



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

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Report of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Report to Inner West Area Committee

Date: 22nd June 2011

Subject: Community Safety update

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley
Bramley and Stanningley

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

1. Executive Summary

1. Crime Trends
2. Acquisitive crime
3. Action Days
4. Metal Theft and the Stolen Goods Market

2.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 2.1 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.

3.0 Background Information

- 3.1 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.

4.0 Main Issues

Community Safety is one of the priority areas for the Area Committee. Regular reports are received from Community Safety and West Yorkshire Police on key issues and activity in the Inner West Area.

4.1 Crime Trends

Overall performance figures show West Inner NPT is doing well and has 135 fewer recorded offences compared to last year.

The cumulative detection rate is also above the divisional average at 27%. This is the second highest detection rate across the NPT's.

The main concern is Burglary Dwelling which is around the same level as it was last year; however there has been a noticeable increase in the Bramley area with the majority of burglaries in the NPT being committed in this area. There are no identified tight clusters of offences.

There has been a slight increase in Assault with injury offences.

The NPT is performing well in the other areas when compared to last year. There has been particularly good reductions in Burglary others, damage and TFMV offences. There were only 3 TFMV offences last week compared to 21 the same week the previous year and offences so far this year are down by 64 when compared to last year.

4.2 From the last Divisional Community Safety partnership meeting in April 2011, it was agreed to focus attention on reducing burglary in Armley . During 2010 Armley was identified as one of the top most burgled wards in the city. Further analyses were under taken by the Divisional Intelligence Unit which identified three main areas of concerns, these being the Little Scotland area, the Aviaries and the Cedars. Whilst there has been a number of initiatives, action days and resources targeted within Armley, it was felt that a longer focus was required to tackle burglary in Armley.

The Community Safety Coordinator Gill Hunter and the Inner West Neighbourhood Police Team Inspector Mark Bownass facilitated a workshop based on the Out Come Based Accountability (OBA) model on 17th May 2011. The principles of OBA is using the turning the curve exercise to identify where we are currently in relations to burglaries, and where we need to be taking a problem solving approach with partner agencies to reduce this. The workshop identified a number key focuses these being:

- Targeting resources to identified dysfunctional /chaotic families with links to offending
- Developing some form of Integrated offender management system with the most active burglars who are not currently managed under Intensive Offender Manager
- Targeted work with Landlords through the accredited landlord scheme

Most of the proposed actions from the session are in the Armley Neighbourhood Management Plan. The plan is discussed, reviewed and updated monthly with partners at the Inner West multi-agency tasking meeting. With some amendments, additional priorities and actions the plan can be utilised to further develop, manage, monitor and review progress in Armley to reduce burglary. The plan also needs to feed and link into the work of the Armley Cluster of schools to enhance and develop partnership work with schools around attendance, dysfunctional/complex family issues.

4.3 Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)

The new CCTV camera has now been installed on Broadlea Hill. The BT connection is due on the 6th /7th June at which point the camera will become operational. A report of the functions of Leeds Watch is included in the June Area Committee papers.

4.4 Action Days/Operations/Events

There have been a few incident of hate crime around the Raynville area and a few concerns of under reporting around anti-social behaviour. A reassurance day has been organised with partner agencies on Wednesday 8th June from 3 PM – 7 PM targeting the Raynville area. The focus of the action day is to speak to residents about local issues in particular around Anti Social Behaviour, Hate Crime and also crime prevention advice.

An open day has been arranged with Armley Mosque and the Inner West Neighbourhood Police team with support from other faith sectors on Sunday 5th June from 2 PM – 5 PM. There will be a range of stalls information and engagement with the local community event to foster positive relationships in Armley.

4.5 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.

The Leeds Anti-social Behaviour Team has been working with the Police with some excellent results. The first being the arrest of a youth for robbery in the area, who admitted to five offences and is now in prison. Over 75 males, not from the Armley area have been stopped and warned re cruising. Several warning letters have been served on persistent attendee's. A number of further actions have been identified to address this problem which include work with Parks and Countryside to cut back some of the over grown foliage and work with MESMAC to dissuade people from using this site. A media campaign with MESMAC will be will used in the near future, but plain clothes and high visibility patrols will continue in the area throughout summer.

4.6 Metal theft and the stolen goods market

A number of initiatives are being progressed to address the stolen goods market and also around the rising crime issue of metal thefts. This is to include, scrap metal dealers being visited on a weekly if not daily basis to gather intelligence on those weighing in metal and to warn the dealers of accepting metal from unknown people. Also known receivers of stolen goods, including the likes of cash converters etc.

5.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

5.1 None

6.0 Legal and Resource Implications

6.1 The Safer and Stronger Communities Board has been established, bringing together the six responsible authorities of the Community Safety Partnership with other key strategic partners to deliver the key outcomes agreed for both safer and stronger communities.

6.2 This plan details the city-wide priorities that will enable the city to move towards fulfilling its ambition. The Board will be supported by key groups focused on the key themes safer, stronger and environmental cleanliness. These in turn will be supported by delivery structures that focus on key identified themes, locality working and community engagement in the delivery of priorities. Over the next four years we will focus on delivering the following strategic priorities:

- Reducing Crime levels and its impact across Leeds
- Effectively Tackle and Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour in our Communities

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 The report has highlighted the community safety issues and actions for Inner West. The main current issues are crime trends, acquisitive crime, action days and metal theft and the stolen goods market. It has outlined actions the Police and partners have undertaken to address these issues.

8.0 Recommendations

8.1 To note the content of this report

Background documents

None