

COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE**15 March 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 (1st January 2023 – 5th March 2023)

2.0 Key Updates**Overall crime Update**

Crime: 8-week period to 05-03-23

Crime numbers are below 2020 figures and on a par with 2021 and 2022 figures which is a fair position to be in as Covid-19 had a big impact on crime reporting especially in 2021. The most significant crimes recorded in Coalfields in this period are violence against a person with no injury, criminal damage, and then theft. The area with the most crimes recorded is Easington lane followed by Houghton Town centre.

Burglary Dwelling.

Having just reviewed all the Burglary Dwelling crimes a crime type that has proved a challenge in this sector the Coalfields area is performing very well in this crime category. We are significantly below reporting levels in all the past 3 years. It is important not to rest on our laurels and we will continue to maintain focus in this area, indeed within the past week the HALO team have made several excellent arrests linked to burglary offences.

There is a continuing issue in relation to garage burglaries throughout the area command the target of these offences has been pedal cycles/scooters/mopeds. Please be reassured that there is a great deal of work on going in relation to these offenses and suspects.

Burglary Commercial

Again, very low number of offences compared to other sectors. Most of the reports are within Houghton Town centre but as discussed, the low number does not result in the sector becoming a hot spot.

Vehicle crime

Vehicle crime is showing an increase on previous years and is a focus for the team at present. The sector does not flag as an area command hot spot due to relatively low numbers however it a priority for the team as it also impacts on anti-social behaviour performance. The team with partners has several operations underway and have made several arrests with more to follow.

Anti-Social Behaviour

ASB: 8-week period to 05-03-23

In this 8-week period there have been 147 ASB incidents, most of the disorder is around motorcycle disorder, nuisance and then under 18 youth related disorder. The ASB hot spots for the sector are Houghton Town Centre followed by two foot beats within Easington Lane.

We are currently tracking below reporting levels from the last 3 years which is positive news. The team are working on our Spring 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 Spring plan will focus on Easington Lane and the surrounding area and motorcycle/pedal cycle theft and ASB.

Darker nights plan update

The darker Nights campaign worked 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.

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