

# Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City West/Central 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 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 December 2014 to March 2015, compared to the previous like reporting period (August to November 2014) and the same reporting period in 2013/14.
- ❑ City Council environmental services data for the period December 2014 to March 2015, compared to the same reporting period in 2013/14; 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 07 January 2015, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- ❑ Address alcohol related violent crime and ASB
- ❑ Tackle Cycle Theft
- ❑ Address a range of road safety issues including parking, inconsiderate cycling, driving and speeding.

The Neighbourhood Action Group, at its meeting of 26 January 2015, 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>Alcohol related violent crime and anti-social behaviour</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	To continue to tackle Alcohol Related Violent Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Alcohol related violence and ASB in the West / Central areas can broadly be broken down into two areas: issues related to the night time economy and issues related to street drinking.</p> <p><b>Night time economy</b></p> <p>Issues relating to night time economy are being monitored through the Alcohol Related Violent Crime (ARVC) group which comprises of police and partners.</p> <p>Through the ARVC, we have enhanced our weekend “Operation Connect”; briefings are conducted together with Street Pastors and Door Staff and others, and briefings are shared with CCTV operators.</p> <p>Sgt Wood is developing “Operation Standing”; this is where Licensed Premise Staff in Cambridge City Centre will be provided with “Alcoblow” breathalysers in order to assess the level of intoxication of potential customers – hopefully going some way to deter the “pre-loading” phenomenon and dissuade intoxicated customers from trying to enter licenced premises. Trials in Birmingham and Norfolk boast significant reductions in arrests, paramedic call-outs and ASB, with no detrimental impact on local businesses. We ran a local trial at ‘The Junction’ on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015, which hosted an Under 18’s Night where Door-staff were loaned a trial Alcoblow device. Staff reported that 30 young people were refused entry due to</p>

failing the test, and many more didn't even join the queue when they saw tests being carried out. By comparison, six ambulances were called out during the same event the previous year, so the early indications are good.

The ARVC is working on other projects to enhance the safety and prevent crime and ASB particularly in the Market Ward.

The reporting period covered the Christmas and New year period which as you would expect was very busy and the custody block at Parkside dealt with 14 detained people between 8:30pm on New Year's Eve and 6:30am New Year's Day. As a point of interest the first person arrested in 2015 was arrested for biting someone at 2:30am on Rose Crescent.

### **Street drinking and related ASB**

As well as the work done around the night time economy we continued to work with our partners to address other forms of street based ASB such as Street Drinking and Begging. Over the winter period we have continued to process a number of people to court for the offence of begging, and this continues to be part of a process where we are working towards other court orders such as Criminal Behaviour Orders to address and manage peoples' behaviour.

As well as taking an enforcement based approach to issues such as begging and street drinking we are now in the final planning stages of the Alternative Giving campaign around begging in the city which is being carried out in partnership with the City Council and a number of their support agencies across the homelessness sector in the City. This work continues to be supported by our colleagues in the Special Constabulary who in the run up to Christmas carried out direct patrols against begging which were very successful and they continue to support the work of Op Connect.

We are also currently working with the University of Cambridge and a number of our partners in planning for Caesarean Sunday, the Pre-exam event for students which takes place on Jesus Green, and we are hopeful that the event will pass with a minimum number of issues as it did last year.

### **Other ASB**

Sgt Wood has been attending bi-monthly meetings with the City Council to discuss wider issues affecting the City Centre,

	<p>which has evolved into street briefings and accompanied patrols with members from the City Centre Policing Team. We have also recently started some engagement work with Parkside School to warn pupils and parents about the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse, and have supported Grafton Security in moving on groups of troublesome youths.</p> <p>In a bid to address the reported ASB in Sussex street (now colloquially referred to as 'Spanish Corner' on account of it being a preferred meet-up point for Spanish Students), we have scheduled a meeting with businesses and residents at the end of the month. We are continuing patrols in this area at all times of the week, and have been assessing the effectiveness of previous crime-prevention techniques (e.g. such as displaying warning notices in Spanish). Our Crime Prevention Manager has been tasked to conduct a site-survey of the area, and I have been looking to introduce an additional mobile CCTV camera to help accurately assess the scope of the problem.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	<p>Work through the ARVC to address alcohol fuelled crime is ongoing and there are a number of strands of work which are being developed. It should be noted that as the weather improves, it is likely that we will see ASB shift towards open green spaces.</p> <p>Additionally, whilst not alcohol related, the spring / summer months see an increase in visitors to the city and an increase in unlicensed punt touts. The unlicensed put touts have historically been involved in anti-social behaviour.</p>
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Sergeants Kevin Misik and Ian Wood, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

<b>Cycle theft</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	To continue to tackle cycle theft
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>There continue to be reports of cycle crime across the whole of the area and we continue to work to identify patterns in offending and Hot Spot areas of crime. Once these patterns have been identified we have had some success as a result of targeting our patrols at the relevant time and place. One example of this has been a male who was coming to an area on Grange Road with a regular pattern to steal cycles and</p>

	<p>cycle parts. As a result of members of the West team changing their duties to address the issue a male was arrested and has subsequently been charged with 9 cycle theft related offences from within the area. He has pled guilty at this point and we are waiting to find out what sentence he will be given.</p> <p>In continuing with our approach to dealing with hot spot's the team PCSOs have conducted both high profile patrols in areas where large numbers of pedal cycles are parked and there have been recent offences such as the junction of Downing Street and St Andrews street. This tactic has been supported by work by Police Officers in plain clothes to deal with offenders, again targeting high profile locations.</p> <p>We continue to work with the wider Cambridge district teams to address handlers of stolen cycles across the wider city.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	Again, this is a long term issue; whilst the figures indicate a significant reduction of offences, the summer will bring many visitors who may not take necessary precautions together with new students arriving at the end of the summer.
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Sergeants Kevin Misik and Ian Wood, 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>During the reporting period we have continued to carry out a range of traffic based activity. This ranges from dealing with cyclists who have ridden through red lights to speed checks at a number of locations across the area.</p> <p>Following the success of the LIT scheme in the previous reporting period we have continued to deal with a number of students who still don't have lights following concerns being expressed by a number of colleges. As well at this the City Centre PCSOs have been working to ensure that people are cycling in the right direction and in an appropriate manner on the streets within the historic city centre.</p> <p>There has been a number of speed checks carried out across</p>

<sup>1</sup> This priority draws together all road safety elements previously referred to under earlier wider road safety priority.

	<p>the area to address speeding motorists. We are currently recruiting volunteers from the community for SpeedWatch – initial induction and training is due in April and we will update at the next Area Committee meeting.</p> <p>The PCSOs have also been carrying out enforcement action around the issue of obstruction, particularly on the small side streets which suffer from an increase number of issues at the weekend.</p> <p>As well as the work carried out by the officers within the Problem Solving Teams we are supported by the Special Constabulary and the Safer Neighbourhood Teams as part of Operation Safe Passage. This is an ongoing operation which targets areas of the city which have suffered from serious injury or fatal Road Traffic collisions. Since the last meeting in January, there have been 583 Traffic Offence Reports (city-wide, not just West / Central) for a variety of offences.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	We are currently focusing on trying to develop and support the SpeedWatch programme across the City.
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Sergeant Ian Wood, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

### 3 PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES

- ❑ Burglary Dwelling - By comparison to the previous four month period dwelling burglary has seen an overall reduction of 48% or 13 fewer offences. This also represents 5 fewer offences against this same period in 2013/14. With reductions across all three wards the most significant were seen in both Newnham and Market wards.
- ❑ Non-Dwelling Burglary – By comparison to the previous four month period non-dwelling burglary has seen an overall increase of 33% or 12 more offences. With Newnham showing a reduction both Castle and Market wards have seen an increase of 5 and 11 offences respectively.
- ❑ All Violent Crime - By comparison to the previous four month period AVC has seen an overall increase of 16% or 29 more offences. With Castle and Market wards relatively stable there was an increase from 2 to 13 offences recorded in Newnham. This increase for Newnham is also significantly higher than in than this same reporting period in 2013/14 which saw 3 offences.

- ❑ Robbery - By comparison to the previous four month period robbery has seen an overall reduction of 58% or 7 fewer offences. The most significant reduction was seen in Market ward with 6 fewer offences and once again no robberies were recorded in the Newnham ward. This overall figure remains lower than in this same period in 2013/14.
- ❑ Theft of Vehicle – Only 4 vehicles have been stolen during this reporting period and this crime type remains stable against both the previous reporting period and this same period in 2013/14.
- ❑ Theft from Vehicle - By comparison to the previous four month period theft from vehicle has seen an overall reduction of 56% or 30 fewer offences. The most significant reduction was seen in the Newnham ward which saw 28 fewer offences.
- ❑ Theft of Pedal Cycle – By comparison to the previous four month period theft of pedal cycle has seen a significant reduction of 43% or 175 fewer offences. This reduction was seen across all three wards with the Market ward seeing 137 fewer offences.
- ❑ Theft from shop – By comparison to the previous four month period this crime type has remained stable with just two further offences recorded. This overall figure remains 16% or 39 offences lower than in the same reporting period 2013/14
- ❑ Total Crime – By comparison to the previous four month period, at 1256 offences there has been a reduction of 13% or 194 fewer offences overall. This figure is also slightly lower than in this same reporting period 2013/14.
- ❑ ASB – By comparison to the previous four month period, at 254 there has been a reduction of 36% or 143 fewer incidents overall. This figure is also 76 incidents or 23% lower than in this same reporting period 2013/14.
- ❑ The City Council's Safer Communities team has dealt with two reports in Market ward, one regarding street life issues and the other regarding a cycle theft. Advice was given and the appropriate departments / agencies were contacted. The team also dealt with one report in Castle ward involving a complaint of racial harassment which resulted in a case being opened and the City Council's Community Cohesion and Racial Harassment Officer leading on it. From his investigation and intervention, there have been no more incidents reported and the case is being monitored.



## 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	<b>City West/Central</b>	Dec 14 – Mar 15	14	48	210	5	4	24	229	198	84	440	1256	254
		Dec 13 – Mar 14	19	28	146	8	4	38	229	237	46	517	1272	330
		Aug 14 – Nov 14	27	36	181	12	5	54	404	200	81	450	1450	397
WARDS	<b>Castle</b>	Dec 14 – Mar 15	8	14	13	1	0	7	20	0	10	22	95	32
		Dec 13 – Mar 14	10	6	5	1	1	9	36	3	4	34	109	31
		Aug 14 – Nov 14	10	9	11	2	2	12	39	0	8	24	117	38
	<b>Newnham</b>	Dec 14 – Mar 15	3	10	13	0	2	8	24	1	11	27	99	19
		Dec 13 – Mar 14	4	9	3	2	0	21	31	2	3	31	106	11
		Aug 14 – Nov 14	9	14	2	0	1	36	43	3	5	42	155	30
	<b>Market</b>	Dec 14 – Mar 15	3	24	184	4	2	9	185	197	63	391	1062	203
		Dec 13 – Mar 14	5	13	138	5	3	8	162	232	39	452	1057	288
		Aug 14 – Nov 14	8	13	168	10	2	6	322	197	68	384	1178	329

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DATA

### Castle

#### *Abandoned vehicles*

- December 2014 to March 2015: 1 report, which included 1 vehicle not on site following inspection
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 7 reports

#### *Fly tipping*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 5 reports (1 inspection with no evidence found), which included
  - 0 formal warning letters issued to domestic offenders
  - 0 formal warning letters issued to trade offenders
  - 0 verbal warnings
  - 3 request for waste transfer documentation from trade offenders
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 8 reports

#### *Derelict cycles*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 12
- ❑ Hotspots: All Saints Passage - 3
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 9

#### *Needle finds*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 3 – grass verge near Stapes (1), grounds at St Giles Church, Castle Street (2)
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 2

### Newnham

#### *Abandoned vehicles*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 3 reports (1 pending further investigation), which included
  - 1 vehicle not on site following inspection
  - 1 vehicle subsequently claimed by their owner
  - 0 CLE26 notices issued to offenders on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying road tax on a public highway
  - 0 vehicles impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax
  - 0 vehicles subsequently destroyed following non-payment of the DVLA fine
  - 0 vehicles held pending further investigation
- ❑ Hotspots: None

- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 14 reports

#### *Fly tipping*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 9 reports (1 inspection with nothing found), which included
  - 0 formal warning letters issued to domestic offenders
  - 1 formal warning letter issued to trade offenders
  - 0 verbal warnings
  - 1 request for waste transfer documentation from trade offenders
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 19 reports

#### *Derelict cycles*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 12
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 12

#### *Needle finds*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 15 and 1 knife
- ❑ Hotspots: Grounds of St Edwards King and Martyr church, St Edwards Passage (15 and 1 knife)<sup>2</sup>
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 0

### **Market**

#### *Abandoned vehicles*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 0 reports
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 1 report

#### *Fly tipping*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 19 reports (6 ongoing investigations and 1 unable to trace suspect), which included
  - 3 formal warning letters issued to domestic offenders
  - 0 formal warning letters issued to trade offenders
  - 0 verbal warnings
  - 0 requests for waste transfer documentation from trade offenders
- ❑ Offences at Miltons Walk accounted for 3 of the formal warning letters sent
- ❑ Hotspots: None
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 43 reports

#### *Derelict cycles*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 71

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<sup>2</sup> These were reported from the church warden on 5 occasions directly to Streets & Open Spaces: 6<sup>th</sup> Feb (1), 19<sup>th</sup> Mar (3), 21<sup>st</sup> Mar (4), 26<sup>th</sup> Mar (6), 31<sup>st</sup> Mar (1)

- ❑ Hotspots: Drummer Street (4), Jesus Lane (3)
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 64

#### *Needle finds*

- ❑ December 2014 to March 2015: 22 – New Square (20), rear of Burleigh House on Newmarket Road (1), alley way at Napier Street (1)
- ❑ Hotspots: New Square (20)<sup>3</sup>
- ❑ December 2013 to March 2014: 2

## **5 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ❑ To target alcohol related violent crime and ASB
- ❑ To target ASB caused by punt touts in Market Ward

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<sup>3</sup> An estimate of 20 needles which was found as a pack of used needles in a sealed container found by an operative who was litter picking on the grassed area at New Square