

8th March 2017

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 1st December 2016 – 28th February 2017.

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. Events and Updates

- 3.1 During December the Neighbourhood Police team ran a burglary operation in the Barnes and Pallion area. Officers patrolled in plain clothes and a “leave the light on” leaflet campaign was conducted in the streets where there had been a recent burglary. There were only two burglary dwelling reported in these areas during December.
- 3.2 During the last reporting period Crime levelled off in the West and rose slightly in the South. We are coming to the end of the year for recorded crime and Northumbria Police is likely to record a 30 % increase in overall crime. Sunderland South + 28% and Sunderland West +26% are therefore below the force average.
- 3.3 Burglary dwelling shows an overall rise in the South but the number of offences is low (average of 1 burglary a week over the course of the year). In the West the news is even better with a 19% reduction likely to be recorded. Recently there was a period of 22 days when not one burglary dwelling was reported in any of the wards.

On the 25th January 2017 there was a burglary to a home on West Park, East Herrington. The team identified the male responsible from a neighbours CCTV. The CCTV only showed the male leaving the street however when we caught him he still had a car key belonging to the victim in his pocket. He is one of our most prolific burglars, who was also responsible for the rise in burglaries to shed and garages across the area. He is now looking at a long prison sentence which is good news.

- 3.4 Burglary to sheds, garages and commercial premises is an issue with no particular pattern across both the South and West. We have had an average rise of 8 offences a month since the start of the financial year. Since the male mentioned in 3.3 has been remanded in custody the number of offences has slowed down.
- 3.5 Vehicle crime has at last begun to slow down across the South and West. The Barnes area has one of the highest levels of car crime in the City mainly because residents are not locking their cars overnight. There is a campaign planned shortly to try and address this issue.
- 3.6 During the reporting period there were two incidents which received significant media attention. The armed robbery at Ford Post office on 17 January 2017 was particularly worrying as a shotgun was discharged. Both the males responsible are from the Ford Estate area. One of the males was charged and remanded the next day. Evidentially

the second offender was more challenging however he was remanded in custody on 22nd February. Two very dangerous individuals we no longer have to worry about.

There was also the suspicious death in Bishopwearmouth Cemetery which was eventually, sadly, proved to be a suicide.

3.7 Anti-Social Behaviour remains a priority. The team are currently concentrating their efforts around Belsay House/Castle mews. It is a difficult long standing issue mainly because the area was poorly designed. St Chad's ward Councillors have been proactive in this area, in partnership with Farrington Community Academy and have recently funded the reduction of shrubs to allow more daylight into the walkway, removing potential hiding places and litter traps and therefore reducing anti-social behaviour in the area. The area will continue to be monitored.

3.8 Forward Planning:

As mentioned at 3.5 the Neighbourhood teams will be doing crime prevention work for car crime in the Barnes area. We will no doubt also see a rise in Motorbike disorder in the coming months. We are planning a leaflet campaign targeting people who use our open spaces on a daily basis, for example Dog Walkers asking for their help in identifying offenders.

4. Update – Area Information

4.1 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).

4.2 Figures are from the 1st April 2016 as the computer programme would not allow comparisons spanning different financial years.

South data covers the following wards:

St Chad's

Silksworth

West data covers the following wards:

Sandhill

St Anne's

Pallion

Barnes

South Area	Crime figures comparison since 2015	% increase or decrease since 2015
Total crime	+ 256	+ 28%
Violence with injury	+4	+3%
Violence without	+ 98	+64%
Burglary dwelling	+ 13	+ 53%
Burglary OTD	+ 37	+ 83%
Criminal damage	- 13	- 5%
TFMV	+ 28	+ 69%
Shoplifting	+ 21	+27%
Youth ASB	- 49	-13%
Non youth ASB	- 98	-10%
Drug crime	- 2	- 8%

West Area	Crime figures comparison since 2015	% increase or decrease since 2015
Total crime	+ 607	+26%
Violence with injury	+ 19	+ 8%
Violence without injury	+ 266	+ 96%
Burglary dwelling	- 17	- 19%
Burglary OTD	+ 24	+ 31%
Criminal damage	+ 102	+ 19%
TFMV	+ 8	+ 6%
Shoplifting	- 40	- 19%
Youth ASB	- 49	-13%
Non youth ASB	- 98	- 10%
Drug crime	+ 2	+ 3%

5. Recommendations

5.1 Note the content of the report.

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