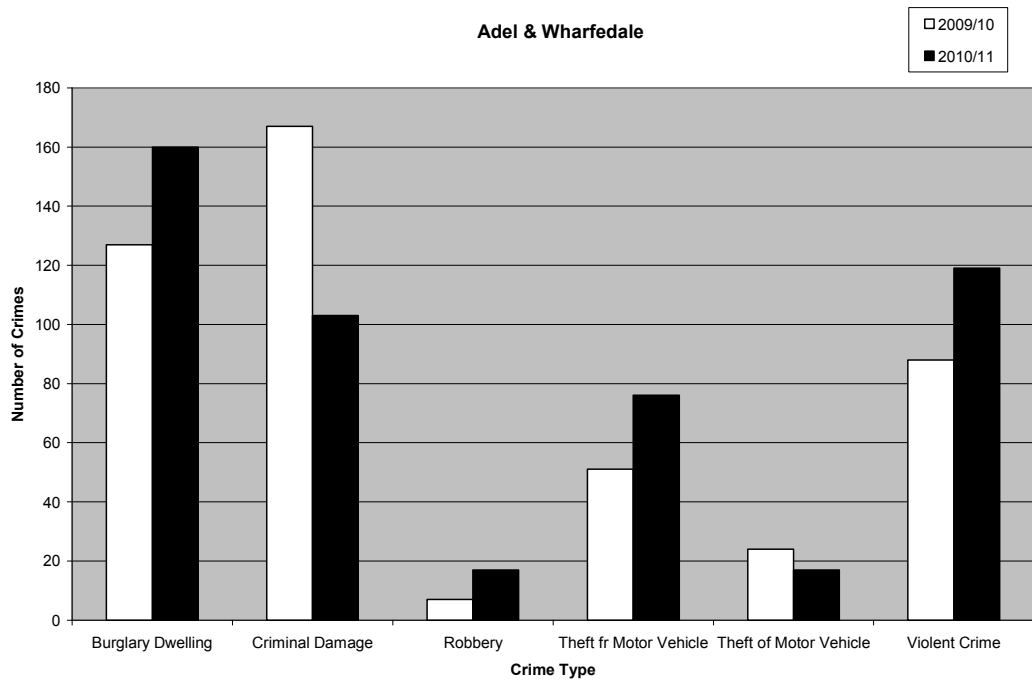
Appendix 1

Ward Name	2009/10	2010/11	# Difference	% Difference
Adel & Wharfedale	806	861	55	6%
Guiseley & Rawdon	958	1022	64	6%
Horsforth	1102	1102	0	0
Otley & Yeadon	1239	1293	54	4%



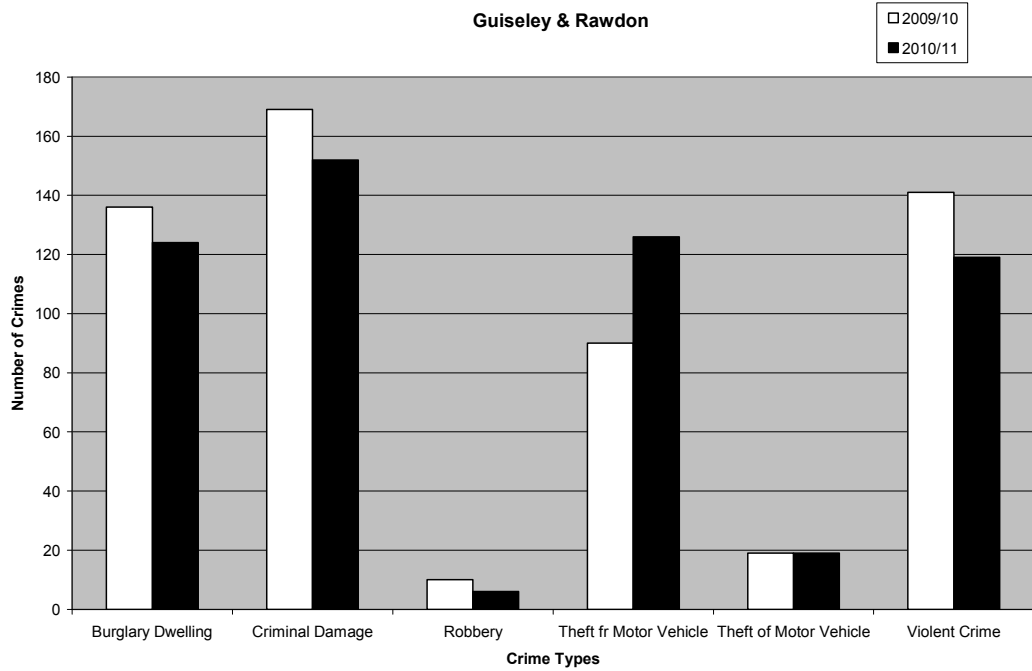
Appendix 2

Adel & Wharfedale	2009/10	2010/11	# Difference	% Difference
Burglary Dwelling	127	160	33	26%
Criminal Damage	167	103	-64	-38%
Robbery	7	17	10	143%
Theft fr Motor Vehicle	51	76	25	49%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	24	17	-7	-29%
Violent Crime	88	119	31	35%



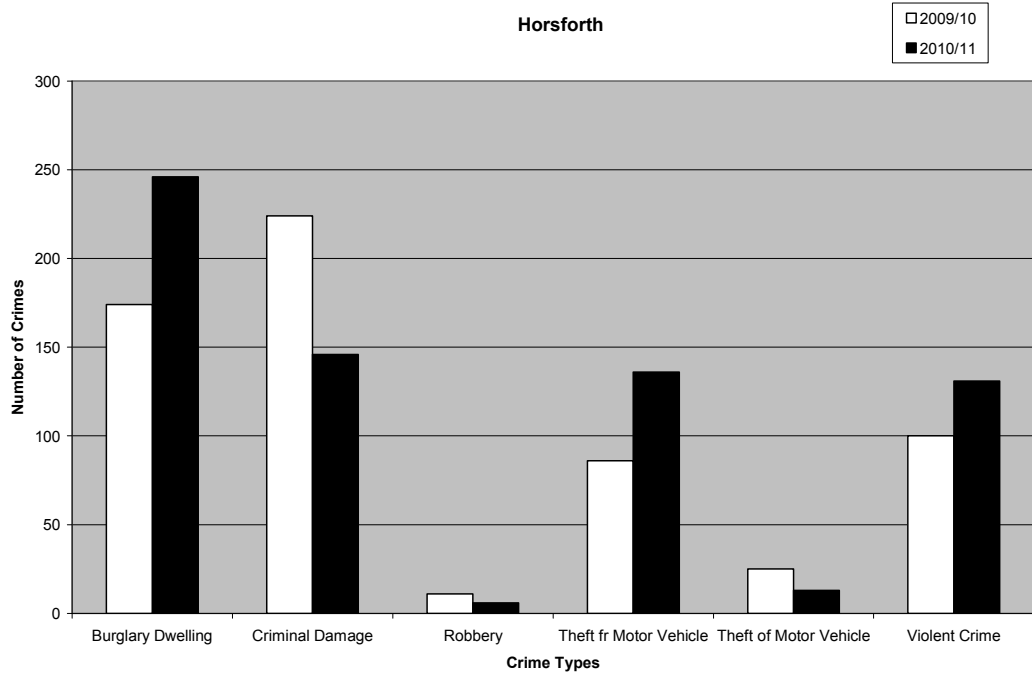
Appendix 3

Guiseley & Rawdon	2009/10	2010/11	# Difference	% Difference
Burglary Dwelling	136	124	-12	-9%
Criminal Damage	169	152	-17	-10%
Robbery	10	6	-4	-40%
Theft fr Motor Vehicle	90	126	36	40%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	19	19	0	0
Violent Crime	141	119	-22	-16%



Appendix 4

Horsforth	2009/10	2010/11	# Difference	% Difference
Burglary Dwelling	174	246	72	41%
Criminal Damage	224	146	-78	-35%
Robbery	11	6	-5	-45%
Theft fr Motor Vehicle	86	136	50	58%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	25	13	-12	-48%
Violent Crime	100	131	31	31%



Appendix 5

Otley & Yeadon	2009/10	2010/11	# Difference	% Difference
Burglary Dwelling	132	150	18	14%
Criminal Damage	247	200	-47	-19%
Robbery	5	12	7	140%
Theft fr Motor Vehicle	114	123	9	8%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	29	27	-2	-7%
Violent Crime	217	201	-16	-7%

