

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 1.9.2013.

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 – 01/09/13
West Area	
Total Crime	1081 (down by 4 crimes - 0.4%)
Violent Crime	228 (up by 66 crimes – 40%)
Vehicle Crime	93 (up by 7 crimes – 8%)
Burglary dwelling	44 (up by 1 crime – 2%)
Burglary other than dwelling	63 (down by 17 crimes – 21%)
Criminal Damage	256 (down by 70 crimes - 21%)
Theft and Handling	153 (up by 31 crimes – 35%)
Shoplifting	85 (down by 48 crimes – 36%)
Youth ASB	465 (down by 169 incidents – 26%)
Non Youth ASB	1017 (up by 7 incidents – 0.7%)

Barnes Ward	
Total Crimes	178
Youth ASB	109
Non Youth ASB	134
<p>- Youth anti social behaviour has historically been a regular problem in Eden Vale and to a lesser extent Barnes Park. A number of partnership initiatives have been completed to address this issue. Currently officers are carrying out Operation Legend which is an on-going initiative to tackle the minority of</p>	

problem youths. Some noise issues are generally raised during Ramadan in July by local residents. In planning to address this issue additional resources were directed to the area as part of night shift tasking. This resulted in 24/7 officers identifying a group of ten males causing noise on the mineral line in Eden Vale following a call from a concerned resident. The group initially stated that they were returning from prayers. However all persons were visited at their home the following day by Neighbourhood Officers where it was confirmed that they hadn't been to prayers and were just using it as an excuse to hang about with their mates. This was contrary to what they had told their parents. As a result the noise complaints stopped overnight with no further reports during Ramadan.

- A feature throughout the year has been an increase in theft from insecure motor vehicles. There have been several press appeals to remind the public about securing their property, and not to leave valuable items on display. Some of motor vehicle crimes involve thieves removing number plates. These stolen plates are later used to commit drive offs from petrol stations in an attempt to avoid paying for fuel. A press appeal was made to highlight the trend was made via local media. Number plate security kits have been made available to the public at PACT meetings and at Farringdon Police Station.

Pallion Ward	
Total Crimes	210
Youth ASB	48
Non Youth ASB	160
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shoplifting offences remain low following the introduction of the Shop Watch scheme on the Pallion Retail Park. This partnership work is supported by officer's presence providing a visible deterrent during peak times. - There have been a few complaints recently regarding youths on off-road motorcycles and an enforcement phase of Operation Balance is being arranged to combat the problem including South Hylton & Silksworth areas where there are similar issues. - Officers from the neighbourhood Policing Team together with officers from the Anti Social Behaviour Unit, Sunderland Council; have issued several Anti Social Behaviour Agreements to Pallion residents to improve their behaviour and prepared an ASBO for a problem tenant who decided to move to Cleveland instead. - During the School Holiday PC Mick Urwin attended a summer event at Lambton Street Centre on the 30/7/13. - Responding to concerns from local residents about thefts from gardens. On the 17th August the team ran a joint operation with partners targeting itinerant scrap collectors travelling to weigh in metal at European Metal Recycling in Pallion. The operation was coordinated by PC Roger Welsh and involved officers from the Road Policing Unit and representatives from VOSA and the Benefits Agency. 	

- On the day vehicles attending EMR were intercepted and escorted to the nearby retail park where both vehicles and occupants were subject to scrutiny.
- In total 11 scrap vehicles were stopped. VOSA issued 4 with 7 day prohibition notices (for defects to be rectified within 7 days) and 2 were issued with immediate prohibition notices meaning they had to get the vans repaired in the car park before they could be driven any further.
- One driver was prosecuted after the vehicle was found to have a dangerous tyre. As they already had 9 points on his licence they were reported for summons.
- DWP signed one person off benefits immediately and are to investigate a further two.

St Annes Ward	
Total Crimes	140
Youth ASB	68
Non Youth ASB	190
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motorcycle disorder remains one of the main issues in the St Anne's ward. Operation Balance is currently active to target the motorcycle disorder and will continue - ASB has also been an issue during the summer at King George Playing Fields where problem youths have congregated with alcohol. Council CCTV cameras have monitored the area to direct officers to the correct locations. - On Sunday 4th August 2013 individuals riding horse and traps gathered at the Round Robin and proceeded to cause chaos across the city, endangering themselves and other road users. The riders ignored traffic signals, contravened keep left and no entry signs forcing vehicles to take evasive action and mount the pavement. They ignored Police orders as they rode two and three abreast into the city centre. Numbers taking part from the travelling community were swelled significantly by males from across the city making the incident difficult to manage. - Discussions with partners are planned to discuss how to proceed and take a more planned and proactive approach should this type of spontaneous event become a more regular occurrence. 	

Sandhill Ward	
Total Crimes	166
Youth ASB	56
Non Youth ASB	164
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There have been a number of minor assaults occasioning bodily harm and common assaults but the vast majority of these offences are of a domestic nature. Offenders have been prosecuted and safeguarding implemented. Tasking has been put in place to increase attention around licensed premises in the area. 	

- A vulnerable man from Grindon was recently targeted in his home where the offender stole cash from him. Enquiries are still on going to trace the offender & Sunderland Echo ran a front page article appealing for witnesses. Extra patrols are taking place & safeguarding measures implemented.
- Motorcycle disorder in the Thorney Close area has been reduced with a number of riders identified and motorcycles seized. Operation Balance is an ongoing operation.
- During the school holidays CSO Melanie Pyle attended Sandhill Youth Wing on Friday 19th and 26th July.

Silksworth Ward	
Total Crimes	202
Youth ASB	48
Non Youth ASB	162
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The main disorder hotspots continue to be at the rear of Silksworth Ski Slope and mainly around problem youths riding motorcycles. Extra patrols in the area have resulted in warning notices being issued to people using vehicles and motorbikes in the area and Operation Balance is to continue. - There was a problem early in the year with sheds being attacked but a large amount of shed alarms have been distributed which were purchased through LMAPS and combined with targeted patrols around 2 main offenders who are currently awaiting court proceedings, the issue has greatly reduced. Good work by CSOs Richard Sawyers and Nicola Wood resulted in recovery of garden equipment stolen from the sheds. - During the school holidays PC Mick Urwin attended the Silksworth Skate Park on 15/8/13 for an event organised by Youth Almighty. CSO's Dave Grant and Richard Sawyers attended an Archery lesson at the Silksworth Community Centre with local children. - On the 8th July PC Steve Gillibrand and CSO Richard Sawyers attended an awareness session at Farringdon Fire Station and delivered an input to students on the Princes Trust Programme 	

St Chads Ward	
Total Crimes	92
Youth ASB	94
Non Youth ASB	130
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There have been a number of thefts from gardens, motor vehicles and sheds with a large proportion of them believed committed by persons purporting to collect scrap metals. Crime prevention advice has been given in an effort to prevent further crimes with numerous press releases reminding residents to be vigilant and to ensure vehicles and property are not left insecure. - A reported burglary at Herrington was suspected to involve a scrap collecting vehicle and local CCTV enquiries identified the 	

registration & the vehicle owner was quickly arrested and remains on bail.

- Youth disorder continues to be a problem in the park area off Crow Lane highlighted during the summer with youths camping overnight. The youths were visited at their homes the following day where they were asked to have consideration for local residents and the complaints seem to have reduced.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Note the content of the report.

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