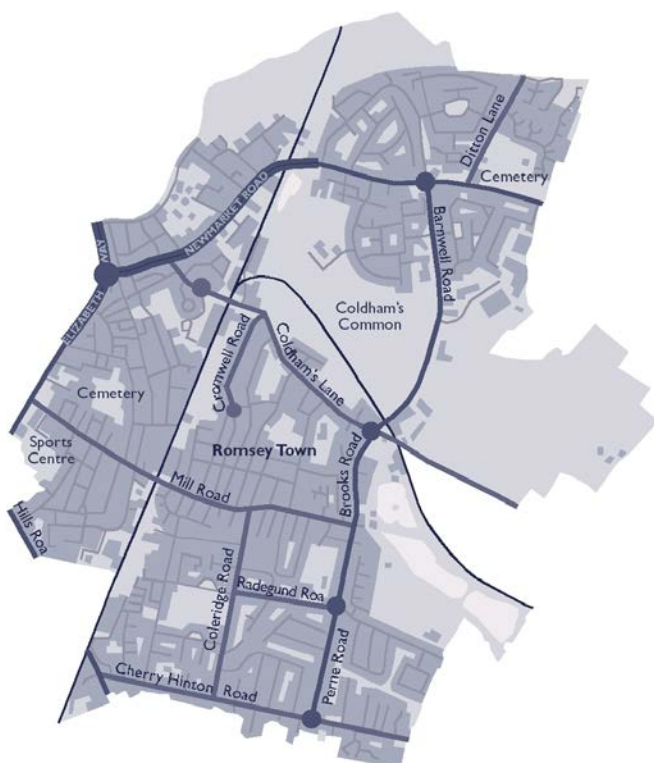


Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City East Neighbourhood

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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 May 2015, compared to a previous reporting period (June to November 2014) and 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 East Area Committee meeting of 08 January 2015, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- ❑ Tackle the supply of drugs in the East area
- ❑ Policing issues associated with Mill Road
- ❑ Address speeding and anti-social cycling in the East area

The Neighbourhood Action Group, at its meeting of 26 January 2015, assigned the actions to be taken and the lead officers for each of the priorities. The table below summarises the action taken and the current situation.

Tackle the supply of drugs in the East area	
Objective	Concerted action against drug suppliers
Action Taken	<p><u>Drugs</u></p> <p>The East team has continued to work with the City Council and housing partners to evict persons who have been found to be supplying drugs from properties or allowing their properties to be used for the supply of drugs.</p> <p>Officers have once again executed a number of warrants targeting all classes of drugs at premises in the East and South areas. Addresses have been targeted in the South with the South team as they impact in the East too. Similarly, the East team have been supported by the South team on a number of warrants. The team has also targeted a number of street based dealers.</p> <p>Also during this reporting period a new operation was formulated to safeguard the most vulnerable connected with drug supply which has been called operation 'Hexham'.</p> <p>Operation Hexham was instigated in January 2015 to review how the issue of London Gangs operating drug supply lines in Cambridge city is tackled. The mantle for dealing with this problem traditionally sits within the Problem Solving Teams (East, South, West & North teams). When dealers are caught investigations are completed but these have been purely</p>

reactionary, Operation Hexham has instigated a more proactive way of policing these issues.

Illegality of the drug supply aside, London Gangs generally cause three main problems:

1) Use of extreme violence

Extreme violence has been used to enforce debts, force people to deal, settle disputes and wage turf wars. Often gang violence goes unreported and we hear about it anecdotally via intelligence. When crimes are reported victims are often unwilling to cooperate and investigations are difficult.

Violence used is often with knives and intelligence reports have linked gang members to kidnappings and beatings. There have also been several incidents of gang members targeting the wrong address.

2) Exploitation of vulnerable people to assist their drug supply business model.

The exploitation of vulnerable people is generally focused on drug users and those with mental health conditions. This takes the form of occupation of their home addresses. Generally the dealers will first occupy with consent, offering mutual benefit to the drug user in the form of free drugs in return for the use of their property as a base for drug supply. Things turn threatening and violent when dealers are asked to leave or admittance to the property is refused. Dealers will often acquire keys and arm themselves with the user's kitchen knife upon entering the premises creating a veiled threat.

Often this partnership is extended and the dealer will distance himself from risk by having the vulnerable person sell his drugs for them. Often these deals go wrong, the vulnerable person loses the drugs and subsequent enforcement from the dealer takes place. This often leads to the vulnerable person being indebted to the dealer.

	<p>3) Exploitation of children to assist their drug supply model.</p> <p>Exploitation of children (those under the age of 18) often follows a similar form to the above. Dealers will proactively recruit children aged between 14 - 17 to sell or store the drugs on their behalf in order to minimise the dealer's risk. Dealers have been linked via intelligence to approaching children in the street at random for this purpose.</p> <p>Children are recruited in the London area and sent to Cambridge to deal drugs. Traditionally when these children have been encountered they have been dealt with purely as suspects in crime. The challenge of this strategy will be to catch and safeguard these individuals in a joint approach with partners in their local area.</p>
Current Situation	We are still seeing drug dealers from London coming to Cambridge and installing themselves in vulnerable people's houses. This remains one of the highest risks of harm to the most vulnerable residents in the east of the city. It is strongly recommended that this continues as a priority for the area.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Colin Norden, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

ASB in the Petersfield and Mill Road areas	
Objective	Target street drinking and alcohol-related ASB in the Petersfield and Mill Road areas.
Action Taken	<p>A review of ASB continues to form part of the police daily management meeting process, which informs and directs policing in the City.</p> <p>Daily patrols are conducted on Mill Road and the surrounding areas by PCSOs and police officers targeting a range of offences. In addition, the team continues to meet with local traders and residents' groups.</p>

	<p>Officers have made use of the section 35 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime, & Policing Act 2014. Furthermore, officers have also taken the first step in enforcement action against premises in Mill Road that had been a centre for ASB and crime and it is highly possible that the police will seek a closure notice should any further incidents of crime or ASB occur.</p> <p>As of the 1st June, a Public Spaces Protection Order has been enforced on Petersfield Green, Mill Road Cemetery and the front garden of Ditchburn Place. This will be in place until 31st May, 2016 when it will be reviewed.</p> <p>This order has two conditions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not to consume alcohol or anything which the constable or PCSO reasonably believes to be alcohol. • To surrender anything in your possession which is or the Constable or PCSO reasonably believes to be alcohol or a container for alcohol. <p>Any person who breaches either of these conditions commits an offence, which can be enforced by the council or the police.</p>
Current Situation	Although early, indications around the Public Spaces Protection Order are very encouraging as this has only recently been put in place. It is therefore suggested we continue this priority for the next three months during the summer peak months, reporting back at the next meeting.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Colin Norden, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Speeding and anti-social cycling.	
Objective	Address road safety matters such as vehicle speeding and anti-social cycling.
Action Taken	Since adopting this as a priority a number of speed checks have been conducted by members of the East policing team as well as by members of the special constabulary which have shown some vehicles breaking the speed limit. A number of warnings and tickets have been given out to drivers.

	<p>There was some concern raised by members of the public that taxis were often speeding in Tenison Road. A number of taxis have been stopped for speeding and their details have been or are due to be sent to the licence enforcement officer at the council.</p> <p>Further to this a warning letter is due to go out to all taxi drivers in Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire regarding speeding along Tenison Road. This letter is co-signed by the police and both Councils' licencing officers.</p> <p>We have also arranged for a presentation on speed watch for local residents to enable them to monitor the speed of vehicles. We expect a speed watch scheme to be up and running shortly in the area.</p> <p>Officers and PCSOs have also given out a number of tickets to cyclists for a number of offences. There are a number of locations from which we have received complaints in the East and local officers have targeted these at peak times. This forms part of daily routines for all uniform officers at Parkside and other officers traveling to the city.</p>
Current Situation	We will continue to conduct speed checks in the area for the next six months to see if the situation improves. These will be in addition to the above speed watch checks. We will also, as stated, continue to maintain enforcement of cycle offences.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Colin Norden, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

3 PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES

- There has been an overall reduction in total recorded crime on the East area of 4.2%, or 64 fewer offences, by comparison to the previous reporting period. The greatest reductions have been seen both in Abbey and Romsey wards. Coleridge remains relatively stable, whilst Petersfield has seen an increase of 28 offences.

- ❑ Anti-social behaviour for the East area has seen a significant overall reduction of 25.7% or 197 fewer incidents by comparison to the preceding 6 month period. Of note is that this also represents a reduction of 16.6% or 114 fewer incidents against this same reporting period in 2013/14.
- ❑ There has been an overall reduction in dwelling burglary in the East area of 11.8% or 9 fewer offences by comparison to the preceding 6 month period. This is comparable to this same reporting period in 2013/14. Reductions were recorded for all wards except Petersfield which has an increase of 9 offences.
- ❑ There has been an overall reduction of 10.2% or 27 fewer violent crimes in the East area by comparison to the previous reporting period. Coleridge, Petersfield and Romsey wards have all seen a slight increase however, of note is that the Abbey ward has seen a reduction of 40% or 46 fewer offences.
- ❑ Non-dwelling burglary for the East area has seen an overall reduction of 29% or 18 fewer offences. The most significant reduction was in the Abbey ward where there were 20 fewer offences by comparison to the previous reporting period.
- ❑ Theft of vehicle in the East area remains low at 17 offences over a six month period.
- ❑ There has been an increase in theft from motor vehicle of 53% or 25 more offences. With reductions on both Romsey and Petersfield wards and Coleridge remaining stable the Abbey ward saw an increase of 22 offences.
- ❑ Cycle crime for the East area overall has seen an overall reduction of 17.4% or 65 fewer offences by comparison to the previous reporting period. This reduction is reflected across all three wards.
- ❑ Cambridge City police has drawn up a service level agreement with Neighbourhood Watch. Cambridge City Police is seeking to build on the already good relationship with members to increase scheme numbers even more. Anyone interested in finding out more should visit www.cambsnhw.org.uk.

- ❑ Cambridge City police has launched its own Twitter account: @CambridgeCops.
- ❑ The Safer Communities Team is lead on a project with the objective of addressing alcohol related violent crime in the East area. As part of the multi-agency approach, the team are working in collaboration with colleagues in the police, County Council and a number of other agencies, for instance, colleagues from the “We are Ditton Fields Project”. An action plan is being developed to look at the area in a holistic way.
- ❑ As mentioned in Section 2, in another multi-agency coordinated effort to reduce alcohol related crime, a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Petersfield Green, Ditchburn Place and Mill Road Cemetery was approved by Cambridge City Council. The PSPO prohibits the consumption of alcohol in the designated areas and has been in effect since the 1st June, 2015. Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) enable the council to impose conditions on public spaces thereby giving the local police extra powers to deal with the related problem as part of the new Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This was achieved through engagement, liaison and consultation with the various community stakeholders.
- ❑ In the same reporting period, Safer Communities consulted with various businesses trading on Mill Road on issues related to drug dealing and crime. The consultation was to identify any witnesses and to see what information was available in the community regarding the alleged crimes.

4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CURRENT CRIME & ASB INCIDENT LEVELS BY WARD

AREA			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
City East		Dec 14 – May 15	67	44	238	11	17	72	308	146	167	382	1452	571
		Dec 13 – May 14	68	49	205	8	7	60	233	148	131	419	1328	685
		Jun 14 – Nov 14	76	62	265	10	23	47	373	139	148	373	1516	768
WARDS	Abbey	Dec 14 – May 15	15	15	71	2	6	34	48	54	46	91	382	142
		Dec 13 – May 14	30	16	79	2	1	29	32	61	42	118	410	210
		Jun 14 – Nov 14	22	35	117	2	9	12	56	40	44	94	431	251
	Coleridge	Dec 14 – May 15	21	9	56	2	2	10	50	13	37	100	300	91
		Dec 13 – May 14	8	13	22	0	2	9	58	9	25	90	236	144
		Jun 14 – Nov 14	26	9	44	4	5	9	79	13	26	76	291	154
	Petersfield	Dec 14 – May 15	20	10	69	4	4	18	163	68	50	137	543	241
		Dec 13 – May 14	10	12	66	4	2	7	100	65	27	121	414	225
		Jun 14 – Nov 14	11	12	63	4	2	12	169	71	35	136	515	223
	Romsey	Dec 14 – May 15	11	10	42	3	5	10	47	11	34	54	227	97
		Dec 13 – May 14	20	8	38	2	2	15	43	13	37	90	268	106
		Jun 14 – Nov 14	17	6	41	0	7	14	69	15	43	67	279	140

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DATA

As agreed with the chairs and vice-chairs of the Area Committees, this data will not be covered in this report as it is already covered in the Environmental Data Reports.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Continue with the work against the supply of Class A drugs and the presence of persons linked to organised crime groups from the London area.
- ❑ Continue to target street drinking and alcohol-related ASB in the Petersfield and Mill Road areas.
- ❑ Continue to address road safety matters such as vehicle speeding and anti-social cycling.