

Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 5th April 2011

Subject: Community Safety Issues, Inner West Leeds

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>Armley Bramley and Stanningley</p> <p>Ward Members consulted</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; margin-left: 40px;"></div>	<p>Specific Implications For:</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 16th February 2011.

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 Absinthe

Commences 8th March and will continue through to the end of the month. Police will be targeting burglars in the early hours of the morning. We will also see support from the mounted section and operational support officers during the afternoons to combat the afternoon/early evening offences.

3.2 **Target Hardening**

Safer Leeds has contributed £55,000 for crime reduction initiatives/target hardening to assist in reducing burglary in Inner West.

Aviaries

Visited Properties	127
Target Hardened	111
Not Required	4
Not In	12

Little Scotland-

Visited Properties	110
Target Hardened	83
Not Required	7
Not In	13
Don't Know Yet	7

Cedars

Area, currently visiting 60 + properties.

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 – Computrace will be put into the laptops identified in the EVA and Target hardening.

3.3 **Operation Alligator – On going**

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.

3.4 **Metal Theft - Nothing else to add**

The theft of metal is on the increase and actions are been taken by West Yorkshire Police to educate people about some of the risk associated with metal theft through the media, public meetings and as well as operations aimed at disruption of nominal's through stop and searches of vehicle carriers. 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 translucent and made aware of the consequences if they are not.

3.5 **Stolen Goods Market**

The North West Division have been conducting covert operations to tackle the stolen goods market and in particular the disposal of stolen jewellery. A number of cash converters/second hand jewellery premises have been targeted within the North West Division. The operations are in the earlier stages but are already are yielding some positive results.

3.5 **Operation Champion Action Day**

Wythers

A reassurance action day was organised for 18th February 2011 on the Wythers. The aim of the day was to provide information and crime prevention advice, deal with environmental issues, visit victims of hate crime and 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.

The action day included Smiley Sid operated on Cockshott Lane and Raynville Road. Hate/Race Crime .BME residents visited and made aware of reporting procedures should they be victims of this crime type.

The police In company with CASAC conducted , house to house visits carried out offering free target hardening/home security checks to most burgled streets.(5 streets in total visited). 150 CASAC leaflets were posted.

Five children from Swallow Hill attended for litter pick.

The police conducted 70 face to face visits given out crime prevention advice.

Over 60 properties identified and cases opened for action on waste in gardens, hedges, duty of care inspections, graffiti, and dog fouling and fly tips issues.

Overall, on the areas where we worked with probation and the gardens which we have taken action on there has been a dramatic improvement. The removal of the graffiti and the litter picking of the streets have left the area looking much cleaner and greener.

West Yorkshire Arson Task Force Officer targeted houses on Raynville Rise with arson leaflets and fire related advice.

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

Armley Town Street - Operation Admiralty.

There will be additional resources deployed on Armley Town Street with planned multi-agency action days with partners. This will consist of environmental actions, increased police patrols focusing on peak periods to provide reassurance to the public and local businesses and to reinforce the Designated Public Places Order on Town Street.

Operation Acrobatic

Operation Acrobatic is an intelligence led multi agency based initiative that aims to reduce the levels of sexual activity in the woodland / picnic area of Canal Road, Leeds Liverpool canal and the Armley Mills museum and the associated anti social behaviour.

Complaints have been received from local residents and local businesses about numerous males in the area having been seen performing sexual acts upon other males, masturbating and also loitering for the purposes of prostitution.

The museum is used by schools on a daily basis with children between the ages of 8 to 16 that could witness the above as the museum faces onto the area.

Future Work

- Initiatives to tackling the stolen goods market
- Tackling the increase in metal thefts
- Reducing Burglary
- Tackling Anti-social Behaviour Hot Stops

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