WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE 14 March 2024

REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

1.0 Purpose of Report

The following report provides a community update and key performance information in relation to Washington area between the following 8-week period (29th December 2023 – 23rd February 2024)

2.0 Key Updates

Overall crime Update

Crime: 8-week period to 23-02-24

We have seen a seasonal spike in offending which leaves us sitting slightly above data from the last 2 years. Although we have seen a decrease in the last two weeks due to some enhanced patrols which I expect will be reflected in a downturn in crime reporting and recording. The most significant crimes recorded in Washington in this period are violence against the person, theft, and then criminal damage. Which is identical to the last period. The area with the most crimes recorded is The Galleries, The Galleries and then Oxclose and Lambton.

It should be noted that the number of recorded crimes is generally low for a Town of this size and as a result there are smaller sectors within the area command with greater levels of recorded crime.

Burglary Dwelling.

This has been a challenge of the last month with a spike in offending mainly in relation to garage break ins. Be assured there are several plans in place and additional resources to assist. This has already started to bear fruit with a significant decrease in offending over the last month which should return us to our usual lower level of crime recording.

Burglary Commercial

Low number of offences compared to other sectors. However, we have noted some burglaries to commercial premises and as such I have asked that our designing out crime officers visit to provide advice and guidance to local businesses. This will remain a continuous plan due to the extent of industrial premises within the area.

Vehicle crime

This is another area we are noting a spike and as such as with burglary offences we have acquired force resources to try and combat the levels of reporting. It should be noted however that as with Burglary offences we are not anywhere near the levels of reporting of other sectors in the command.

Anti-Social Behaviour

ASB: 8-week period to 23-02-24

In this 8-week period there have been 167 ASB incidents, a decrease of 24 incidents from my last report. most of the disorder is around nuisance, neighbour disputes and motor cycle disorder. The most ASB occurred in The Galleries followed by Sulgrave and then Concord.

We are currently tracking at levels below the last 4 years which is a good place to be. The team are working on our winter operations and will be focusing on our hotspots. We have several city-wide initiatives on going now which I am heavily involved in along with several varied partners.

The winter plan focuses on the galleries and the surrounding area, and we have made several arrests for acquisitive crime offences including burglary, vehicle crime and shop theft. We have also met with the centre management to talk through roles and responsibilities.

Winter plan update

The Winter plan as can be seen from my above update is working very well, with some excellent partnership work between Police, Fire service, environmental services, Local authority, and Gentoo which has seen a big reduction throughout the target areas.

REPORT AUTHOR Inspector 7011 Baker