16TH January 2013

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 1.9.2012 to 30.11.2012.

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. Northumbria Police Update

- 3.1 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).
- 3.2 The crime and anti-social behaviour figures will not match the overall totals. Police computer systems are not yet adjusted to recognise certain foot beats transferred from the South area when the Ward boundaries changed.
- 3.3 Sunderland West Area figures.

West Area	1/11/12- 30/11/12
Total Crime	614
Violent Crime	121
Vehicle Crime	46
Burglary Dwelling	28
Burglary other than dwelling	47
Criminal Damage	193
Theft and Handling	139
Crimes Other	129
Youth ASB	312
Non Youth ASB	505

Barnes Ward	
Total Crimes	120
Youth ASB	80
Non Youth ASB	106

- No obvious crime patterns, low level volume crime.
- There have been a number of burglary dwellings, with property stolen including a victim's motor vehicle. The vehicle was found undamaged and returned to the owner. An arrest was made and further enquiries are continuing into this and other burglaries.
- Despite press releases to alert residents to the increasing number of thefts from gardens and shed, there were further reports including a spate of thefts from allotments in the Ettrick Grove area.
- During a residents meeting in Eden Vale a number of residents raised their concerns about a known individual who appears to be openly dealing and using drugs in Eden Vale area. As a result of residents concerns PC McEvoy and PC Simpson carried a leaflet drop in the area encouraging residents to come forward with information/intelligence regarding this individual, anonymously or otherwise.
 Disappointingly despite the concerns raised, only one resident has responded so far. However these matters are still being scrutinised and an outcome is expected in the near future, this cannot be divulged at this time due to the current investigation.
- The lead up to Bonfire night was a challenge but extra patrols in the Eden vale led by Inspector Pickett resulted in a number of arrests being made. A quantity of fireworks was seized and a number of youths were identified where further action was taken by way of summons or penalty notices issued for disorder.

3.5

Pallion Ward	
Total Crimes	124
Youth ASB	24
Non Youth ASB	82

- There is no obvious crime pattern affecting the Pallion ward although there was a spike of criminal damages reported in the Ford Estate area, where a large number of vehicles had there tyres slashed. A male has been arrested but eliminated from the enquiry and to date these offences remain undetected.
- There have been a number of burglary dwellings reported, unfortunately some of these offences have occurred when the residents have been at home but the houses have been insecure making the easy targets for offenders. Press

- releases have been published to inform the community. Officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Team have been providing focused patrols in the area to reassure residents and inform them, with crime prevention advice.
- Shoplifting offences remain low following the introduction of Shopwatch on the Pallion Retail Park it continues to have a positive impact on the number of offences reported all but Matalan have signed up to the scheme.
- Officers from the neighbourhood Policing Team together with officers from the Anti Social Behaviour Unit, Sunderland Council; have issued 7 Anti Social Behaviour Agreements to Pallion residents regarding their disorderly behaviour.

3.6

St Annes Ward	
Total Crimes	117
Youth ASB	108
Non Youth ASB	194

- Shoplifting offences and motorcycle disorder featured highly over the previous 3 months however the operation to tackle motorcycle disorder has proved to be of some success with a number of riders reported for traffic and anti social behaviour offences, and the seizure of a number of motorcycles.
- Shoplifting offences have reduced due to the Neighbourhood Team working with Asda. The store now employs full time security staff and has implemented a number of the preventative measures suggested. Extra Police patrols take place during shop opening hours to support staff and prevent crime. Where offences are reported, most are now detected with staff detaining offenders or subsequent identification from their excellent CCTV system.
- There was a rise in anti social behaviour calls to the King George Playing Fields leading up to bonfire night and increased police patrols in the area led to a number of fireworks being seized and youths warned about their behaviour.
- There were a number of incidents reported in Rowan Close, South Hylton and also Hawkesley Road, where a number of houses and vehicle were damaged. Youths reported in the street carrying weapons and disorder ensued. The incidents were linked and were the result of 2 factions of the communities who were targeting each other. Arrests have been made and the offenders charged with a number of offences including Affray and Assaulting a PC. Target hardening measures have been provided at the addresses affected, and a Community Impact Assessment prepared to ensure there is no reoccurrence and to provide reassurance to local residents.

Sandhill Ward	
Total Crimes	87
Youth ASB	49
Non Youth ASB	87

- No reported crime spikes in this period
- The ongoing operation to combat the youth disorder issues in Grindon has proved to be very successful with a dramatic drop in reported incidents. High visibility patrols remain in place to reinforce the message that anti social behaviour will not be tolerated.
- There was an isolated incident in the Thorney Close area where a male received injuries caused by a machete. High visibility patrols were provided to reassure residents that this was not a random attack and that the offenders had been arrested and are currently on bail. The team are working with the housing association to ensure that there are no repercussions.

3.8

Silksworth Ward	
Total Crimes	94
Youth ASB	43
Non Youth ASB	89

- There are no obvious crimes patterns.
- Operation Deletion has been running to combat shoplifting offences which is still enjoying a degree of success, although there are still shoplifting offences being reported the majority are detected, due to the high visibility police patrols and the diligence of Sainsbury's security staff
- As reported in November's ward report, there was a disorder incident reported in Beagle Square, Silksworth. Several residents reported that in excess of 20 people fighting in the street. Despite extensive police enquiries in partnership with Anti Social Behaviour officers from Sunderland Council, no complaint was forthcoming. An appeal for residents to come forward anonymously has failed to bring about any criminal charges on those involved.
- PC Urwin is currently canvassing local licences to set up a pub watch scheme in Silksworth.

St Chads Ward	
Total Crimes	74
Youth ASB	48
Non Youth ASB	49

- Generally there has been a reduction in reported crimes and incidents of anti social behaviour in the St Chads Ward.
 Recently the Farringdon area suffered a number of thefts from motor vehicles. In all the cases reported residents had left vehicles insecure overnight. This practice clearly makes victims vulnerable to becoming victims of crime and creates difficulty in catching offenders. Extra patrols have been tasked in the area and crime prevention advice given to victims.
- Youth disorder in the early part of this period was reported in the park area off Crow Lane and Foxcover Lane. Extra patrols and a more robust approach to the problem appear to have dissuaded youths from gathering at this location.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Note the content of the report.

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