

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE

13 December 2023

REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

1.0 Purpose of Report

The following report provides a community update and key performance information in relation to Coalfields area between the following 8-week period (27th September 2023 – 20th November 2023)

2.0 Key Updates

Overall crime Update

Crime: 8-week period to 20-11-23

Crime numbers are tracking below data for two of the last 3 years which is a positive position we are however slightly above data for 2022 and this from review seems to have been an impact of a spike over a 24-hour period in mid-November. The most significant crimes recorded in Coalfields in this period are violence against the person with no injury, criminal damage, and violence against the person with injury. The area with the most crimes recorded is Houghton Town centre, Shiney Row and then Hetton. It is pleasing to note that Easington Lane does not feature in the top 3 locations in this reporting period which is a positive fact to report.

Burglary Dwelling.

Burglary Dwelling offences continue to track below the last 3 years as such the Coalfields area is performing very well in this crime category. However, it is important that we are continuing to focus efforts in this area and all my teams are fully aware of target locations and offenders. As a result, I have obtained tasking in the area to ensure that we stay on top of this crime type. The neighbourhood teams have also commenced a bespoke operation to proactively target offenders.

Burglary Commercial

Again, very low number of offences compared to other sectors and as such I would highlight the sector is not a hot spot for these types of offences. The teams do however continue to target and disrupt our offenders. We have however recorded a couple of recent commercial offences which the teams are looking at.

Vehicle crime

Although we experienced a significant spike at the beginning of this period taking us above previous years offence data some good work by the team (including HALO) has seen a sharp reduction in offences taking us below previous years reporting. (this bucks the force trend) Despite those figures this is still is a key focus area for me and the teams since these offences can impact on anti-social behaviour performance therefore the team with partners have several operations underway. The teams have also made several excellent arrests in the reporting period which have resulted in stolen vehicles being recovered.

Anti-Social Behaviour

ASB: 8-week period to 20-11-23

We are currently tracking below reporting levels from the last 3 years which is positive news. In this 8-week period there have been 166 ASB incidents a reduction of 12 reports on the last period. The most prevalent reports of disorder are around motorcycle disorder, neighbour disputes, and nuisance. The ASB hot spots for the sector are Houghton Town Centre Shiney Row followed by Easington Lane.

Within this period, we have had the National Op Sceptre week of action which is based around knife crime and Operation Impact which targeted Easington Lane and saw our Deputy Chief Constable and one of our assistant Chief Constables spending the day in the Coalfields area. This was a very successful day with some excellent results which have been documented in the media.

The team are continuing to work on our Autumn 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.

Our focus will remain ASB along with acquisitive crime.

Autumn plan update

Operation Impact benefited the Autumn plan significantly in that it brought with it many resources into the Easington Lane area, I know that did not go unnoticed. We had significant support from several partners including the Local Authority, Environment Agency, Trading Standards and the DVLA. I would like to highlight FLATTS , ELCAP and Easington lane primary who were a real help (as always) on the day.

The Winter plan will soon be on the horizon, and I will update you in activity in relation to that.

REPORT AUTHOR Inspector 7011 Baker