

Partner Reports: Northumbria Police**Washington Crime and Disorder 1st October – 30th November 2016**

Please find below some data in respect of Crime and Disorder for Washington covering 1st October until 30th November 2016. For comparison purposes I have also provided the data for the same period last year.

As a Force we have been very honest about our change in crime recording practices over the last year that has resulted in us being more transparent and open in terms of recording crime. After previous concerns nationally around the way crime was recorded we now record all crime as soon as a victim makes an allegation that THEY feel that they are a victim of crime. In addition to that we have made great advances in terms of our Domestic Violence policies and Sexual Assaults Investigation that mean we have gained trust and confidence with the public and other agencies due to how we now approach and investigate those very important crimes and in turn victims feel more able to approach us and report those types of crime. These crimes are also often historic in nature sometimes even from decades earlier – also encouraged by the Saville effect and recent high profile media cases. As an example previously police may have attended a report of a fight and upon arrival no one would tell us what had happened and the parties would leave the scene. Last year in the main no crime would be recorded but now that would be recorded as public order offence or assault if there was any evidence to us of anyone having an injury. Despite the outcome being the same. For that reason public order related crime has risen significantly and in fact accounts for a large proportion of the increase in Washington as a whole but that is only due to an administrative process and is NOT a reflection of the level of crime actually occurring haven risen. To the contrary ASB calls from the public are actually hugely down on last year.

Northumbria Police as a whole reported an increase in crime from April 2015- March 2016 by 29% in light of the above. We do not believe that in real terms crime has gone up just that recording practices are now much more robust in line with HMIC advice and national policies. This year will be used as a yardstick for future rises/falls after last year's changes.

In addition to these administrative changes social media type fallouts have become a very prevalent issue in terms of parties falling out over social media and then looking to involve police to resolve them. This has also impacted upon crime figures.

Crime / Disorder	1 Oct –30 November 2015	1 Oct –30 November 2016	+ / -
ASB Reports	346	279	-67
Burglary OTD	31	14	-17
Burglary Dwelling	14	14	0
Rape	4	5	+1

Serious Sex Assaults	4	6	+2
Public Order-Fear /Alarm/Distress	16	53	+37 *** this is due to a change in reporting standards particularly around shouting/swearing in the street which would previously have been closed as nothing on-going and now would be crimed.

The main concerns for Washington Area during the last period were youth disorder at Concord Front Street and some damage around the Subways in and around Oxclose. I am pleased to report that these issues appear to have abated as a result of increased dedicated patrols and a number of dispersal orders being in place. We have also worked with the council and TWFB to tackle issues around Junglerama to reduce its attraction and associated ASB.

We only had 5 calls on Bonfire Night relating to any kind of ASB for the whole of Washington.

Gentoo have been successful in obtaining an injunction at Caradoc Close. We will continue to work with them and deal robustly with any occurrences.

I am sure you are all aware of the incident at Compton Court, Oxclose. This was an isolated incident involving parties known to each other. The investigation remains ongoing.

Please share our TWITTER tags which are [@NPSWashington](#) and [@HoughtonPolice](#) for daily team information and updates