

19<sup>th</sup> October 2016**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 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016 – 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

**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 The removal of Security from the local Parks has not resulted in any discernible increase in calls to the Police. Barnes Park, for example, there has been fewer calls over the last 3 months than was recorded during the same period in 2015.

<b>BARNES PARK</b>				
	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2015</b>	9	7	3	19
<b>2016</b>	10	4	3	17

- 3.2 Preparation for the “Darker nights” campaign is well under way with two partnership meetings having already being held. Leaflet / letter drops and joint Police/Fire service school presentations are all planned. It has been a few years since Bonfire night has fell on a Saturday therefore it is anticipated that there will be an increase in demands on all services.
- 3.3 Northumbria Police recently announced its priorities for the remainder of 2016/17 and they are:
- Vulnerable Anti -Social behaviour
  - Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
  - Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism
  - Domestic Abuse, Serious Sexual Offences and Rape
  - Organised Crime
  - Signal Crime (Burglary Dwelling)
- 3.4 Overall crime continues to rise across Sunderland West with the rises being comparable with those seen across the Northumbria Police Force area. (Northumbria Police Force Area 29% up, Southern Area Command 26 % up). This rise should start to level off in the coming months as the changes to crime recording began to have a real impact from October 2015 onwards. Therefore we are starting to work on a more level playing field.
- 3.5 Violent crime continues to show a rise in reporting with incidents which would previously have been classed as Anti-Social Behaviour, now being recorded as crimes. As previously mentioned it is therefore important that the Neighbourhood Police team identifies vulnerable and repeat victims early in order that we can prevent further offences.

- 3.6 We have seen a significant rise in vehicle crime and Burglary to sheds and garages in this reporting period across Sunderland West, most of the offences have been overnight.

Unfortunately many of the thefts are as a result of poor crime prevention on behalf of the victims. For example, during September, 28 cars were left unlocked by the owners which resulted in thefts of property such as Sat Navs and mobile phones from the vehicles. In one case the victim had two cars on their drive and left one insecure which contained the spare key for the other vehicle. This vehicle was promptly stolen using the key. Priority tasking for 24/7 officers has been in place for the past 2 weeks and four different offenders have been arrested overnight. This will hopefully result in a reduction in offences. We continue to send out media messages encouraging the public to lock their Homes/Shed and Vehicles.

- 3.7 Sunderland West Neighbourhood Teams continue to tackle acquisitive crime focusing mainly on Burglary dwelling. We had a rise in burglary dwellings around the East Herrington Area which featured 2 males using fishing rods to acquire keys left on hall tables. They then used the keys to enter the house or steal vehicles. Two males were arrested in relation to these offences one of who is currently remanded in custody.

- 3.8 Anti-Social Behaviour remains a priority. There have been issues around Castle Mews in Farringdon and King George playing fields and these areas continue to be our priorities at present. Obviously in the run up to Bonfire night we expect to see a rise in ASB therefore we will be working alongside the Fire brigade to quickly identify Fire Hotspots. We are already seeing a rise in wheelie bin thefts which increases as the month goes on and keeping bins locked away will feature as part of our "Darker nights" litter drop

- 3.9 Forward Planning

Three officers from the Sunderland West Neighbourhood team have recently moved on. PC Gemma Pelley has been promoted to Sergeant. PC Eric Graves has returned to 24/7 and PCSO Phil Smith has joined another Neighbourhood team.

No replacements are planned at present due to a number of factors. For example, there is currently a Government initiative to increase the number of Firearms officers across the country. Northumbria Police are training an additional 60 officers. These are all experienced front line officers and whilst they will support the front line when fully trained there will be pressure on resources until they are operational and newly recruited officers are deemed fit to patrol independently.

#### **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

<b>South Area</b>	<b>Crime figures comparison since 2015</b>	<b>% increase or decrease since 2015</b>
Total crime	+149	+30%
Violence with injury	+4	+7.8%
Violence without	+42	+61%
Burglary dwelling	+8	+63.8%
Burglary OTD	+20	+107.1%
Criminal damage	-2	-1.9%
TFMV	+14	+89.9%
Shoplifting	+12	+36.8%
Youth ASB	-11	-8%
Non youth ASB	-43	-14%
Drug crime	(Level) 15 offences	0%

<b>West Area</b>	<b>Crime figures comparison since 2015</b>	<b>% increase or decrease since 2015</b>
Total crime	+263	+20%
Violence with injury	+21	+14.6%
Violence without injury	+133	+83.6%
Burglary dwelling	-1	-1.9%
Burglary OTD	+20	+45%
Criminal damage	+10	+3.5%
TFMV	-8	-10.2%
Shoplifting	-30	-24%
Youth ASB	-30	-14%
Non youth ASB	-17	-3%
Drug crime	-1	-4%

## 5. Recommendations

5.1 Note the content of the report.

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