

Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City South Neighbourhood

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1 INTRODUCTION

Aim

The aim of the Neighbourhood profile update is to provide an overview of action taken since the last reporting period, identify on-going and emerging crime and disorder issues, and provide recommendations for future priorities and activity in order to facilitate effective policing and partnership working in the area.

The document should be used to inform multi-agency neighbourhood panel meetings and neighbourhood policing teams, so that issues can be identified, effectively prioritised and partnership problem solving activity undertaken.

Methodology

This document was produced using the following data sources:

- Cambridgeshire Constabulary crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) incident data for June to September 2013, compared to the previous reporting period (February to May 2013) and the same reporting period in 2012.
- City Council environmental services data for the period June to September 2013, compared to the same reporting period in 2012; and
- Information provided by the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team, Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service and the City Council's Safer Communities Section.

2 CURRENT PRIORITIES

At the South Area Committee meeting of 15 July 2013, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- Reduce the theft of pedal cycles in the South area;
- Combat the supply of drugs in South area; and
- Anti-social behaviour around the Spinney School area.

The Neighbourhood Action Group, at its meeting of 24 July, assigned the actions to be taken and the lead officers for each of the priorities. The tables below summarise the action taken and the current situation.

Reduce the theft of pedal cycles in the South area	
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Reduce the theft of pedal cycles in Trumpington, specifically those occurring in the Newtown area of the ward. □ Increase the awareness of pedal cycle owners about the risks of becoming a victim of cycle crime by encouraging the use of sound crime prevention measures.
Action Taken	<p>The work undertaken by the South area team consists of two approaches to tackling the cycle crime problem in Newtown; crime prevention and targeted enforcement. The work of the South team has been supplemented by the Operation Huntsman team.</p> <p>Operation Huntsman was launched on 1 August 2013. This police operation has several strands: to provide a highly visible, flexible and mobile response to crime and ASB; and to address issues of dangerous and irresponsible cycling. Whilst Huntsman is pro-active, it also has a crime reduction focus and has worked with the South area team in the promotion of education around cycle theft prevention and the value of registering property online (<i>Immobilise</i>). The South team have also visited local businesses, residences with communal cycle parks, educational premises and have spoken to cyclists in the street.</p> <p>High profile activity has seen the arrest of cycle thieves. For example, in August two individuals were stopped on Cherry Hinton Road and have been charged with burglary, theft of pedal cycle, and going equipped. Inevitably high profile police activity on the street in relation to pedal cycle theft also sees the police drawn into anti-social cycling issues. There have been certain locations identified, through social networking sites, where residents are concerned about the behaviour of</p>

	<p>cyclists. There have been days of action around such locations, ticketing people for going through red lights, etc. There has also been a surge in people dealt with via the Lights Instead of Tickets (LIT) scheme.</p> <p>City Homes has started organising installation of 43 bike racks in the South on their housing estates, as well as applying for some lockable bike sheds.</p>
Current Situation	<p>Although pedal cycle theft across Cambridge has reduced by 10% in comparison to last year, cycle theft in the South area remains higher than the previous year (101 offences compared to 89 offences for the same period last year). Of the current South cycle crime, 50% of the crime is in Trumpington with almost all of that concentrated at the Newtown end. The remaining 50% is a roughly even split between Cherry Hinton and Queen Edith's; Cherry Hinton saw a slight increase in cycle theft and Queen Edith's saw a reduction.</p> <p>Recent property developments in the Newtown area have seen a large increase in the amount of residential and student accommodation along with a large increase in the number of cycles owned in the area. Pedal cycle theft in the Newtown area is still an issue which would benefit from further work.</p>
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Combat the supply of drugs in South area	
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Target individuals and organised groups travelling to the South area of Cambridge to engage in the unlawful supply of controlled drugs, particularly class A drugs. □ Target the supply of drugs, particularly class A drugs, by individuals resident in the South area.
Action Taken	<p>In the last four months the South area team, working with the East area team, have executed seven search warrants issued under the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971. This has resulted in the seizure of several quantities of class A and Class B drugs. A cannabis 'factory' containing drugs worth approximately £15,000 was also located and dismantled. At the location of these warrants or as a result of enquiries carried out after the event, six individuals were arrested for being concerned in the supply of class A drugs and four other individuals for being concerned in the production of a class B drug, abstracting electricity and a number of other linked offences.</p> <p>In the same period approximately two dozen intelligence-led</p>

	<p>stop searches under s23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 have been carried out in the South area. These resulted in arrests, drug seizures and cannabis warnings.</p> <p>Also of note is the conclusion of a long running investigation into the supply of class A drugs in the South. This resulted in the imprisonment of three London based drug dealers for an average of 3 years each.</p>
Current Situation	<p>Intelligence and information from the public relating to drug supply still continues to come to the attention of the South area team. This information indicates there are still several individuals in the South area who remain active in the supply of controlled drugs. Many of those individuals are from outside the Cambridge area and come to Cambridge purely to take part in their criminal activity. Recent information suggests that those individuals are active across the region and some joint working with Suffolk is on-going at the moment in regard to individuals who have come to the attention of both Cambridge and Newmarket police officers.</p>
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Anti-social behaviour around the Spinney School area	
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ To reduce the incidents of anti-social behaviour associated with the unlawful use of the area around the southernmost lake of the former Cherry Hinton chalk pits. ❑ To deter persons seeking to unlawfully access the lakeside in the interests of public safety.
Action Taken	<p>Preventative police patrols were carried out around the most commonly used access points to reach the lakes. Warning leaflets were handed out to persons who appeared to be in the area intent on accessing the lakes; people were coming from as far afield as Haverhill and Saffron Walden. Warning notices were also placed on vehicles in the area whose occupants were suspected of already being in the area to visit the lakes as well as Fixed Penalty Notices for parking offences where appropriate. Approximately 200 warning notices were handed out by local police officers.</p> <p>The lakes were visited by the police, members of the Safer Communities Section, Fire & Rescue Service and the agents of the landowner, and regular visits were organised to check the integrity of the fences and carry out any repairs which were needed. A new protocol was developed to ensure that the police and fire service had legitimate access to the lakes in the</p>

	<p>event of emergencies.</p> <p>Preventative television and radio work was also undertaken by the police to highlight the dangers of swimming in the lake.</p>
Current Situation	<p>July saw a large increase in the number of incidents of ASB reported in the Cherry Hinton area by concerned residents. The principle areas affected were: Walpole Road; St. Bedes Gardens; St. Bedes Crescent; Doggett Road and Sidney Farm Road. The disruption caused to the Spinney School two years previously did not occur this year with “lake attendees” finding alternative routes onto the site. Police patrols displaced some activity onto the next lake, which is primarily used by the Cambridge Angling Club whose members quickly reported this activity to the police. The joint work undertaken prevented a recurrence of the weekend of the 13/14 July 2013. Although people did use the lakes for the rest of the summer period, the numbers were not large and community impact was low.</p> <p>The lakes are privately owned and are not a public place. This restricts the power of the police and others over what action can be taken. However, the police do have a duty to protect life and promote public safety and these responsibilities were clearly reflected in the actions taken last year. The City Council’s draft Local Plan 2014 did include a consultation question about the future use of the lakes. A partnership response plan is in place for next year.</p>
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

3. PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES

- Anti-Social Behaviour officers within the Safer Communities Section attended community events held in Trumpington and Cherry Hinton. These events were organised by the Fire & Rescue Service. Work is currently being undertaken to resolve complaints of ASB in Dolphin Close, Colville Road, Wenvoe Close and Teversham Drift. Tenancy enforcement action has been taken against two tenants, with one resulting in possession being granted by the courts, though this is subject to an appeal.
- Good reduction in overall crime, including violent crime, in all South wards.
- Good reduction in criminal damage compared to the same period last year.
- Theft from vehicle and theft of vehicle is stable.

- Dwelling burglary is stable compared to last year.
- Increase in theft of pedal cycle; 50% of pedal cycle crime is in Trumpington ward (Newtown area).
- Increase in ASB (excepting Queen Edith's) linked to increase in calls concerning Cambridge Lakes and the hot spell in July.
- This year's Folk Festival passed off without any significant policing impacts.
- There has been an increase in complaints about vehicle parking offences around school premises across the South area.

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CURRENT CRIME & ASB INCIDENT LEVELS BY WARD

			Dwelling Burglary	Other Burglary	Violent Crime	Robbery	Theft of Vehicle	Theft from Vehicle	Cycle Theft	Theft from Shop	Criminal Damage	Other Crime	TOTAL CRIME	TOTAL ASB
AREA	City South	<i>June 13 – Sept 13</i>	36	24	61	2	6	24	101	5	45	99	403	292
		<i>June 12 – Sept 12</i>	38	30	89	1	6	35	89	18	57	144	507	235
		<i>Feb 13 – May 13</i>	23	22	66	0	3	28	91	8	42	87	370	224
WARDS	Cherry Hinton	<i>June 13 – Sept 13</i>	13	2	19	1	1	5	25	3	17	22	108	135
		<i>June 12 – Sept 12</i>	7	9	29	0	1	11	21	15	24	43	160	77
		<i>Feb 13 – May 13</i>	4	3	17	0	1	6	19	1	15	20	86	65
	Queen Edith's	<i>June 13 – Sept 13</i>	12	6	18	1	4	7	26	0	12	40	126	66
		<i>June 12 – Sept 12</i>	19	4	31	1	3	11	29	0	15	38	151	79
		<i>Feb 13 – May 13</i>	15	6	30	0	0	6	26	1	13	26	123	74
	Trumpington	<i>June 13 – Sept 13</i>	11	16	24	0	1	12	50	2	16	37	169	91
		<i>June 12 – Sept 12</i>	12	17	29	0	2	13	39	3	18	63	196	79
		<i>Feb 13 – May 13</i>	4	13	19	0	2	16	46	6	14	41	161	85

ARSON DATA

Period: June to September 2013

Deliberate fire summary data

Area	Refuse	Bin	Vehicle	Residential	Non residential
Cherry Hinton	0	1	0	0	0
Queen Edith's	0	0	0	0	0
Trumpington	0	0	0	0	0

General	The south of the city remains very quiet in terms of fire related ASB. However the fire service is aware of community concerns regarding youth conduct in the area. The service is undertaking preventative patrols in the area and working with partners to maintain a preventative presence.
Cherry Hinton	Single bin fire
Queen Edith's	No incidents
Trumpington	No incidents

Fire & Rescue Service met with the Highways Department of the County Council in September 2013. Control measures were agreed to propose parking restrictions in a number of areas in the South Area to ease constraints on emergency vehicle access as well as other community issues. Individual councillors have been approached by Highways in respect to those proposals. The proposals to facilitate emergency vehicle passage in Almoners Avenue have been implemented.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DATA

Cherry Hinton

Abandoned vehicles

- June to September 2013: 6 reports, which included
 - 2 vehicles not on site following inspection
 - 2 vehicles subsequently claimed by their owners
 - 1 vehicle subsequently destroyed following non-payment of the DVLA fine
 - 1 vehicle held pending further investigation
- Hotspots: None
- June to September 2012: 6 reports

Fly tipping

- ❑ June to September 2013: 18 reports, which included
 - 1 formal warning letter issued to domestic offenders
 - 1 request for waste transfer documentation from trade offenders
- ❑ Offences at Colville Road accounted for the formal warning letter sent
- ❑ Hotspots: Walpole Road (4)
- ❑ June to September 2012: 18 reports

Derelict cycles

- ❑ June to September 2013: 5
- ❑ Hotspots: Walpole Road (3)
- ❑ June to September 2012: 4

Needle finds

- ❑ June to September 2013: None
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ June to September 2012: 15

Queen Edith's

Abandoned vehicles

- ❑ June to September 2013: 1 report, which included 1 vehicle held pending further investigation
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ June to September 2012: 5 reports

Fly tipping

- ❑ June to September 2013: 8 reports, which included 1 formal warning letter issued to domestic offenders
- ❑ Offences at Gunhild Court accounted for the formal warning letter sent
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ June to September 2012: 7 reports

Derelict cycles

- ❑ June to September 2013: 5
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ June to September 2012: 14

Needle finds

- ❑ June to September 2013: 597
- ❑ Hotspots: Wulfstan Way (597). Needles found in a void property that posed no danger to the public. City Council's Streets & Open Spaces were asked to attend to clear the property and conduct a needle sweep.
- ❑ June to September 2012: None

Trumpington

Abandoned vehicles

- June to September 2013: 1 report, which included 1 vehicle not on site following inspection
- Hotspots: None
- June to September 2012: 5 reports

Fly tipping

- June to September 2013: 24 reports, which included
 - 5 formal warning letter issued to domestic offenders
 - 2 formal warning letter issued to trade offenders
- Offences at Hauxton Road accounted for 2 of the formal warning letters sent
- Hotspots: None
- June to September 2012: 7 reports

Derelict cycles

- June to September 2013: 12
- Hotspots: Porson Road (3)
- June to September 2012: 11

Needle finds

- June to September 2013: None
- Hotspots: None
- June to September 2012: None

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reduce the theft of pedal cycles in the Newtown area
- Combat the supply of drugs in the South area
- Tackle vehicle parking offences around school premises across the South area