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Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 23rd March 2011

Subject: Community Safety Report

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	⊠ Yes	□No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Calverley & Farsley, Farnley & Wortley, Pudsey Wards		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	Yes	⊠ No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	Yes	⊠ No

Summary of main issues

- 1. This report discusses recent crime statistics for Outer West Leeds;
- **2.** Acquisitive crime; Burglary remains a priority for the North West Division and Safer Leeds partnership with additional resource allocated to reduce burglary across the city.
- 3. Partnership Action Days;
- **4.** Targeting partnership actions to tackle concerns around anti-social behaviour in Outer West Leeds.

2. Recommendations

- **2.1** The Area Committee is asked to:
 - note the report and offer comment

3. Purpose of this report

3.1 This report provides the opportunity for Inspector Richard Cawkwell and Gill Hunter 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.

4. Background information

4.1 The North West Divisional Community Safety Partnership is responsible for delivering actions to reduce crime and disorder in the West area. It is made up of representatives from key statutory agencies.

5. Main issues

- **5.1** Community Safety is one of the priority areas for the Area Committee. Regular reports are received from Community Safety and West Yorkshire Police on key issues and activity in the Outer West Area.
- 5.2 The Multi Agency Tasking group meets every six weeks and it's membership includes; Safer Leeds (Co-chair), Police (Co-chair), Area Management, West North West Homes, Fire Service, Youth service, Attendance Management, Youth Offending Team Environmental Action Team, Signpost, Pudsey Town Centre Manager and Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team (LASBT). The group aims to direct partnership resources to tackle the priorities set by the Divisional Partnership and from local agency intelligence. The tasking meetings include Environmental priorities that have an impact on Neighbourhoods.

5.3. Crime Trends

At the time of writing I am pleased to report that crime is at a lower level in comparison to this point in 2011. The crime recording year runs from the 1st April 2011 to the 31st March 2012. Week 47 of the crime recording year shows that there have been a total of 4,795 crimes committed in the Outer West Wards. This is 81 crimes lower than at the same point in 2011. There have been significant reductions in violent crime and criminal damage. There have also been small reductions in burglary other and robbery.

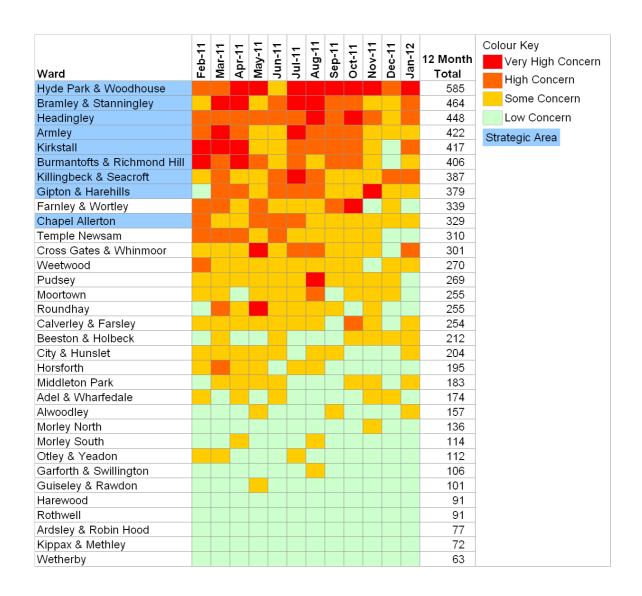
A detailed up to date breakdown will be delivered to the elected members on the date of the meeting.

5.4 Burglary

Burglary remains a priority for the North West Division and Safer Leeds partnership with additional resource allocated to reduce burglary across the city.

The chart below shows the ranking of wards for burglary across the city and highlights the localities of concern. Currently there are no wards in Outer West that are localities of concerns however the Farnley and Wortley ward have seen an increase in burglary during September and October but has seen a reduction during December and January 2012. Additional resources which include extended tours of duty from 6 PM – 6AM and the targeting of known offenders has resulted in some positive reduction in the burglary figures for November.

During the last few months there have been a number of targeted operations to tackle burglary and other crime types working with partners via the Outer West multi-agency tasking meetings.



Localities of Concern chart

5.5 Offender Management

5.6 The Neighbourhood police have been focussing attention on the Amber nominals. These are offenders that don't fall into Intensive Offender Management programmes managed by a dedicated Offender Management Team but are know to be criminally active or identified as high risk. This includes offenders that have been arrested for such crimes as burglary, robbery or vehicle crime but are not currently managed. This also includes those that are involved in anti social behaviour and those who by association, are linked with more serious offenders who may have a negative influence on them. The neighbourhood Police Team are targeting known offenders through the management of Amber Offender by pro active measures which include engagement, home visits/checks and extended tours of duty until 6am.

5.7 Operation Alice 1 and 2 – has been a further pro active initiative which has run from autumn and throughout the winter. Again NPT staff have deviated their tours of duty to work a variety of hours in line with offending times. This has often mean that they have worked 1800 – 0600. The months of November, December, January and February have all seen a reduction in the number of recorded burglary dwellings and theft from motor vehicles. There is no doubt that this success has been due to the persistent targeting and disruption of known offenders.

Plans are being made to look towards adopting a style of patrol work first used in Greater Manchester, a model called "The Trafford Model". This will involve taking a more predictive approach to where our burglaries are likely to occur in line with the "Optimal Forager" theory that exists in relation to offender behaviour. The results of this process will be discussed later this year.

- 5.8 Darker Nights Plan A darker nights plan will continue until the change of the clocks and the lighter nights. A package of measure continue to take place which include timer light switches funded from Community Safety, leaflets and also merchandise funded by the Outer West Area Committee which are being targeted in hot spot areas and events such as local forums and PACT meetings. A crime prevention awareness event was held during the February half-term at Pudsey market to raise awareness of home security to local communities.
- 5.9 Target Hardening –To date target hardening has been completed in Pudsey, Calverley and Farsley Ward. A funding application has been submitted for West North West Homes Area Panel to support further target hardening of vulnerable properties within the Farnley/Wortley. Where people are able to contribute to the costs of enhanced security to their property a contribution is requested of £50, excluding tenants of West North West Homes Leeds. This has proved very successful.

6.0 . Joint Action Days

- 6.1 Pudsey Town Centre During January there was a focus on Pudsey Town Centre with days of action focussing on repeat litter and enforcement patrols with PCSO's and with the addition of Duty of Care inspections regarding commercial waste, obstructions of the highway with advertising "A Boards" and the consideration of Litter Control Orders for excess accumulations of branded litter where necessary.
- 6.2 Cotes Lane Ginnel An action week took place in January with the Neighbourhood Police Team and the Environmental Action team focussing on Enforcement Litter Patrols between Farsley Farfield Primary School and Priesthorpe School. The heads at both Farfield and Priesthorpe schools are supportive of the work.

7.0 Anti- Social Behaviour

7.1 Farnley and Wortley Ward - Gamble Hill and Heights

There have been a number of complaints from local resident in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), drugs, security and tenancy issues mainly around the Gamble Croft and Gamble Grange high rise flats. A public meeting took place on 2nd March with local politicians, residents, police and partner agencies to gather information and agree solutions to address issues ranging from security of the main doors, strong smell of cannabis, large items been thrown out of the high rise flat windows, and individual tenancy issues. On 14th January there was a multi-agency tenancy sweep on the Gamble Hill flats and partnership work will continue to focus through the Outer West Tasking group.

7.2 There have also been complaints of ASB around the Heights Drive area. The police and Leeds Anti-social Behaviour team are working with West North West Homes and conducted a tenancy sweep on Heights West high rise flats on 8th March. The tenancy sweep focussed on a questionnaire with local tenant to establish what their concerns are and to gather information. Once the questionnaire have been collated, the information will be used to target resources and actions. There are also concerns around Heights Drive/back of the Brick Public House in relation to a large group of young people causing some lower level ASB, throwing stones, playing football. The young people have been contacted by the police/LASBT staff and information passed onto youth services and Armley juniors in relation to engaging with the young people. This work will be progressed through the Local Housing Action Groups and the Outer West tasking Group.

7.2 Pudsey Ward

There have been issues with ASB and the bus station in Pudsey Town Centre. On going work with Metro is taking place to identify the people causing issues around Pudsey. Funding to remove some trees to provide improved sight lines of the CCTV camera in the bus station to help prevent damage to Pudsey park play area has been approved by the Area Committee and Parks and Countryside. The Leeds Anti-social Behaviour Team are pursuing 2 Anti Social Behaviour Orders for 2 young people from the Pudsey ward.

On going partnership work continues on the Owlcotes/ Wateringcotes area aimed at reducing Anti-social Behaviour and engaging with the local community to organise community events. An event has been organised for the 4th April .

7.3 Calverley/ Farsley Ward

Concerns about anti-social behaviour in Farsley in particular around the Farfield shops have been addressed. There are a number of joint partnership actions which include targeting those individuals/families causing ASB, youth diversionary work and 50 % funding approved by the Area Committee for a CCTV camera to cover the main hot spot area round the Farfield shops.

7.4 Metal Theft

Whilst incidents of metal theft have reduced, this still remains an issues. A number of metal theft dealers have also been visited within the West Leeds area by the police and Environmental Enforcement Officers to check their records, and to make sure that all scrap metal transactions are transparent and made aware of the consequences if they are not. An action day has been organised for 27th February.

7.5 Cross Border Operations Between Leeds and Bradford

There will be continued actions days between Leeds City Council and Bradford Metropolitan council focussing on Cross Border issues. The next action day is in the process on being agreed for March/April period. Again a significant multi agency vehicle checksite will be in operation at the Gallaghers leisure site. It is also worthy of note that additional Roads Policing Police Officers from the Operations Support department have been drafted in to patrol the border area with Pudsey and Calverley.

7.6 Community Engagement & Reassurance

The Neighbourhood Police Team continue to support local forums and meetings to engage with communities and to inform them of their work, providing crime prevention advice and to feedback on the local priorities for local neighbourhoods. The merging of meeting is beneficial to partners as it is more effective in terms of resources.

7.7 Off Road Bikes.

Funding for the section 59 Police Reform Act 2002 re unauthorised motor vehicles signs has been jointly agreed with Leeds City Council and Bradford Metropolitan Council. The signs have been ordered and will be in place for March 2012.

7.8 The main issues for the off Road Bike Team have been dealing with Anti Social Behaviour issues caused by quads and motorcycles in Black Carr Woods. Following a meeting with City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, they have agreed to replace the fencing with felled trees in an effort to prevent this ASB caused in the main by locals from the Holme Wood estate riding through the woods and on into the Pudsey and Fulneck areas. It is hoped that this will resolve the problems from the quad bikes and motorcycles and give some peace and quiet to all the people who use these woods and there local community.

8.0 Corporate Considerations

8.1. 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.

8.2 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.

8.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

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

8.4 Resources and Value for Money

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

8.5 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.

8.6 Risk Management

Risk implications and mitigation are considered for each project.

9 Conclusions

9.1 The report outlines the work and progress of the North West Divisional Community Safety Partnership and multi-agency partner tasking, and projects supported through the Area Committee's Well-Being budget. These are projects which assist in supporting the work programme of the Area Management Team.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 Members of the Inner West Area Committee are requested to:
 - Note the contents of the report and offer comments
- 11. Background documents¹
- 11.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.