



NE1GHOUBRHOOD POLICING

Supporting local communities, targeting crime together

Cambridge City West Neighbourhood Profile



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Introduction

Background

The national policing plan 2005/2008 highlighted Neighbourhood Policing as the key national policing priority. The Cambridgeshire Constabulary Community Engagement Strategy published in August 2005 outlined the Constabulary's strategy for implementing Neighbourhood Policing via community engagement. The formation of defined Neighbourhood Policing Areas along with the creation of Neighbourhood Profiles of these areas was identified as a key element within this strategy.

This summary Cambridge City West Neighbourhood Area Profile is the fourth and final Neighbourhood Area Profile to be produced in Cambridge City.

It is anticipated that the 'Current Picture' section of the profile will be updated on a regular basis with current and emerging Neighbourhood issues. This document is compiled in collaboration with Cambridge City Council.

Aim

The aim of this summary document is to identify current crime and disorder issues in order to facilitate the setting of neighbourhood policing priorities to be tackled in partnership with other agencies.

Purpose

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Profile is as follows:

- To provide multi agency 'Neighbourhood Panels' with timely information on which Neighbourhood issues can be identified and effectively prioritised.
- To provide Neighbourhood Policing Teams with a clearer understanding of the area they are policing through analysis of the Neighbourhood data.
- To enable development of a system to categorise 'Priority Neighbourhoods' within the Force.
- For future reference in judging the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Policing.
- To provide a document which contains Neighbourhood key statistics and contacts for operational use, particularly in supporting the management of major/critical incidents.

Methodology

This document was produced using the following data sources:

Data Types Used
Crime Data October 2005 to September 2007
ASB Incident Data October 2005 to September 2007
Environmental Health Data, Cambridge City services, Nov 2006 to September 2007
Derelict cycle, vagrancy and needlestick collection data, Cambridge City Council, City Services November 2006 to September 2007.
Interviews with the Cambridge City West Neighbourhood team October 2007
Cambridge City Primary Care Trust Ward Profiles
Census Data 2001
The Vulnerable Localities Index

1.0 Baseline Assessment

1.1 Key Contacts

The table below provides the contact details for the Cambridge City West Neighbourhood Policing Team.

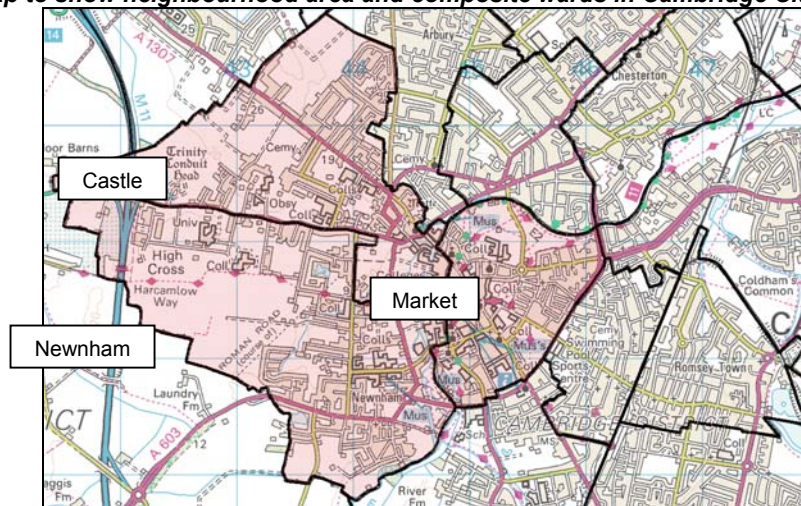
Title	Name
Cambridge City Sector Inspector	Inspector Jon Hutchinson
Sector Sergeant	Sgt Kay Stevens
Sector Sergeant	Sgt Shane Fasey
Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant	Sgt Ted Hawkins
Neighbourhood Policing Constables	
Streetlife PC	Chris Dicks
Streetlife PC	Marc Thomas
Colleges PC	Carole Langton
PC	Steve Hinks
PC	John Hopper
PC	Paul Adams
PC	Simon Railer
PC	Carolyn Chambers
Market	
Grafton PCSO	David Jackson
Grafton PCSO	Charlotte Sygmuta
PCSO	Joanne Andow
PCSO	Andrew Moralee
PCSO	Kiri Mazur
PCSO	Shahana Ravenscroft
PCSO	Martyn Pinyoun
Castle	
PCSO	Alicia Parker
Newnham	
PCSO	Cheryl Carter
PCSO	Alicia Parker

To contact the Neighbourhood Policing Team please call the Police non emergency contact number 0845 456 456 4.

1.2 Cambridge City West Neighbourhood Area Key Features

Cambridge City West Neighbourhood policing area is 1 of 4 neighbourhood policing areas in Cambridge City. The neighbourhood is composed of 3 wards: Market, Newnham and Castle. The area includes the City Centre of which the key features are: faculties and colleges of the University of Cambridge, centres of government, green spaces, retail outlets and premises associated with the night time economy.

Map to show neighbourhood area and composite wards in Cambridge City West



Market

The Market ward covers the smallest geographical area of all the wards in Cambridge City West. However it contains the majority of the City Centre which records a high level of crime and disorder as it is the main urban centre in the area. There is also a fairly densely populated residential area around the Grafton Centre and a transient student population residing in the Anglia Ruskin University halls of residence during term time.

Market Ward, Key Features
University of Cambridge colleges, including Sidney Sussex, Downing, Peterhouse, Emmanuel, Pembroke, Jesus and Christ's.
176 Licensed premises, including approximately 6 nightclubs, 34 pubs/bars, 56 restaurants/cafes and 8 fast food take aways.
A high density of retail outlets including the Historical City Centre, Lion Yard, Grafton Centre and the Grand Arcade which is currently under construction
Green spaces, consisting of Christ's Pieces, Parkers Piece, Jesus Green, The Mill Pond, New Square and Midsummer Common
Parkside Police Station and Fire Station
Market Square

Kings Parade
Cambridge Corn Exchange
Cambridge Guildhall
Cambridge Arts Cinema
Vue Cinema
Cambridge Arts Theatre
The River Cam
Parkside Community College
Park Street Primary School
Drummer Street Bus Station

Newnham

The Newnham ward covers the largest geographical area within the City West Neighbourhood and contains the highest population. The ward contains a number of University of Cambridge colleges and therefore has a sizeable transient student population. There is also a residential area to the south of the ward, predominantly consisting of large privately owned houses. A large proportion of the ward is made up of open spaces, including a number of University sports fields, Lammas Land, The Backs and a portion of Granchester Meadows.

Newnham Ward, Key Features

University of Cambridge colleges, including Kings College, Queens College, Selwyn, Wolfson, Robinson, Newnham, St Catherine's, Corpus Christie, Darwin, Clare, Clare Hall and the School of Veterinary Medicine
The River Cam
The 'Backs'
Cambridge Rugby Club
Lammas Land
Granchester Meadows

Castle

The South East of the ward contains a number of University of Cambridge colleges, has a fairly densely populated residential area and contains within it a number of restaurants and public houses; however the North West of the ward is largely rural. The ward also includes Huntingdon Road, which is one of the main arterial routes in and out of Cambridge and can become congested during peak times.

Castle Ward, Key Features

University of Cambridge colleges, including Trinity, St Johns, Churchill, New Hall, Fitzwilliam, Westminster, Lucy Cavendish, St Edmunds, Gonville and Caius, Trinity Hall and Magdalene

Shire Hall County Council Offices

Kettles Yard art collection and gallery

A number of restaurants and public houses, particularly along Castle Street

1.3 Demographics

- Many residents of the Cambridge City West neighbourhood are employed within the neighbourhood, as it incorporates Cambridge's central business district. The area is also popular with people commuting to London due to the close proximity of Cambridge Railway Station and the M11. The residents of the area are predominantly, young (with 71% of the population falling between 18 and 44), white, educated to at least A level standard. There is a low level of unemployment amongst the economically active.
- The area contains a large number of students, a proportion of which are transient and only live in the City during the 3, eight week University terms. Students live in a number of different dwelling types including halls of residence, which are particularly located within the Market and Newnham wards.
- Market ward is particularly popular with young professionals, with 39.7% of residents aged between 20 and 24 and private rented being the most common housing tenure. Market is also substantially more densely populated than Castle and Newnham.
- Castle and Newnham both contain a large proportion of young professionals however these wards are also more popular than Market with families. The most common form of housing tenure in the Castle and Newnham wards are owner occupied dwellings.

Table showing the population demographics for Cambridge City West from the 2001 Census

	Cambridge City West	Cambridge City West as a % of Cambridge City
Resident population	22575	20.7%
Number of households	5688	13.3%
Area (hectares)	953	23.4%
Population density (people per hectare)	23.7	Cambridge City population density is 26.8

Table demonstrating the ethnic, household and economic demographics for Cambridge City West from the 2001 Census¹

		Cambridge City West	% of total population/ households	Cambridge City %
Ethnic Group	White	19503	86.4%	89.5%
	Asian/ Asian British	992	4.4%	3.8%
	Black/ Black British	246	1.1%	1.2%
	Mixed	544	2.4%	1.9%
	Other	1260	5.6%	3.5%
Household Type	Pensioners	1376	24.2%	21.9%
	Lone Parents	258	4.5%	7.2%
	All Students	169	3.0%	1.9%
Household Tenure	Owner Occupied	2900	51.0%	53.4%
	Rented from local authority, housing association or registered social landlord	605	10.6%	23.6%

¹ The figures for students and for student households is likely to be an under representation as those attending the university and not living permanently in the ward will not be included. During 2005-2006 there was a total of 18022 students at Cambridge of which 11729 were undergraduates.

	Private/ other rented	2166	38.1%	20.6%
Economic Activity	Working	6410	28.4%	57.7%
	Unemployed	318	1.4%	2.8%
	Retired	922	4.1%	8.5%
	Students	11363	50.3%	21.8%

1.4 Deprivation

The Vulnerable Localities Index (VLI) enables a measurement of levels of deprivation by ward taking into consideration economic, health, educational and environmental factors. The table below illustrates the ward rankings for VLI, compared to the rest of Cambridge City. The rankings illustrate that there are great differences within the ward, with Market ward the second most vulnerable. The reason why Market scores as the second most vulnerable ward in the City is largely due to the fact that a high percentage of residents are aged between 15 and 24 and the high level of crime. Market, Newnham and Castle are however the 3 least deprived wards in Cambridge City for employment and education.

Table showing VLI ward rankings, compared to the Cambridge City wards²

Beat	VLI Cambridge City Ward Rank
Market	2/14
Newnham	11/14
Castle	8/14

² The lower the rank the more deprived the area.

1.5 Historical Crime and Disorder Information

Table showing the level of crime across the neighbourhood over the past 2 years

Ward	Oct 05 to Sept 06	Oct 06 to Sept 07	% Change	Offences per 1000 population 2007
Market	3984	4201	5.40%	559
Newnham	481	592	23.10%	76
Castle	490	556	13.50%	77
City West Total	4955	5349	8.00%	237

Key points to note:

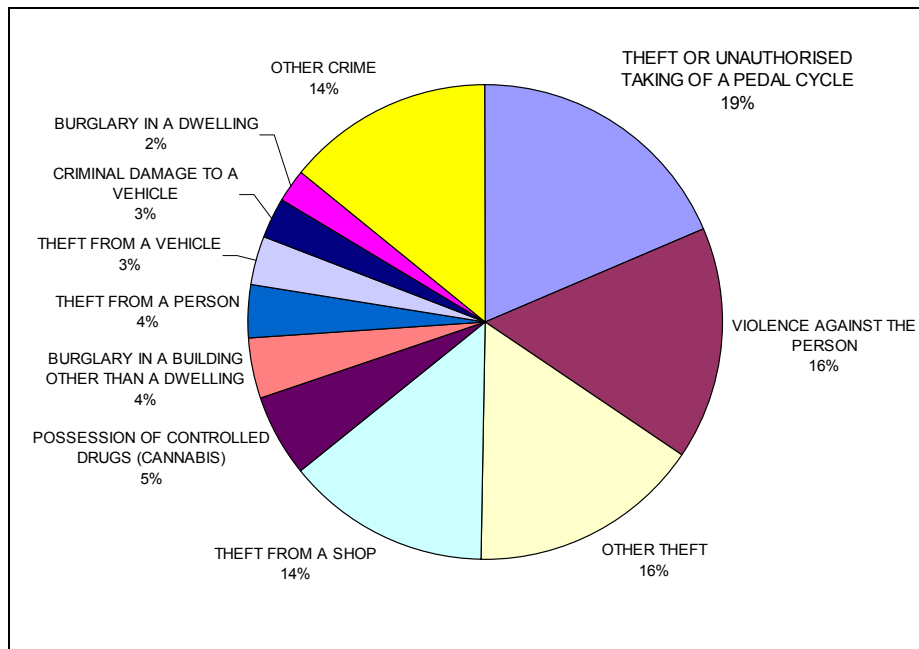
- ***Over the past 2 years Cambridge City West was the highest neighbourhood for total crime within Cambridge City.***

Offences in Cambridge City West made up 34% of total crime in Cambridge City over the past 2 years. This is almost entirely due to offences in the Market area which was by far the top ward out of the 14 in the City, whilst Castle and Newnham however ranked as the 12th and 13th quietest.

- ***Crime levels in Cambridge City West have increased over the past 2 years.***

Total crime levels in the neighbourhood have increased over the past 2 years. The percentage change is biggest for Newnham and Castle, however the increase in the number of offence types was by far greatest in the Market ward.

Chart showing the top 10 offence types³ and 'other crime' in the Cambridge City West Neighbourhood during the past year



Key points to note:

- **Cycle theft was the most common offence type over the past year.**

The chart illustrates that cycle theft is the most common offence type, closely followed by violence against the person, general theft offences and shoplifting. These 4 offences make up approximately 2 thirds of all crime within the neighbourhood.

Table demonstrating the offence split by ward for the top 10 crimes reported over the past year (Oct 06 to Sept 07), and for anti social behaviour incidents

Offence numbers highlighted in red illustrate the ward with the highest number of that particular offence.

Offence Type	Market	Newnham	Castle	Grand Total
Theft of cycle	679	101	150	930
Violence against the person	739	24	38	801
Other theft	602	112	80	794
Theft from shops	682	4	16	702
Cannabis possession	260	6	3	269
Burglary other	88	79	44	211
Theft from a person	176	6	4	186
Theft from a vehicle	48	80	44	172
Criminal damage to	80	29	30	139

³ The top 10 offence types made up 86% of total crime in the area.

a vehicle				
Dwelling burglary	33	34	40	107
Anti-social behaviour	2017	221	215	2453

Key points to note:

- Market ward was the highest for all of the crime and disorder types analysed apart from theft from a vehicle and dwelling burglary. This is likely to be due to the large number of individuals in the ward attracted by the combined influences of the university and its associated tourism, retail opportunities and the night time economy.
- Newnham was the busiest ward for theft from motor vehicles; this is likely to be due to the fact that the ward is a popular area for commuters to park their cars in roadside parking.
- Castle ward was the highest for dwelling burglary; this is likely to be due to its close proximity to the densely populated Cambridge City North, which is the busiest neighbourhood in the City for dwelling burglary.

1.6 Hotspot Crime and Disorder Locations

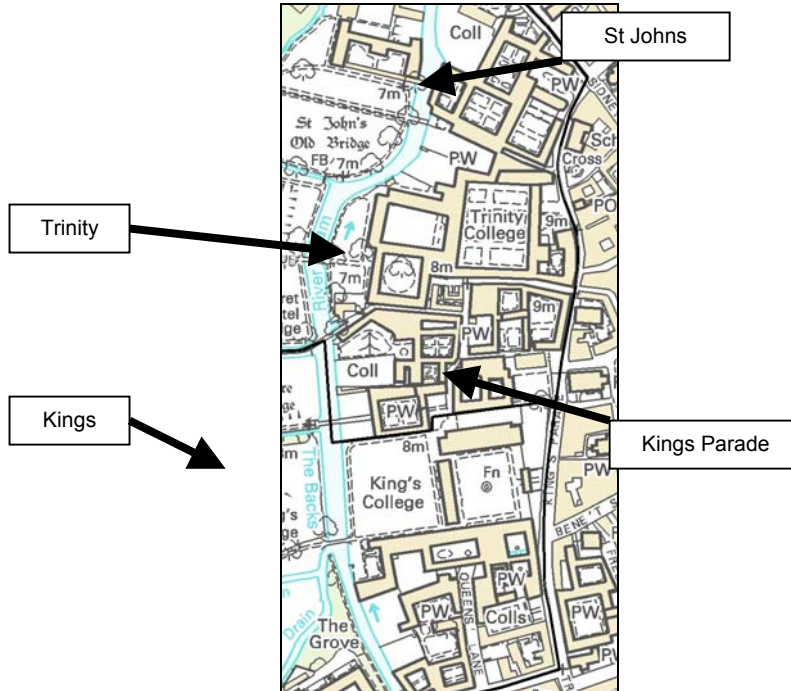
All crimes and anti social behaviour incidents for the past year were mapped and subject to grid analysis. This enables hotspot areas for offences/incidents over the past year to be identified. This hotspot data combined with community intelligence gathered from the Cambridge City West neighbourhood policing team and environmental health data has identified crime and disorder hotspot locations as described below:

The University of Cambridge Colleges and Kings Parade

Over the past year at least⁴ 384 crimes occurred at University premises, the most common of these was theft of a pedal cycle of which there were 164, there were also 70 offences of 'other theft', 55 non dwelling burglaries and 28 dwelling burglaries. The colleges which were most frequently offended were those which are positioned along Kings Parade, with Trinity College the busiest.

⁴ This is figure only includes crimes where the offence location has been a University College, and may not include offences which occurred outside of the College or in external Halls.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED



Kings Parade is the location for a number of Cambridge's biggest colleges (Trinity, Kings, St Johns) and includes Kings College Chapel which is one of Cambridge's most popular tourist attractions. There are also a number of retail outlets, cafes and restaurants located in the vicinity. The area is very busy with tourists and students alike, is a hotspot for crime and disorder within the neighbourhood. The boundaries of the 3 wards in the City West neighbourhood meet along Kings Parade and therefore it is taken as its own entity rather than being included within the hotspots for any of the wards.

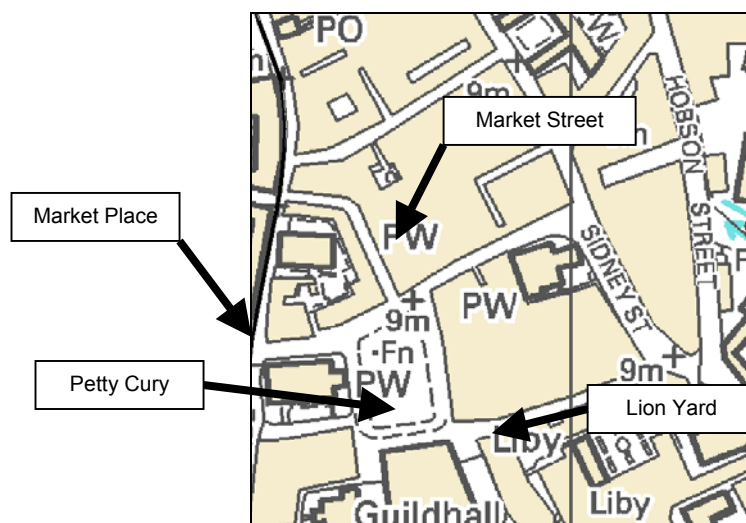
There were 271 offences along Kings Parade⁵ over the past year. The most common crime by far was the theft of a pedal cycle of which there were 117, this was followed by 'other theft' offences of which there were 52.

⁵ This figure also includes offences at Kings College, Trinity College and St Johns College

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Market Ward

Sidney Street area



The area encompassing Sidney Street, Market Street, Petty Cury and Lion Yard was the main hotspot for crime and disorder within the ward. This area contains the majority of the City Centre shops and its night time economy (pubs, clubs, bars, taxi ranks and fast food outlets), this offers numerous opportunities for criminals and also results in a great deal of alcohol related crime and ASB. Approximately 1236 offences took place in this area during the past year, the most frequent of which was theft from shop of which there were 421, followed by violence against the person (247 offences), 'other theft' (200) and theft from the person (97 offences). This area accounts for 63% of the crime in the Market Ward and 52% of the crime for the whole of the Cambridge City West Neighbourhood.

There were also 604 ASB incidents reported in this area accounting for approximately 30% of all ASB within the ward. Over 100 of these incidents were related to members of the streetlife community, particularly congregating and drinking outside of the Guildhall and aggressively begging outside shops. The remainder of the incidents are largely made up of reports of disorder and violence associated with the night time economy.

There were 97 ambulance calls related to violence or alcohol/ drugs overdoses in this area between October 2005 and September 2006⁶, this was the main hotspot for violence or alcohol/ drugs overdoses and ambulance calls within the neighbourhood and accounts for 28% of the calls of this nature within the Market ward. The vast majority of these calls were overnight and can therefore largely be attributed to the night time economy.

⁶ This is the most recent data available to analyse at the current time

The area was also the main hotspot of vagrancy reports to the council, with 410 vagrants reported in the area between November 06 and September 07.

A section 30 (Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003) dispersal order is in place which allows officers to disperse groups of 2 or more persons behaving or likely to behave in an anti social manner. A cumulative impact zone for Cambridge City Centre is currently in the public consultation stage, this will mean that anybody applying to open a new licensed premises will not have their application accepted unless they are able to demonstrate that it won't add to the level of crime and disorder in the area.

St Andrews Street and Regent Street

St Andrews Street and the adjoining Regent Street area has an active night time economy as it contains a number of prominent public houses and restaurants. The area is a hotspot for crime and disorder within the ward, with 329 offences reported in this area. The most common offence type was violence against the person (103 crimes), followed by cycle theft (69 crimes) and other theft (56 crimes). There were also 254 anti social behaviour incidents reported which were predominantly violent incidents related to the night time economy.

Grafton Centre, Burleigh Street and Fitzroy Street.

There were 487 crimes reported for the Grafton Centre and adjoining streets during the past year, these were most commonly thefts from shops (204 offences), which reflects the fact that the area is largely made up of retail outlets. The second most common offence in the area were thefts of pedal cycles of which there were 81 over the year. The area does contain a number of bars and restaurants however only 31 violent crimes were reported.

There were also 167 anti social behaviour incidents reported, these refer to a combination of streetlife, youth and alcohol related disorder.

The Grafton Centre west car park was the main hotspot within the Market ward for council needle finds with 49 recorded between November 06 and September 07. This indicates that the location is actively used for street level drug dealing and use.

Streetlife activities are monitored through the multi agency Rask and Target group, which meets monthly to prioritise actions to be taken in relation to streetlife individuals.

Cambridge City Green Spaces

Although not geographically linked **Parkers Piece** and **Christs Pieces** can be linked together thematically as they are similarly sized green spaces within the ward which record a similar level of crime and disorder (Parkers Piece had 73 crimes and 46 ASB incidents, Christs Pieces had 80 crimes and 43 ASB incidents).

Violent crime was the most common offence type for Parkers Piece and Christs Pieces with 61 during the year as well as 5 street robberies. This is likely to be due to the fact that the locations are popular places for youth and streetlife members to congregate and are also busy pedestrian thoroughfares. Violent offences particularly occurred during the night which may reflect the fact that the areas are not especially well lit. The next most commonly occurring offence was the possession of cannabis, with 32 formal warnings issued over the year. There were also 20 other theft offences and 13 cycle thefts.

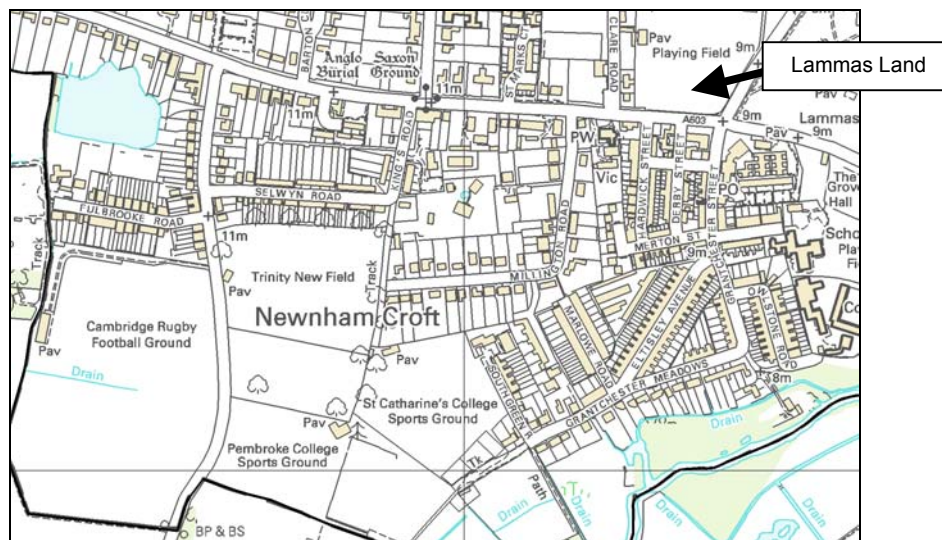
Christs Pieces was the second largest hotspot of vagrancy reports to the council, with 81 vagrants reported in the area between November 06 and September 07.

There were 227 crimes reported in the area of **Midsummer Common** and **Jesus Green**, over half of these were for the possession of cannabis during the annual Strawberry Fair event. The area was also a hotspot for street robberies, with 9 occurring over the year.

New Square and **The Mill Pond** share similar thematic characteristics as the other green spaces and should be included in the thematic category of green spaces however they are both spatially smaller and therefore record far fewer crimes.

Newnham Ward

Newnham Croft area



The Newnham Croft area was a hotspot of crime and disorder over the past year, with 194 crimes and 121 ASB incidents reported. The area is a relatively densely populated residential area and also contains the Cambridge rugby ground, Lammas Land and a portion of the Granchester Meadows. The most commonly occurring offence type was 'other theft' of which there were 41 with lead roofing the most commonly targeted property type. Non dwelling burglary was also fairly high with 24 reported during the period.

There were also 38 thefts from motor vehicles, which reflects the fact that the area is a common place for commuters and shoppers leaving their cars in on street parking when visiting the City. The area also contains some of Lammas Land and some of Granchester Meadows which are both areas known for 'beauty spot' vehicle crime.

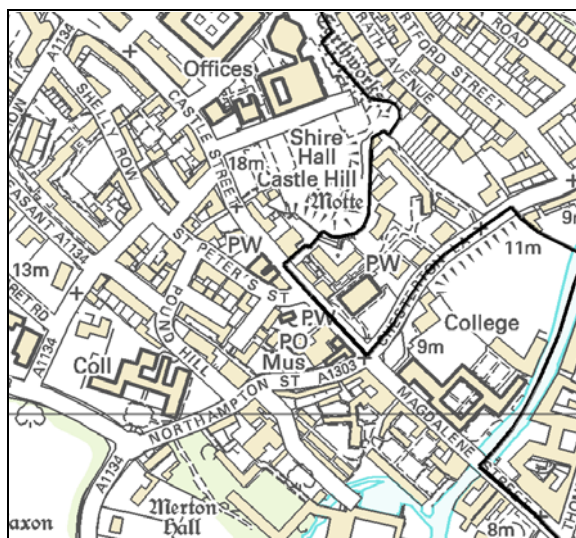
Over 30 of the ASB incidents in the area relate to vehicles, either being abandoned, parked inconsiderately, driven inappropriately or mini motos/ scooters being ridden anti socially by youths. The area and Lammas Land in particular was also a hotspot of youth related ASB.

A lot of the crime and disorder in this location has been centred around the residents and associates of 2 addresses. Proceedings are currently in place to evict one of the families, whilst the other family was evicted in July.

Lammas Land also stands out as a hotspot of flytipping, with 26 incidents dealt with by the council between November 2006 and September 2007.

Castle Ward

Castle Street area



The area to the South of the Castle ward, leading from Magdalene Street onto Castle Street and the surrounding area (encompassing Pound Hill, Northampton Street, St Peters Street, Shelly Row and Shire Hall) was the most prominent hotspot of crime and disorder within the ward, with 146 crimes and 93 ASB incidents occurring. The area contains a number of features including Magdalene College, the main County Council offices and a number of pubs and restaurants. The area is also in close proximity to the popular Quayside area and Kings Parade and therefore has a busy night time economy. The most commonly occurring offence types in the area were 'other thefts' (29) and cycle thefts (28). There were also 20 violent crimes and 19 thefts from vehicles. The anti social behaviour in the area is largely made up of alcohol related incidents and reports of vehicles parked inappropriately.

This area was also a hotspot for abandoned vehicles within the Cambridge City West neighbourhood, with 14 reported and dealt with by the council between November 06 and September 07, including the removal of 3 vehicles.

Burglaries across the ward

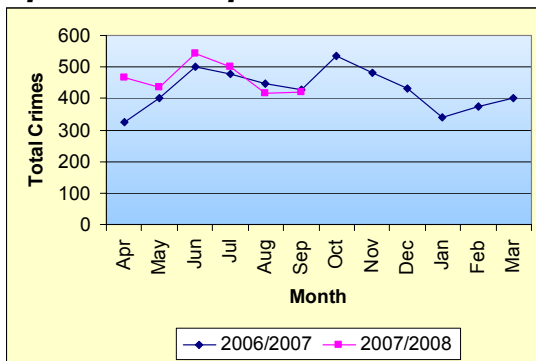
The Castle ward is the main hotspot for dwelling burglary within the neighbourhood, with 40 crimes during the year. The offences predominantly occurred in the densely populated housing located between Histon Road and Huntingdon Road. The Castle ward is in close proximity to the Arbury ward, which was the second busiest ward in the City for burglary over the past year.

1.0 Current Picture

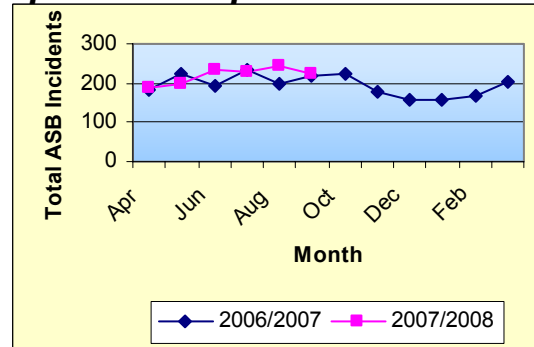
This section analyses crime and disorder over the past two months (August and September 2007), highlighting emerging issues and predicting future trends.

2.1 Crime and Disorder Trends

Cambridge City West Crimes Apr 06 to Sept 07



Cambridge City West ASB incidents Apr 06 to Sept 07



The above charts show that the level of crime has substantially reduced since a peak during July and August and that the level of offending is currently slightly lower than during the same period last year. Offending is likely to peak again in October due to the return of students to the City which traditionally precedes a steep rise in cycle theft offences. Cycle crime is currently a policing priority for the City and it is hoped that the October peak can be reduced this year. Anti social behaviour in August was slightly higher than August last year, however it has fallen in September to a similar level to last year.

Key trends over the past 2 months were:

Robbery increase within Market ward

Over the past 2 months there has been an increase in robberies in the city, with 15 occurring. Over 2 thirds of these were robberies of personal property with the remainder being robberies of business properties. The personal robberies were predominantly night time offences occurring in the City Centre, these traditionally increase during the summer months, however there has been a general upward trend in these offences over the past year.

Cycle crime across the neighbourhood has increased recently but the trend is downward

Cycle crime has increased across the neighbourhood and in particular in the Market ward during the period, however this is an expected seasonal trend which has been less substantial than in previous years. The trend over the past 2 years has been decreasing and this is a result of proactive work by the police in targeting cycle crime, which is ongoing.

The council remove cycles which have been deemed 'derelict' from the city, this enables space on cycle racks to be freed up so that cyclists can lock their cycles. Between November 2006 and September 2007 the council removed a total of 616 bikes from the City West neighbourhood, 539 of which were removed from the Market ward.

Punt touts in Bridge Street area

Over the summer months the City Council has received a number of complaints about the activities of punt touts in Bridge Street and the surrounding area. This has impacted upon local residents, visitors and businesses alike. Tackling the behaviour of touts has been the subject of a combined operation by the Police and the City Council.

Increase in anti social behaviour

There has been a noticeable increase in anti social behaviour in the Newnham ward, especially in the Newnham Croft area which includes Lammas Land and was highlighted as a hotspot within the historical crime and disorder section.

2.3 Conclusion and Recommendations

The vast majority of crime and disorder within the Cambridge City West Neighbourhood occurs within the Market Ward and is particularly focussed around crimes which are characteristic of an urban centre (violent crime, shoplifting and theft) as well as cycle theft which is particularly a feature of Cambridge due to the large number of cycles in use within the City.

It is recommended that the following crime and disorder issues are adopted as they are deemed appropriate for a multi agency approach:

1. Violent crime and anti social behaviour associated with the night time economy in the Market ward.
2. Street robberies and anti social behaviour, especially in City Centre green spaces (in particular Parkers Piece, Christ's Pieces, Midsummer Common, the Mill Pond, Lammas Land and Jesus Green).
3. Crime associated with The University of Cambridge across the neighbourhood.
4. Thefts from shops in the Sidney Street and Grafton Centre areas of the Market ward.

2.4 Feedback

Any feedback on the contents or structure of the document would be gratefully received to enable future improvements. Email paul.dixon@cambs.pnn.police.uk