

Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City East Neighbourhood

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**Steve Poppitt, Safer
Neighbourhoods
Inspector**

**Lynda Kilkelly, Safer
Communities Manager,
Cambridge City Council**



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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 ongoing 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 July to Oct 2013, compared to the previous reporting period (March to June 2013) and the same reporting period in 2012.
- City Council environmental services data for the period July to October 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 East Area Committee meeting of 25 July 2013, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- Reduce cycle theft and shoplifting in the East area;
- Tackle alcohol-related ASB in the Petersfield area; and
- Tackle the supply of drugs in the East area.

The Neighbourhood Action Group, at its meeting of 1 August 2013, assigned the actions to be taken and lead officers for each of the priorities. The tables below summarise the action taken and the current situation.

Reduce cycle theft and shoplifting in the East area	
Objective	Reduce the theft of pedal cycles and shoplifting in the East.
Action Taken	<p>Although, compared to the same period last year, shoplifting has increased (108 this year compared to 78 last year), after adopting shoplifting as a local priority at the July 2013 meeting there has been a decrease in the number of shop thefts. Shop thefts have decreased from 122 to 108. The East team have deployed a range of tactics to disrupt and deter offending. Increasing the number of high profile deterrence patrols at key times and at key locations has been one tactic.</p> <p>Pro-active arrests by the East team have led to the recovery of £4,500 worth of stolen items which have been subsequently returned to the shops involved. Among those arrested were an organised gang of professional shoplifters who were travelling around the country targeting specific stores.</p> <p>The East team remain the only team in Cambridge to have secured a number of conspiracy charges for shoplifting (ten offenders in total). The conspiracy charge means the offenders are sentenced in the Crown Court which has greater powers than the Magistrates' Court. Many of the offenders have never been arrested before and so to secure a sentence of ten months to one year on average for each is an extremely good result. This sends out a clear message to professional shoplifting gangs who may consider targeting Cambridge.</p> <p>Over the last three months there has been extensive policing activity to reduce cycle theft not just in the East but city-wide. This has resulted in a reduction of cycle thefts in all areas of the East compared to the same period last year (208 offences this reporting period compared to 270). The East team has approached this priority in a number of ways with officers</p>

	targeting known cycle thieves and hot spot locations for cycle theft. East team PCSOs have given crime reduction advice, often going door to door, and have also increased the checking of disposal sites such as eBay and Gumtree for stolen cycles. A number of successful cases have been taken to court.
Current Situation	Although shoplifting has reduced compared to last year there is still an increase compared to the previous three months. The peak time for cycle theft on the East area has passed and as preventing cycle crime is core business for the police, this work will continue as part of the East team's day to day activity.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Colin Norden, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Tackle alcohol-related ASB in the Petersfield area	
Objective	Tackle alcohol-related ASB in the Petersfield area.
Action Taken	<p>ASB in all wards is down compared to the same period last year and this is particularly so in Petersfield (151 incidents compared to 174 last year). Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have targeted Petersfield Green and the surrounding areas over the last three months. Positive enforcement action has been taken, including arrests for public order offences and the use of directions to leave, issued under s27 of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006.</p> <p>Those arrested for public order offences have been given bail conditions not to enter the area which has assisted in the management of their nuisance behaviour. The bus stops in Mill Road have also been the focus of police activity in an effort to stop groups from congregating. Regular checks of off-licences have also been conducted.</p> <p>In the last report it was mentioned that an Anti-Social Behaviour Order had been obtained against Paul Elliot (a street drinker also responsible for ASB). Shortly after the order was obtained, the police arrested Elliot twice for breaching this order. Since that time there have been no arrests for breaching the order.</p> <p>The East team have also supported the Street Outreach team and other colleagues to help those with a street-based life style secure accommodation both in Cambridge and elsewhere.</p>
Current Situation	The overall reduction in ASB in Petersfield and all areas of the East is pleasing. However, Mill Road and the surrounding area continues to generate more complaints regarding a range of issues (ASB, alcohol misuse, drug misuse, dangerous cycling

	and shoplifting) than other areas in the East. The police are also reviewing their tactics to deal with nuisance behaviour in Mill Road and elsewhere.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Colin Norden, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Tackle the supply of drugs in the East area	
Objective	Concerted action against drug suppliers.
Action Taken	<p>Over the last reporting period, officers from the East, supported by other colleagues from the South area team, have executed drugs warrants and targeted street dealers. The following represents some of the main actions taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Norfolk Street - officers on patrol searched and arrested two males for possession with intent to supply drugs. Both were found with drugs and large amounts of cash on them. They have both been bailed for further enquires. □ Whitehall Road - officers arrested two males who were found to have ¼ kg of cocaine on them. Both are currently on bail. □ Golding Road - three persons were stopped and found to be in possession of class A drugs. After returning on police bail they were charged with possession with intent to supply and have been bailed to court. □ Ashbury Close - officers raided 2 addresses in a simultaneous operation. At the first address class B drugs were found and a person at the address has been summonsed to attend court. At the second address a cannabis farm was found in the loft area along with a large amount of cash. Two persons were arrested at this location on suspicion of cultivating and supplying drugs, they are currently on bail. □ Jack Warren Green – a search warrant was executed and a cannabis farm found at the location. Two persons were arrested and are currently on bail. <p>The East team are also working with our housing partners to evict persons that have been found to be supplying drugs from properties or allowing their properties to be used which is in clear breach of their tenancy agreement.</p>
Current	Whilst overall there has been a reduction in the number of

Situation	London-connected drug dealers coming to Cambridge, partly as a result of strong enforcement action in the East and South areas, there is still further work to be done to tackle this issue.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Colin Norden, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

3 PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES

- City Council's ASB Officers from the Safer Communities Section attended a community event at Tiverton Estate on 5 October. A number of organisations were represented, including Fire Service and police and there was an excellent turnout from the community.
- City Council's ASB Officers are also currently investigating a number of complex ASB cases in the East area involving vulnerable perpetrators and are working closely with enforcement and support agencies to achieve a positive outcome for all.
- The Neighbourhood Resolution Panel Scheme is a new initiative in Cambridge aimed at resolving crime, anti-social behaviour and neighbour disputes in a positive way. Trained volunteers from the local community bring people together to help them discuss and agree how best to resolve the issues that affect them. The scheme has recently started receiving referrals, three of which are from within the East area.
- The Safer Communities Section has received complaints about ASB associated with The Forum student accommodation in Tiverton Way. An ASB officer is attending a meeting with the students, the Anglia Ruskin University accommodation officer and the Whitfield Property Group to discuss their behaviour within the local community.
- City Council's ASB Officers have received a number of reports about vulnerable tenants being targeted by street life individuals who use the tenant's flat as a convenient location to drink or sleep.
- The Safer Communities Section and the police have been investigating complaints of street drinking and ASB in the Great Eastern Street play area. A recent play inspection has again shown the continual limited value of the play area at Great Eastern Street, tucked away as it is in a corner of a car park under a darkened canopy of trees. The Assets Team is proposing the removal of the remnant play area which consists of two minor pieces of equipment that are widely considered not fit for purpose until a new solution is worked up possibly with Section 106 funding.

- Good reduction in total crime compared to the same period last year, particularly Abbey ward.
- Good reduction in anti-social behaviour compared to the same period last year.
- Reduction in shoplifting compared to previous quarter (although an increase in Petersfield).
- Reduction in cycle theft compared to same period last year.
- Good reduction in theft from vehicle.
- Good reduction in non-dwelling burglary.
- Increase in dwelling burglary.
- During the last reporting period, the East team have arrested or interviewed six people regarding allegations of arson. Five of the six are being prosecuted for the offences. This investigation has involved close working with the Fire & Rescue Service.

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 East	<i>Jul 13 – Oct 13</i>	50	27	157	8	13	36	208	108	100	294	1,001	537
		<i>Jul 12 – Oct 12</i>	43	51	178	11	18	50	270	78	127	287	1,113	611
		<i>Mar 13 – Jun 13</i>	38	38	134	7	6	44	177	122	99	241	906	522
WARDS	Abbey	<i>Jul 13 – Oct 13</i>	14	10	52	2	4	15	31	33	30	70	261	175
		<i>Jul 12 – Oct 12</i>	8	17	72	3	11	31	52	29	37	91	351	199
		<i>Mar 13 – Jun 13</i>	14	9	51	1	1	21	38	60	31	72	298	147
	Coleridge	<i>Jul 13 – Oct 13</i>	7	4	31	3	4	8	40	6	18	86	207	99
		<i>Jul 12 – Oct 12</i>	9	10	29	2	2	5	42	4	24	62	189	111
		<i>Mar 13 – Jun 13</i>	5	9	21	0	2	10	31	2	19	45	144	107
	Petersfield	<i>Jul 13 – Oct 13</i>	7	5	48	1	3	7	102	54	28	83	338	151
		<i>Jul 12 – Oct 12</i>	14	11	39	4	4	5	117	28	29	71	322	174
		<i>Mar 13 – Jun 13</i>	7	7	31	2	2	6	69	38	27	77	266	137
	Romsey	<i>Jul 13 – Oct 13</i>	22	8	26	2	2	6	35	15	24	55	195	112
		<i>Jul 12 – Oct 12</i>	12	13	38	2	1	9	59	17	37	63	251	127
		<i>Mar 13 – Jun 13</i>	12	13	31	4	1	7	39	22	22	47	198	131

ARSON DATA

Period: July to October 2013

Deliberate fire summary data

Area	Refuse	Bin	Vehicle	Residential	Non residential
Abbey	0	1	0	1	1
Coleridge	2	0	0	0	0
Petersfield	2	2	0	0	0
Romsey	0	0	0	0	1

General	In general the instances of deliberate fires have decreased in the city by 56% thanks to joint efforts to tackle these issues.
Abbey	High level of concern amongst professionals regarding youth anti-social behaviour in the ward that is reflected in the statistics above.
Coleridge	No issues of concern.
Petersfield	Bin fires related to mental health problems.
Romsey	No issues of concern.

During the reporting period, concerns regarding youth fire related anti-social behaviour in Abbey came to a part conclusion through an incident at the Newmarket Road Park & Ride site. Joint partnership efforts detected an incident and a subsequent police investigation has resulted in the arrest of four youths, three from the Abbey ward. Court action is pending. The combined observation and awareness efforts of East City and South Cambridgeshire police neighbourhood staff, fire service arson reduction and operational crews, county council, Safer Communities Section (City Council) and a private business's security staff resulted in the detection of these offences. This is an excellent example of partnership working.

Environmental Action days and education events in the area during the autumn have helped to reduce the level of concern and the number of incidents.

Prompt action by safer neighbourhood teams to improve security around empty housing in Latimer Close and education of young people in the area resulted in the one instance of deliberate fire setting not being repeated. These properties are awaiting demolition. Other properties in the area awaiting demolition have been secured to the same standard as a preventative measure.

The instances of fire setting in Petersfield were the actions of one unfortunate individual with mental health problems who is being supported by the medical profession. Court action is pending.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DATA

Abbey

Abandoned vehicles

- July to October 2013: 17 reports, which included
 - 9 vehicles not on site following inspection
 - 5 vehicle subsequently claimed by their owners
 - 2 vehicles impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax
- Hotspots: None
- July to October 2012: 10 reports

Fly tipping

- July to October 2013: 71 reports, which included 1 formal warning letter issued to domestic offenders
- Offences at Ekin Road accounted for 1 of the formal warning letters sent
- Hotspots: Ann's Road (4), Ekin Road (8) and Helen Close (7)
- July to October 2012: 47 reports

Derelict cycles

- July to October 2013: 16
- Hotspots: Riverside (4)
- July to October 2012: 9

Needle finds

- July to October 2013: 14
- Hotspots: Ditton Fields (10) - needles removed from a void property by City Council
- July to October 2012: 1

Coleridge

Abandoned vehicles

- July to October 2013: 10 reports, which included
 - 8 vehicles not on site following inspection
 - 1 vehicles impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax
 - 1 vehicles subsequently destroyed following non-payment of the DVLA fine
- Hotspots: None

- July to October 2012: 5 reports

Fly tipping

- July to October 2013: 25 reports
- Hotspots: Suez Road (5)
- July to October 2012: 24 reports

Derelict cycles

- July to October 2013: 16
- Hotspots: Coleridge Road (10)
- July to October 2012: 8

Needle finds

- July to October 2013 2012: None
- Hotspots: None
- July to October 2012: 3000 (void property on Neville Road)

Petersfield

Abandoned vehicles

- July to October 2013: 2 reports, which included
 - 1 vehicles not on site following inspection
 - 1 vehicles impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax
- Hotspots: None
- July to October 2012: 5 reports

Fly tipping

- July to October 2013: 48 reports, which included 8 formal warning letter issued to domestic offenders
- Offences at St. Matthew's Street accounted for 5 of the formal warning letters sent
- Hotspots: Norfolk Street (3) and St. Matthew's Street (8)
- July to October 2012: 40 reports

Derelict cycles

- July to October 2013: 18
- Hotspots: None
- July to October 2012: 15

Needle finds

- July to October 2013: 17
- Hotspots: Mill Road (7) - new needles found at Mill Road Cemetary, and Petersfield Mansions (6) - new needles found on green area.
- July to October 2012: 38

Romsey

Abandoned vehicles

- July to October 2013: 8 reports, which included
 - 5 vehicles not on site following inspection
 - 2 vehicle subsequently claimed by their owners
 - 1 vehicles impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax
- Hotspots: None
- July to October 2012: 7 reports

Fly tipping

- July to October 2013: 30 reports
- Hotspots: Catharine Street (3), Coleridge Road (3) and Thoday Street (5)
- July to October 2012: 21 reports

Derelict cycles

- July to October 2013: 9
- Hotspots: None
- July to October 2012: 9

Needle finds

- July to October 2013: 7
- Hotspots: None
- July to October 2012: 1

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Tackle the supply of drugs in the East area
- Policing issues associated with Mill Road
- Reduce shoplifting in the East area