

Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

West (Inner) Area Committee

Date: 8th September 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.

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.
- 3.2 The Area Committee funded initiatives, in particular, are helping to reduce crime and ASB. Examples include capture car and capture house which uses high tech equipment to track and trace stolen property – leading to offenders pleading guilty earlier because of the weight of evidence against them and valuable intelligence gained about where stolen goods are taken. The main focus of the capture house and capture car has been around the Armley area which has 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.
- 3.3 Operations have taken place in the hot spot area to bring additional resources in to tackle burglary in Armley such as regional roads policing, Yorkshire and Humber Roads policing, Force intercept team (ANPR), Mounted, Operation Support Teams, Off Road Bikes etc. During July and August the Mounted section patrolling Armley and Bramley have supported operations, Abbreviate, Amble and Achnaba.

Operation Amble, Edinburgh's Dispersal Order

- 3.4 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 as regional roads policing, Yorkshire and Humber Roads policing, Force intercept team (ANPR), Mounted, Operation Support Teams, Off Road Bikes etc working in the area. On going operation which has seen a 126 requirements to leave issued and 6 arrests for breach of the requirement to leave. These are currently going through the court process.

Operation Abbreviate 3

- 3.5 Funding from West North West Home to provide support and advice targeted at drug users and prostitution in the New Wortley area . 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.

Operation ADULATE

- 3.6 The aim of operation Adulate is to:
- reduce the number of nuisance motorcycle calls received from members of the public
 - Seize motor cycles and motor vehicles in accordance with section 59 Police Reform Act 2002 & Section 165 Road Traffic Act 1988
 - Target nominals within Operation area know to be actively involved in Burglary, Robbery, vehicle and Drug Offences.

- Target nominals within the Operational area known to be circulated as wanted/ BOLO
- Increase the number of Off Road motor cycles and uninsured motor vehicles seized in the Operation area
- Deployment of highly visible Police resources to increase public confidence and provide reassurance to the public that police do have the resources to deal with anti social use of vehicles.

Operation Aberfeldy

- 3.7 It is the intention of North West Leeds Police division, to actively identify, investigate and reduce priority crime, specifically Burglary dwelling, Robbery and Vehicle crime offences, and to increase public confidence in the Division
The intention of this operation is to provide High Visibility Police patrols, to Proactively Police the Designated Target areas, identified at The Tactical Intelligence Assessment meeting.
- 3.8 This Operation will involve high Visibility Divisional Roads Policing resources supported, where available, by Roads Policing Officers from Operation Anvil and Force resources enabling the deployment of ANPR equipped vehicles to specific Areas.

Operation Champion

- 3.9 Operation Champion took place on the Wythers on 29th and 30th July 2010. Details are attached at Appendix 1. During the 2 days partner agencies focused their attention on a number of issues that local residents had raised as concerns through the PACT and Wyther Improvement Group meetings which included environmental work , littering and speeding on Cockshot Lane.
- 3.10 The police visiting over 270 houses talking to local residents about crime issues, crime prevention and promoting the crime stoppers contact number to report crime anonymously. There were visits to 4 Victims of Hate Crime at local shops on Raynville Road, and 4 persons arrested by Police, 2 still sought. The anti-social Behavior Unit (ASBU) will be making referrals to support agencies Positive Activities For Young People (PAYPE and Signpost) Two youths received harassment warnings to date, with ASB interventions to follow for all youths and follow up with West North West Homes Leeds and the Tenancy Enforcement Team. The police also focused speeding issues utilising the Lazer gun equipment over the 2 days on Cockshot Lane. A number of vehicles were identified speeding and will receive a warning letter.
- 3.11 The Environmental Action team conducted an audit of the area identifying waste in Gardens, Overgrown Hedges, Noise Nuisance. During the 2 day the staff gave out general advise about waste management, worked with the unpaid service team in the clearance of 30 gardens / cut back hedges.
- 3.12 The youth service along with BARCA organized a play assortment session on the Friday in the morning and afternoon for younger children. Sumo Suits activity was also arranged for ages 6 – 65 yrs @ Wythers Community House. There were approximately 20 participants who appeared to enjoy themselves and it succeeded in bringing members of the community together. Other activities included Home Fire

Safety checks with the Fire service, tenancy audits from the Housing providers in the area. Further feedback on the 2 days is currently being collected and will be collated into one report, that will be circulated once all feedback forms have been completed.

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;

4.3 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.

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