

REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBRIA POLICE – SUNDERLAND WEST

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The following report provides performance information in relation to the Sunderland West Committee area from 1.4.2013 to 18.12.2013.

2 Background

2.1 At its November 2011 meeting Area Committee agreed that regular updates on Crime and Community Safety would be presented to each Committee meeting.

3. Northumbria Police Update

3.1 The ward updates below are a selection of appropriate offence types of interest and not all crime (e.g. minor fraud or harassment type offences etc are not included).

3.2 The crime and anti-social behaviour figures will not match the overall totals. Police computer systems are not yet adjusted to recognise certain foot beats transferred from the South area when the Ward boundaries changed.

3.3 Sunderland West Area figures.

	01/04/13 – 18/12/13 Percentage change is against the Fiscal Year to Date Average
West Area	
Total Crime	1887 (up by 71 crimes – 3.9%)
Violent Crime	305 (up by 72 crimes – 30.1%)
Vehicle Crime	156 (up by 12 crimes – 8%)
Burglary dwelling	110 (up by 38 crime – 53%)
Burglary other than dwelling	105 (down by 29 crimes – 22%)
Criminal Damage	458 (down by 87 crimes - 16%)
Theft and Handling	265 (up by 60 crimes – 30%)
Shoplifting	182 (down by 41 crimes – 18.4%)
Youth ASB	821 (down by 240 incidents – 22.6%)
Non Youth ASB	1542 (down by 147 incidents – 8.7%)

Barnes Ward	
Total Crimes	340
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Barnes Ward has suffered a disproportionate number of Burglaries to dwelling houses with 39 crimes reported. Twenty three of these crimes have been committed in Eden Vale and Low Barnes (streets off General Graham Street to the East of Ormonde Street). - The increase in Burglary offences is reflected across Sunderland and other areas of Northumbria Police. - To address the rise in the West we launched Operation Junction. This took a holistic approach to targeting offenders, 	

raising public awareness and making it harder for offences to occur by taking a cocooning approach to targeting hardening vulnerable properties. Additional resources dressed in plain clothes and uniform have been deployed into the area. The Neighbourhood PCs have altered their shift to ensure we are on duty at times when crimes are being committed. 3G cameras have been located in key positions.

- Several offenders have been arrested for Burglary and remanded in custody. Stolen property has been recovered and repatriated with the owner. Over 1000 addresses have received visits by the Neighbourhood Team to highlight the problem and issue crime prevention advice.
- The measures employed have resulted in a reduction to number of offences being committed.
- 65 year 6 students from Richard Avenue Primary School, 66 Year six pupils from Barnes Junior, 75 from Broadway Junior School and 35 from Plains Farm Academy enjoyed trips Safetyworks in November and December 2013. Visits were coordinated to ensure Neighbourhood officers and representatives from partner agencies were able to deliver tailored inputs to the pupils. Police inputs were targeted towards personal safety, social media and anti-social behaviour.
- Transport costs for the students were paid for by the West Committee.
- Bonfire night planning for Eden Vale started early following the problems suffered in previous years. This involved discussions with residents, businesses and community groups. Residents who had previously complained about firework disorder were contacted and offered reassurance about Police presence on the night. Twenty offenders arrested for firework offences in the previous twelve months were visited at home and warned about the consequences of committing disorder. Shift arrangements for the Neighbourhood Team were flexed to ensure that both teams were on duty. On the night, events passed without any major incident and only one arrest for a firework offence. Feedback from the local community has been positive with the actions implemented proving extremely effective in deterring disorder and reassuring regular callers. The tactics have been highlighted as best practice and will be employed by Police in neighbouring areas as part of the planning for celebrations in 2014.
- Other prominent crime types have been Burglaries to non-dwellings with 23 crimes reported. Theft from motor vehicles with 39 crimes reported and 41 violence offences.
- The vast majority of motor vehicle offences have involved insecure cars or the theft of number plates. There have been several press appeals to remind the public about securing their property, and not to leave valuable items on display. Plates stolen are later used to commit drive offs from petrol stations in an attempt to avoid paying for fuel.
- Most of the violence offences occur in private dwelling houses and about 50% are classified as domestic related.
- Anti-social behaviour has been targeted in the area of Shrewsbury Crescent after a spate of damage, graffiti and sheds

being attacked. Youths arrested who received community resolutions spent over three months supervised by Neighbourhood staff picking up rubbish in the area of on Barnes Park and Bede College.

- PC Simpson is currently working with staff and students at Bede College to arrange a PACT meeting specifically for the students.

Pallion Ward	
Total Crimes	353
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shoplifting offences account for 53 of the total crimes reported. The majority were committed on the Pallion Retail Park. Offences have increased recently and the Neighbourhood Team are working with retailers on the Shop Watch scheme to support businesses by increasing officer presence during peak times. - Pallion along with Sandhill has suffered the joint highest level of violence offences in the West with 64 crimes. There is no pattern to offending with crimes being reported throughout the week. The vast majority occur in dwelling houses. Half the incidents involve alcohol and about 50% are domestic related. - Sunderland West is currently running a pilot from Farringdon Police Station for a trial of Body Worn Cameras (BWC) due to the high numbers of domestic abuse offenders residing in the area and the high numbers of domestic incidents reported. - A procurement exercise was conducted in October 2013 and Reveal Media was chosen as the preferred supplier. Seventeen of the 25 cameras purchased have been sited at Farringdon. The remained will be utilised by Washington NPT to support a partnership led Neighbourhood Management Pilot for the Sulgrave and Concord areas. - The BWC trial will run from November until the end of March 2014 which will allow a full five months of operational use to be evaluated at the conclusion of the project. This will see all Police officers in response and neighbourhood wearing the camera whilst on patrol. The Neighbourhood have successfully utilised the same camera for the last two years after three were purchased through LMAPS and will take a lead on the pilot. - It is hoped that their introduction will help reduce crime and antisocial behaviour, increase victimless prosecutions in domestic abuse cases, increase early guilty pleas, increased public reassurance, reduction in complaints against officers and time taken to investigate complaints and reduce assaults on Police officers. - Other initiatives to tackle Domestic Violence involve the creation of Perpetrator Programme for non-statutory cases. Successful schemes are operating in South Tyneside and Gateshead however there is nothing available for residents in Sunderland. Discussions have taken place with Gentoo to Pilot a scheme in Sunderland West. Initially this will be restricted to their tenants. To compliment this programme it is intended to run another programme for other West residents. Preliminary discussions have been held with Deter about expansion of their programme in Gateshead to complete a pilot in the West. 	

- Other prominent offences have been Burglary to Dwellings (16 crimes) and Other Than Dwellings (23 crimes). See Barnes for Operation Junction update.
- 65 pupils from Highfield Primary School enjoyed a trip to Safetyworks in November 2013. Visits were coordinated to ensure Neighbourhood officers and representatives from partner agencies were able to deliver tailored inputs to the pupils. Police inputs were targeted towards personal safety, social media and anti-social behaviour.
- Transport costs for the students were paid for by the West Committee.
- Responding to concerns about the number of horses tethered on open land PC Loftus has begun compiling a database of the owners. This should assist in holding owners to account.

St Anne's Ward

Total Crimes	263
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Violence offences have accounted for 49 of the total crimes reported. There is no pattern to offending with crimes being reported throughout the week. The majority occur in dwelling houses. Half the incidents involve alcohol and about 50% are domestic related. See update in Pallion regarding work to combat violence. - ASB and fire lighting has also been an issue at King George Playing Fields where youths have congregated with alcohol. Council CCTV cameras have monitored the area to direct officers to the correct locations. This issue has been discussed at LMAPS. - Other prominent offences have been Burglary to Dwellings (13 crimes), Other Than Dwellings (8 crimes) and Theft from Motor Vehicle (15 crimes). See Barnes for Operation Junction update. - 35 pupils from St Anne's and 33 from South Hylton Primary School enjoyed trips to Safetyworks in November 2013. The pupils were from year 6. Visits were coordinated to ensure Neighbourhood officers and representatives from partner agencies were able to deliver tailored inputs to the pupils. Police inputs were targeted towards personal safety, social media and anti-social behaviour. - 100 year 8 students from Academy 360 visited Safetyworks. Police lesson plans were developed to deliver inputs about the dangers of social media, raise awareness about the impact of anti-social behaviour and strengthen learning amongst young people about healthy relationships and domestic violence. - Transport costs for the students were paid for by the West Committee 	

Sandhill Ward

Total Crimes	291
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Violence offences have accounted for 64 of the total crimes reported. There is no pattern to offending with crimes being 	

reported throughout the week. The majority occur in dwelling houses. Half the incidents involve alcohol and about 50% are domestic related. See update in Pallion regarding work to combat violence.

- Other prominent offences have been Burglary to Dwellings (8 crimes), Other Than Dwellings (6 crimes) and Theft from Motor Vehicle (11 crimes). See Barnes for Operation Junction update.
- 35 year 6 pupils from Thorney Close and 35 from Hastings Hill Primary enjoyed trips to Safetyworks in November 2013. Visits were coordinated to ensure Neighbourhood officers and representatives from partner agencies were able to deliver tailored inputs to the pupils. Police inputs were targeted towards personal safety, social media and anti-social behaviour.
- 145 year 8 students from Sandhill visited Safetyworks. Police lesson plans were developed to deliver inputs about the dangers of social media, raise awareness about the impact of anti-social behaviour and strengthen learning amongst young people about healthy relationships and domestic violence.
- Transport costs for the students were paid for by the West Committee
- Following complaints that there was targeted anti-social behaviour by children towards vulnerable residents at the flats on Tadcaster Road. Officers attended assemblies at Hastings Hill and Thorney Close Primary schools and delivered inputs to the pupils to raise awareness of people with learning difficulties.

Silksworth Ward

Total Crimes	332
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- Shoplifting offences account for 62 of the total crimes reported. The majority were committed at Sainsbury's and The Cooperative Food store on North Moor Road. Offences have increased recently and the Neighbourhood Team are working with retailers to support businesses by increasing officer presence during peak times.
- Other prominent offences have been Burglary to Dwellings (11 crimes), Other Than Dwellings (26 crimes), Theft from Motor Vehicle (14 crimes) and Violence (35 crimes). See Barnes and Pallion for updates on work to combat Burglaries and Violence respectively.
- 32 young people from St Leonard's Primary School enjoyed trips to Safetyworks in November 2013. Arrangements have been made for 65 year 6 pupils from Silksworth Junior School to attend in June 2014. Visits were coordinated to ensure Neighbourhood officers and representatives from partner agencies were able to deliver tailored inputs to the pupils. Police inputs were targeted towards personal safety, social media and anti-social behaviour.
- Officers have been targeting parking issues around St Leonard's Church. This appears to have improved the situation.

St Chads Ward	
Total Crimes	174
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prominent offences have been Burglary to Dwellings (8 crimes), Other Than Dwellings (8 crimes), Theft from Motor Vehicle (13 crimes) and Violence (28 crimes). - Following a request by Cllr Porthouse, Sergeant Hopper attended a residents meeting called to discuss a perceived rise in Burglaries in the area. - See Barnes and Pallion for updates on work to combat Burglaries and Violence respectively. - 66 year 6 pupils from East Herrington Primary and 45 from Farringdon Junior School enjoyed trips to Safetyworks in November 2013. Visits were coordinated to ensure Neighbourhood officers and representatives from partner agencies were able to deliver tailored inputs to the pupils. Police inputs were targeted towards personal safety, social media and anti-social behaviour. - 165 year 8 students from Farringdon Sport College visited Safetyworks. Police lesson plans were developed to deliver inputs about the dangers of social media, raise awareness about the impact of anti-social behaviour and strengthen learning amongst young people about healthy relationships and domestic violence. - Transport costs for the students were paid for by the West Committee 	

4. Recommendations

4.1 Note the content of the report.

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