



**Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate**

**Meeting: South (Outer) Area Committee**

**Date: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**Subject: South Leeds Divisional Community Safety Partnership Update Report**

**Electoral Wards Affected:**

Ardsley & Robin Hood  
Morley North  
Morley South  
Rothwell

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

**Specific Implications For:**

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council  
Function

Delegated Executive  
Function available  
for Call In

Delegated Executive  
Function not available for  
Call In Details set out in the  
report

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report identifies a range of activity which has been undertaken in the first three quarters of 2008/09 to address community safety issues in Outer South Leeds.

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 This report provides an update from the Area Community Safety Co-ordinator on crime levels in Outer South Leeds. It includes information about crime in each Ward and actions taken or ongoing to tackle those issues. It provides an update on the structures that have been introduced in order to maximise partnership resources, and sets out some of the priorities for 2009/10.
- 1.2 This report also presents some Well-being fund proposals from the Rothwell and Morley Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

**2.0 CRIME FIGURES AND RELATED ACTIVITY**

**2.1 Crime statistics and crime reduction activity for outer south Leeds**

- 2.1.1 The attached spreadsheet (Appendix 1) shows the numbers of offences under the main crime types, and is broken down into the four Wards in Outer South covering the period from October 2007 to December 2008.

2.1.2 The following summarises current performance across key areas in all four Wards.

## **2.2 Ardsley & Robin Hood Ward**

2.2.1 Burglary Dwelling is the crime type showing the greatest increase during 2008, from a low of 21 offences between April and June to a high of 40 between July and August, maintaining this level to the end of the year. Burglary Dwelling is very much a priority for the City and Holbeck police division, and officers from traffic and CID are working together to target known criminals travelling into the area using automatic number plate recognition along the A654 and A650 corridors.

2.2.2 Criminal damage has been falling throughout the year from 75 instances in the first quarter of 2008, to 41 between September and December. The local Neighbourhood Policing Team has invested a lot of work in tackling anti-social behaviour in the area, including obtaining a three month Dispersal Order in October to enable officers to break up large gangs of youths that were intimidating local residents.

## **2.3 Morley North Ward**

2.3.1 Theft of motor vehicles has shown a steady decline during 2008, from 23 in the first quarter to 11 in the last quarter. This is particularly significant as there has been an increase in '2 in 1' burglaries in other outer areas of the city, where houses are broken into to steal cars.

2.3.2 Violent crime has seen a sharp increase from July to December with 109 cases, compared with 67 in the first six months. The Neighbourhood Policing Team are tackling alcohol related anti-social behaviour across the Ward, and are targeting areas where young people congregate to drink, using their 'direction to leave' powers to stop the groups returning once the Police have gone.

## **2.4 Morley South Ward**

2.4.1 Crime levels in Morley South Ward have remained fairly consistent with only 'Other Theft' showing a significant decrease, from 148 offences in quarter one to 91 offences in quarter four. The Morley NPT Crime Reduction Partnership has undertaken a lot of work around target hardening and awareness raising.

2.4.1 Violent Crime is highest in Morley South Ward compared with the rest of the Outer South area, peaking over the Summer months with a quarter three total of 99 instances, around a third higher than the average of the other three quarters.

## **2.5 Rothwell Ward**

2.5.1 Burglary Elsewhere has increased over the year from 26 in quarter 1 to 46 in quarter 4. This crime type is usually associated with theft from sheds and other outbuildings, and is often carried out in more rural areas.

2.5.2 Violent crime decreased between April and December, the only Ward in the area to achieve this, however levels are still higher than at the beginning of the year.

## **2.6 Other Community Safety Activity**

### **2.6.1 CCTV**

In July 2008, the Area Committee considered a report regarding the use and regulation of CCTV systems. Further work has been carried out by the Area Management Team in partnership with LeedsWatch and Legal Services to draft a protocol and code of practice for Area Committee funded CCTV systems outside of Leeds City Council control.

2.6.2 The main requirements of the protocol are that CCTV operators must complete a training course and be licenced by the Security Industry Authority (SIA), and that adequate controls are in place to ensure the general public's right to privacy is not compromised.

2.6.3 Officers from the Area Management Team and LeedsWatch met with representatives from Drighlington Parish Council to discuss the protocol and how it affects their existing and proposed CCTV schemes. Feedback on the content of the protocol was positive, however the Parish Council have decided to hire an external contractor to monitor and oversee the CCTV system at Drighlington Meeting Hall, and to not purchase other CCTV cameras at this time.

2.6.4 In the future, any organisation seeking Area Committee funding for CCTV systems will be required to meet the conditions of the CCTV protocol and code of practice.

### **2.6.5 Robin Hood Dispersal Order**

In October 2008, a three month Dispersal Order was granted covering parts of Robin Hood where anti-social behaviour (ASB) had increased and was causing alarm and distress to local residents. The order was shown to have a significant effect with a 30% decrease in ASB across the Robin Hood beat area compared with the previous three months.

### **2.6.6 Operation Staysafe**

Operation Staysafe is a joint operation between the police and Leeds City Council Youth Service to combat youth nuisance on Friday evenings in Morley. On the 20<sup>th</sup> February, the team patrolled anti-social behaviour hotspots and spoke to over 100 young people. 14 young people were considered 'at risk of significant harm' through drink, involvement in anti-social behaviour, or being considered too young to be out on the streets, and were returned to their parents. Further work will be carried out with the families of these individuals. During the Operation, there was one report of ASB, compared with 10 the previous week.

### **2.6.7 Off Road Motorcycles**

The Morley Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) have carried out Operation Date to tackle the nuisance and damage caused by off road motorcycles. The Divisional Roads Policing Department have increased off road patrols, and 10 Section 59 notices have been issued to riders causing alarm, distress or nuisance to members of the public. The Police also have powers to seize bikes of persistent offenders, or those without adequate insurance. So far during the Operation, 3 bikes have been seized and several other offences have been discovered.

### **2.6.8 Burglary**

Police officers and PCSOs from Morley NPT are working with Age Concern to raise awareness of sneak in burglaries and bogus callers by visiting older people's clubs and other community organisations.

### 2.6.9 Anti-Social Behaviour

The Morley NPT are tackling youth nuisance and ASB using a 'Direction to Leave', a police power to order an individual causing ASB to leave the area and not return for up to 36 hours. This has been particularly successful around Alesha News in Drighlington, where young people were congregating and harassing members of the public to purchase alcohol for them. Since these powers have been used, there has been a reduction in calls to this area.

2.6.10 Morley NPT has increased patrols around school closing time, and used intelligence from the public, schools and parents to target ASB hotspots. The parents of young people involved in ASB are visited by the Police, and other powers may be also be used including Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.

## **3.0 CHANGES TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE SOUTH LEEDS DIVISIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

### **3.1 Thematic crime groups and multi agency area based Tasking**

- 3.1.1 In May 2008 the South Leeds Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP) agreed to re-structure its sub groups. This decision was taken following discussions with Safer Leeds and other Divisions about how to achieve the best outcomes for the area. Two structure charts are attached at appendix three and four that show the new structure.
- 3.1.2 There are two area based Tasking meetings covering Morley NPT area and Rothwell. The groups are made up of representatives from agencies who have an in depth knowledge of issues and their service within the local area. They are chaired by the Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector and meet monthly in Morley and bi-monthly in Rothwell.
- 3.1.3 There are four thematic groups that cover the whole of South Leeds. The groups tackle the following issues: burglary/robbery, drugs/alcohol, hate crime and domestic violence. There is also a link to the Anti Social Behaviour panel that convenes representatives from across the city to approve applications for Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs).
- 3.1.4 Each group receives an intelligence package from the Police Divisional Intelligence Unit (DIU). This allows the group to prioritise activity into the problem areas. The meetings are made up of representatives from a range of agencies. These agencies are also asked to bring details of problems to the table in order that the combined resources of each group can be used to address them. Each group has a performance management framework that allows for actions to be tasked, monitored and outcomes are recorded.
- 3.1.5 Each thematic and Tasking group reports back to the DCSP and in turn via a Highlight Report to the Safer Leeds Executive. Updates on activity to the Outer South Area Committee will come via the Area Managers Report. The link to the Area Committee has been strengthened in recent months with the introduction of a link Member for the DCSP. This link was enhanced at the November meeting with a pre-Area Committee community safety themed event.

## **4.0 KEY PRIORITIES FOR 2009/10**

4.1 The DCSP is in the process of developing its action plan for 2009/10. The plan will mirror the strategic outcomes of the Safer Leeds plan which 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

It will also develop a timeline that will allow for trends in crime types to be anticipated and plans put in place to address those issues.

4.2 The DCSP also recognises the need to continue delivering actions to tackle the increasing levels of burglary. The increase in burglaries is a serious concern in this area, other parts of Leeds and across the country. It is likely that the trend will continue to rise as economic conditions worsen.

4.3 In response to this, the South Leeds Burglary Sub Group is proposing a series of action days. Crime data will be used to identify problem streets that are being affected by burglary. A crime prevention audit will be carried out by the NPT Crime Reduction Officer to identify measures that can be taken to reduce the likelihood of burglary being committed. This approach will use the crime prevention model of victims, location and offender. Partner agencies will be asked to commit resources to addressing the problems which could include improving lighting, cutting back vegetation, distributing crime reduction messages. This activity will be supplemented by actions carried out at area based Tasking meetings where intelligence about target nominals is discussed by partner agencies to ensure enforcement action is taken on several fronts.

## **5.0 OPERATION CHAMPION**

5.1 The results of Operation Champion have been previously been presented to the Area Committee. The latest Operation Champion took place between 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> February in Morley South Ward. Eleven agencies participated in the Operation and the outcomes are listed at Appendix 2.

5.2 The DCSP has recognised that there are areas of concern with Operation Champion particularly around inconsistent input from key agencies and in information in the form of results being returned to the Champion organiser. Delivery Statements are being agreed with each agency in order to ensure greater clarity about their obligations. In future, this should lead to more consistent reporting and improved outcomes.

## **6.0 AREA COMMITTEE FUNDED ACTIVITY**

6.1 The Outer South Area Committee has funded the following projects through its wellbeing fund:

2008/09	Operation Champion	£400
2007/08	Rothwell Pub Watch	£6,037.20
	Rothwell Smartwater	£3,000
	Morley Licensing & Pubwatch	£7,689.24

Morley Smartwater	£5,000
Morley Target Hardening	£7,500

## 6.2 **Police Wellbeing Funding Requests**

6.2.1 The Morley and Rothwell Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspectors have requested Area Committee well-being funding for several community safety projects that will meet local priorities and resident concerns. These are outlined in more detail at Appendix 3 and include:

## 6.3 **Morley Neighbourhood Policing Team – Total £26,783.70**

### 6.3.1 Smartwater : £7,500

Providing 300 Smartwater kits for victims of burglary

### 6.3.2 Licensing Project - £10,317.30

Monthly test purchase operations targeting licensed premises suspected of selling alcohol to minors

### 6.3.3 Nuisance Off Road Motorbikes - £8966.40

Twice monthly operations to target nuisance off road bikes across Churwell, Tingley, West Ardsley and Drighlington.

## 6.4 **Rothwell Neighbourhood Policing Team – Total £24,920**

### 6.4.1 Smartwater - £11,612

To provide 500 Smartwater kits in burglary hotspots and 200 hours officer time to deliver the project

### 6.4.2 Vehicle Crime Prevention Project - £8,196

Use of capture car and publicity campaign to reduce car crime in Rothwell, Oulton, Woodlesford and Robin Hood.

### 6.4.3 Pubwatch Support - £5,112

Carry out additional visits to Pubwatch premises on Friday and Saturday evenings.

## 7.0 **Implications for Council Policy and Governance**

7.1 No specific issues are identified.

## 8.0 **Legal and Resource Implications**

8.1 No specific issues are identified

## 9.0 **Recommendations**

9.1 The Committee is asked:

- a) To note the contents of this report and to make comments of the programme of work that has been delivered and the priorities for the coming year.
- b) To consider the proposals for Area Committee Wellbeing funding at appendix 3

## **Background papers**

Area Managers Report, 7th July 2008

Community Safety Report, 2nd July 2007