

**Report of the West Leeds Area Manager**

**Inner West Area Committee**

**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

**Subject: Community Safety Issues, Inner West Leeds**

<p><b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b></p> <p><b>Armley</b> <b>Bramley and Stanningley</b></p> <p>Ward Members consulted</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>Specific Implications For:</b></p> <p>Ethnic minorities <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Women <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Disabled people <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Council Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p>

**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**

This report introduces Inspector Mark Bownass from West Yorkshire Police who will give an update on Crime and Community Safety Issues in Inner West Leeds since the previous Area Committee on 15th December 2010.

**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.
- 2.2 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

### **3.0 Main Issues**

#### **3.1 Acquisitive Crime Operation Alamo**

Burglary has been on the decline across the North West Division. There have been 450 less burglaries than in the previous 12 months. Operation Alamo is a new operation targeting know burglars in the North West Division.

#### **3.2 Target Hardening**

Safer Leeds has contributed £55,000 for crime reduction initiatives/target hardening to assist in reducing burglary in Inner West. Currently properties on the Aviaries have had a security Assessment and this work will continue in the Little Scotland and Cedars area of Armley.

The police have some funding for compi- trace which is a device fitted to laptops that can tracks stolen laptops. The Police did some enforcement work before Christmas which was specifically geared toward laptop theft

#### **3.2 Operation Alligator**

Operation Alligator is a team of 8 officers put together to deal with the rise in vehicle crime. Since its introduction it has seen the reduction in car crime across the division. The team have had success with the capture car in Bramley, which resulted in 5 arrests.

#### **3.3 Edinburgh's Dispersal Order**

The Dispersal order has now ended, however there is still on going work in this area. Four young people were granted 2 year Anti Social Behaviour orders on 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011, the local Neighbourhood Police Team intend to leaflet the area affected by their behaviour. On going work with Christ Church and Youth services looking at diversionary activities through youth engagement at Christ Church and the Lazer Centre Friday Night Project. Signposts which are a project that supports families with complex issues are working with families in Armley and Bramley.

#### **3.4 New Wortley Action Day**

A reassurance action day was organised for 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010. The aim of the day was to provide information and crime prevention advice, note any vulnerability issues and complaints.

The agencies that participated were: West Yorkshire Police Neighbourhood Police team, West North West Homes, Community Safety, Environmental Enforcement Team and the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit.

During the day approximately 393 properties were leafleted with Partnership Christmas cards with useful contacts and information in Clyde Grange Clyde Court and Wortley towers and Wortley Heights. The type of information included help –lines such as Stop Hate UK, the Domestic Violence Help-line, the local Neighbourhood Police Team and West North West Homes Leeds contact number and Noise nuisance, Anti – Social Behaviour help-lines. Leaflets were also given out about local drug support services and debt advice. The Police and Anti-Social Behaviour unit had also prepared an Acceptable Behaviour contract to give to a resident in relation to complaints.

During the action day staff managed to speak to over 80 residents living in the flats and distributed 60 goodies bags with information and advice on staying safe and noise nuisance.

During the action day a number of issues were identified which included repairs, Properties were there maybe subletting and where residents have dogs and cats in the flats. These issues will be followed up by staff from West North West Homes.

Overall the partner agencies felt that the event had been time well spent and feedback from the majority of people who we made contact with was very positive.

## **Future Work**

### **Actions Days**

An Action Day has been agreed on the 18<sup>th</sup> February. The focus area will be around the Wythers/Raynville area targeting the shops at the bottom of the estate. bottom Wythers, but could include a wider area for some partners. Partners will be door knocking and raising awareness, and also addressing the secondary fires which have been taking place recently on open land through working with youth service/Friday Night Project. The Environmental Action Team will be looking at environmental work with Groundwork. Further action days /Champions will be developed though out the year

Further focuses with partners will be to:

- Tackling the stolen goods market
- Tackling the increase in metal thefts
- Reducing Burglary
- Tackling Anti-social Behaviour Hot Stops
- Developing a Neighbourhood Plan for Bramley and Stanningley Ward

## **4.0 Background Information**

4.1 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.

## **5.0 Main Issues**

5.1 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.

## **6.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance**

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

## **7.0 Legal And Resource Implications**

- 7.1. 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.

## **8.0 Conclusions**

- 8.1 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.

## **9.0 Recommendations**

- 9.1 Members are asked to note the update from West Yorkshire Police

## **Background Papers**

None