

7 June 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 (5th March 2023 – 26th May 2023)

2.0 Key Updates

Overall crime Update

Crime: 8-week period to 26-05-23

Crime numbers are currently slightly above 2021 and 2022 figures due to a slight spike in the last 3 weeks the increase is not large and is on a par with 2020 crime trends. 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 Shiney Row followed by Houghton Town centre and then Easington Lane.

In April we carried out a week of action in the Coalfields area which amongst various Policing operations saw the delivery of neighbourhood questionnaires to residents in Easington Lane and East Rainton. We have seen a great response to this which has enabled us to look at partnership priorities in both areas. We have held a multi-agency meeting to discuss priorities which has seen actions allocated to several different agencies.

On 24th May 2023 we followed the above initiative up with a day of action in and around Easington Lane and East Rainton. which involved the neighbourhood teams, motor patrols and various teams from Durham Constabulary. This proved to be very successful and resulted in a number of arrests and the seizure of several vehicles. As part of this day, we handed out further questionnaires

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 below reporting levels in all the past 3 years although the last 3 weeks have seen a slight increase in line with other crime reporting trends. We are continuing to focus efforts in this area and all my teams are fully aware of target locations and offenders.

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. In the last week the team have made numerous arrests and seized a number of quad and motorcycles. We will continue to keep up the pressure on those offenders.

Burglary Commercial

Again, very low number of offences compared to other sectors. There has been a change in the sector location which has suffered the most offences to Fencehouses and Chilton Moor. I would highlight that the low number does not result in the sector becoming a hot spot for these types of offences.

Vehicle crime

Vehicle crime is showing an increase on previous years and is currently level with 2020 reporting levels although above 2021 and 2022. This 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 these offences can impact on anti-social behaviour performance therefore 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 26-05-23

In this 8-week period there have been 219 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 Shiney Row and Houghton (area bordered by A690 and Gillas lane).

We are currently tracking below reporting levels from the last 3 years which is positive news. The team are working on our Summer 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 Summer plan will focus on Houghton, Shiney Row and Easington Lane and concentrate on motorcycle/pedal cycle theft and ASB.

Spring plan update

The Spring plan 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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