

# Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City West/Central Neighbourhood

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Creating a safer  
Cambridgeshire



**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 April to July 2014, compared to the previous reporting period (December 2013 to March 2014) and the same reporting period in 2013.
- City Council environmental services data for the period April to July 2014, compared to the same reporting period in 2013; and
- Information provided by the Safer Neighbourhood Policing team and the City Council's Safer Communities team.

## 2 CURRENT PRIORITIES

At the West/Central Area Committee meeting of 24 April 2014, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- Street-based ASB
- Operation Safe Passage
- Vehicle obstruction of pavements

The Neighbourhood Action Group, at its meeting of 1 May 2014, assigned the actions to be taken and lead officers for each of the priorities. The tables below summarise the actions taken and the current situation.

<b>Street-based ASB</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	To continue to tackle ASB in the city
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Since the last meeting the StreetLife Team has been working to address street-based anti-social behaviour and to reduce the harm caused by such behaviour.</p> <p>There have been a number of successes and we have prosecuted 2 people for persistently breaching their ASBOs. Ultimately both received custodial sentences which provided relief from their behaviour to the people of Cambridge.</p> <p>We have also been successful in prosecuting a number of persistent offenders who again have received custodial sentences for their continued criminality.</p> <p>In addition to the enforcement element of our work, we have continued to work with both the Street Outreach team and the Chronically Excluded Adults team to address the behaviour of people who persistently beg and cause issues within the city. This joint working has been successful in diverting a number of people from begging and they are currently being supported in their tenancies.</p> <p>There remain a number of people who decline help and who continue to beg and engage in anti-social behaviour. Supported by the council, we have mounted a number of begging patrols over weekends, resulting in more than 20 report files and temporary exclusions from the City Centre under s27 powers. We will continue to take robust enforcement action against these individuals as well as gathering evidence to apply for ASBOs.</p>

	<p>During this reporting period there have been a number of significant public events including both the Strawberry and Midsummer Fairs, the Big Weekend and the Tour de France. These were all well attended, and in the case of the TdF attracted unprecedented numbers. There were few issues.</p> <p>Working with our SNT and Special Constabulary colleagues, we have continued to work hard within the night time economy under Operation Sodium. With a particular focus on weekends and other key nights, teams of officers continue to be deployed with a specific remit to deal with issues within the night time economy. In addition to the issues of alcohol-related violence or ASB over recent weeks, a considerable amount of work has also been done to tackle the issue of street begging within the night time economy environment. This work has resulted in numerous people being reported for the issue of a summons.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	Work to continue to tackle this priority is on-going, as outlined above.
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Sergeant Kevin Misik, Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

<b>Operation Safe Passage<sup>1</sup></b>	
<b>Objective</b>	Address road safety issues for all road users.
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Operation Safe Passage is still on-going and continues to receive considerable support from our colleagues in the Roads Police Unit.</p> <p>In addition to the reassurance and deterrent element provided by both static and high visibility patrolling, enforcement action has been taken across a number of areas. These have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ The arrest of a disqualified driver</li> <li>❑ Cannabis warnings</li> <li>❑ The seizure of uninsured vehicles</li> <li>❑ Multiple alcohol breath tests</li> <li>❑ Excess speed offences</li> <li>❑ Seatbelt offences</li> <li>❑ Mobile phone use offences</li> <li>❑ Parking and obstruction offences</li> <li>❑ Licensing offences</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the team has also responded directly to enquiries</p>

<sup>1</sup> This is a new priority drawing together all road safety elements previously referred to under earlier wider road safety priority.

	<p>and issues raised by members of the public.</p> <p>We are regularly bidding for and receiving support from the Force Road Policing Unit.</p> <p>The City Centre team has also been in dialogue with the Hackney Carriage Association to discuss mutual concerns. A number of future initiatives were discussed which will be considered in due course. Future work will involve consultation with the main firms in the local area, and a proposed VOSA operation.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	Work to continue to tackle this priority is on-going, as outlined above.
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Sergeant Ian Wood, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

<b>Vehicle obstruction of pavements<sup>2</sup></b>	
<b>Objective</b>	Address road safety issues for all road users.
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Enforcement activity has taken place resulting in the issue of Fixed Penalty Notices for unnecessary obstruction in Victoria and Orchard Streets.</p> <p>In addition, like notices have been issued to vehicles other than taxis causing obstruction in the ranks.</p> <p>Attention by way of high visibility patrols continue.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	Work to continue to tackle this priority is on-going, as outlined above.
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Sergeant Ian Wood, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

### **3 PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES**

- The City Council's Safer Communities team has one ongoing ASB case involving a tenancy in The Grafton area. Legal steps have been taken and the team is liaising closely with local residents.
- The Safer Communities team have had several reports of rough sleepers notably in the area of the Park Street car park. The team is working with the police's StreetLife team and the Council's Task & Target Group to address these ongoing issues.

<sup>2</sup> Although forming part of Operation Safe Passage, this priority will be reported separately.

- Reports of youths gathering and causing nuisance and littering on the New Square Park were reported to the Safer Communities team. Working with the City Centre police team, Safer Communities liaised with local residents and Jesus College to help address the issue.
- PS Paul Street has now left the City Centre problem solving team. His replacement is PS Ian Wood.
- There has been an overall increase in crime of 9% (118 more crimes) in comparison with the previous reporting period. The majority of this increase was seen in the Market ward where 104 more crimes were recorded.
- There has been an overall increase in ASB of 15% (50 more incidents) in comparison with the previous reporting period. Of note is that by comparison to this same period in 2013, this does still represents a reduction of 15%.
- Each of the Wards has seen a reduction in dwelling burglary and other burglary has remained stable.
- Robbery has reduced from 8 offences in the previous reporting period to 4 in this period. There were no crimes of this type in the Newnham ward and just one in the Castle ward.
- There has been just one reported vehicle theft in this reporting period and theft from vehicle remains stable.
- There has been an overall increase in cycle theft of 45% (105 more crimes) in comparison with the previous reporting period. The majority of this increase has been seen in the Market Ward (up 80) followed by Newnham (up 18) and finally Castle (up 7).
- A *Shape Your Place* blog has been set up for members of the public who can't attend the West Central meeting in person to highlight issues.

## 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
<b>AREA</b>	<b>City West/Central</b>	Apr 14 - Jul 14	13	29	184	4	1	36	334	248	65	476	1,390	380
		Apr 13 – Jul 13	12	31	154	1	3	37	308	214	57	430	1,247	449
		Dec 13 - Mar 14	19	28	146	8	4	38	229	237	46	517	1,272	330
<b>WARDS</b>	<b>Castle</b>	Apr 14 - Jul 14	6	5	4	1	0	9	43	2	7	25	102	38
		Apr 13 – Jul 13	5	15	12	0	1	8	42	4	10	23	120	47
		Dec 13 - Mar 14	10	6	5	1	1	9	36	3	4	34	109	31
	<b>Newnham</b>	Apr 14 - Jul 14	3	11	6	0	0	21	49	4	7	26	127	28
		Apr 13 – Jul 13	4	7	5	0	1	14	46	0	5	40	122	40
		Dec 13 - Mar 14	4	9	3	2	0	21	31	2	3	31	106	11
	<b>Market</b>	Apr 14 - Jul 14	4	13	174	3	1	6	242	242	51	425	1,161	314
		Apr 13 – Jul 13	3	9	137	1	1	15	220	210	42	367	1,005	362
		Dec 13 - Mar 14	5	13	138	5	3	8	162	232	39	452	1,057	288

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DATA

### Castle

#### *Abandoned vehicles*

- April to July 2014: 2 reports, which included 2 vehicles not on site following inspection
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 3 reports

#### *Fly tipping*

- April to July 2014: 6 reports, which included 1 verbal warning
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 10 reports

#### *Derelict cycles*

- April to July 2014: 26
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 1

#### *Needle finds*

- April to July 2014: 6<sup>3</sup>
- Hotspots: Castle Street (6)
- April to July 2013: 6

### Newnham

#### *Abandoned vehicles*

- April to July 2014: 7 reports, which included
  - 5 vehicles not on site following inspection
  - 2 CLE26 notices issued to offenders on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying a valid tax disc on a public highway
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 3 reports

#### *Fly tipping*

- April to July 2014: 6 reports, which included 1 formal warning letter issued to domestic offenders
- Offences at Fen Causeway accounted for the formal warning letter sent
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 8 reports

#### *Derelict cycles*

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<sup>3</sup> 6 needles removed from rear of Park House on Castle Street over 5 separate occasions and incidents reported to the Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

- April to July 2014: 10
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 1

#### *Needle finds*

- April to July 2014: None
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: None

### **Market**

#### *Abandoned vehicles*

- April to July 2014: 8 reports, which included
  - 7 vehicles not on site following inspection
  - 1 vehicle impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having a valid tax disc
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 2 reports

#### *Fly tipping*

- April to July 2014: 19 reports, which included
  - 3 formal warning letters issued to domestic offenders
  - 3 formal warning letters issued to trade offenders
  - 1 request for waste transfer documentation from trade offenders
- Offences at Willow Walk accounted for 2 of the formal warning letters sent
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 37 reports

#### *Derelict cycles*

- April to July 2014: 58
- Hotspots: Emmanuel Street (5)
- April to July 2013: 12

#### *Needle finds*

- April to July 2014: 0
- Hotspots: None
- April to July 2013: 10

## **5 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Street-based ASB in city centre
- Operation Safe Passage
- Acquisitive crime in the Newnham ward