

Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 22nd June 2010

Subject: Community Safety Issues, Inner West Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley
Bramley and Stanningley

Ward Members consulted

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

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 provides the opportunity for Inspector Mark Bownass to provide the Inner West Area Committee with information on crime trends, partnership initiatives and future joint projects between Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Police in West.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 This report introduces Inspector Mark Bownass from West Yorkshire Police who will give an update on Community Safety Issues and crime trends in Inner West Leeds since the last Area Committee meeting 14th April 2010.

1.2 Crime trends/hot spots

The main focus has been around the Armley area. We have seen an increase in Burglaries and theft from motor vehicles. This has been reduced in the past couple of months with the use of the capture car and capture house, which has seen arrests from both.

1.3 Operation Titan

This operation has been used in the hot spot area and has seen other police departments, such regional roads policing, Yorkshire and Humber Roads policing, Force intercept team (ANPR), Mounted, Operation Support Teams, Off Road Bikes etc.

1.4 Acquisitive Crime Team

Operation ANVIL is a newly formed team which will assist in the investigation into serious acquisitive crime (Burglary, Robbery, Theft etc). It consists of Detectives, NPT officers, Road Traffic officers led by a Detective Inspector and two Sergeants

1.5 Edinburgh's Dispersal Order

This is to deal with large scale ASB and associated crime. The Dispersal order will be used to reduce ASB working with partner agencies for prosecution and diversionary activities. The hot spot area will see other police departments, such regional roads policing, Yorkshire and Humber Roads policing, Force intercept team (ANPR), Mounted, Operation Support Teams, Off Road Bikes etc working in the area.

1.6 Operation Abbreviate

This operation to tackle Prostitution and drugs is to be funded by a cash injection of £6.000 by WNWHL to enable police and partners, such as BARCA to combat this issue, providing diversionary activities for the sex workers. This will work towards reducing ASB and crimes surrounding the working girls, such as robbery, theft and public order offences.

1.7 Nuisance Bikes

Also funded by WNWHL will be an off road bike operation. This will look at education in schools around the danger of off road bikes. It will also look at dealing with ASB issues and nuisance that the bikes cause, seizing the bikes and crushing them.

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.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 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.

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

None