

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 October 2015 to December 2015, compared to the previous like reporting period (July 2014 to September 2014) and the same reporting period in 2014* and;
- Information provided by the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team and the City Council's Safer Communities Team.

**In previous reports the crime and ASB data provided has captured the entire period between reports. In this case it would have meant reporting on and making comparisons to periods of 7 months.*

In order to assist the committee in reaching priority decisions by providing a more reflective and current data picture, the reporting and comparison period on this occasion has been reduced to three months.

2 CURRENT PRIORITIES

At the East Area Committee meeting of 02 July 2015, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- 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

The Neighbourhood Action Group, at its meeting in July 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	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.
Action Taken	<p>The East Team has continued to work with the City Council and housing partners to protect residents from being drawn into involvement with the supply of controlled drugs.</p> <p>Where residents have been identified as becoming involved in criminality and support has been declined, this has led to the eviction of those found to be supplying drugs from their properties or allowing them to be used for the supply of drugs.</p> <p>An example of this relates to an address in Budleigh Close which had become notorious locally for being linked with anti-social behaviour and the supply of controlled drugs.</p> <p>The Safer Communities team, with support from the Police and Housing, were successful in gaining an eviction order in September 2015. Due the tenant's vulnerabilities, the Safer Communities team were able to secure the occupant appropriate supported accommodation outside of the City. There have been no further complaints since the eviction took place.</p>

	<p>Operation Hexham Update (Cambridge City response to London drug dealers sitting in vulnerable people's addresses, full details of which can be found in the June 2015 report).</p> <p>Officers have prevented London dealers from setting up at addresses in the city by maintaining a strong relationship with local residents who have alerted us when they have suspected that London dealers are on route to their address or suspect that dealers have tried to move into a local address. A number of strategies/tactics have been put in place to prevent them taking over addresses and establishing a base.</p> <p>Officers have arrested London dealers in Cambridge with a recent example of this arising after Officers conducted a routine welfare check at an address in the Abbey ward. They found a male hiding in a bedroom with a large amount of cash and class A drugs. He was also wanted for a number of offences in London and by the courts.</p> <p>Operation Hexham continues to grow in terms of the number of addresses visited and a number of other forces have now visited Cambridge to report back to their home force with a view of replicating this operation.</p> <p>Officers are having regular contact with the Metropolitan Police Gangs Unit which is providing beneficial intelligence to both units.</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	The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is in place in Petersfield Green, Mill Road Cemetery and the gardens of Ditchburn Place.

Since the order was put in place by Cambridge City Council there has been a marked decrease in the number of reports of ASB in the above locations. Targeted patrols in the area have been conducted by both the East Area Problem Solving Team and the Street Life Officers, supported by reactive officers when needed.

The level of compliance with the PSPO is high and at this time only one person has been reported to the City Council's Safer Communities Section Team for breaching the order.

However, the PSPO has led to some displacement of the anti-social behaviour that it is targeting. With the colder weather, we have seen an increase in the number of reports of people drinking behind Parkside swimming pool. In response to this, patrols at the location have been increased and the use of dispersal power has been used when appropriate. There has been a joint Police and Safer Communities Section meeting to review the displacement and agree any further action.

The feedback we have received has been that the PSPO has been a positive measure which has given a number of areas along the length of Mill Road some respite from street drinking issues which they have suffered for a number of years.

A number of members of the public have made contact with Officers to report their concerns regarding one member of the street life community due to the continuing rapid decline of his health. Officers, together with other agencies, have maintained regular contact with the male. At this time, the male has refused help and support from all agencies and charities but we continue to check on his welfare.

The team are not aware of any complaints to the police about the manner that it has been enforced, as this was a concern before the order went live.

For the first time in Cambridge City Officers have also given out a formal warning letter in relation to premises under the new ASB legislation. This states that should any further incidents of ASB take place at the location, then the police would close down the location immediately and take the owner to court. The police would apply to the court the following morning for a 3 month closure order. This resulted in no further calls to the

	location.
Current Situation	It is recommended that this priority is continued as proactivity is having a clear impact on the number of complaints and an increase in public satisfaction.
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	<p>Officers have conducted a number of speed checks in the east area targeting the areas from which the most complaints are received. These checks have resulted in a number of outcomes including words of advice, tickets, speed awareness courses and court summons.</p> <p>A new speed awareness course has been launched in Cambridgeshire for 20 mph roads from 1st September 2015. Before this date we were unable to ticket for those between 21 mph to 31mph.</p> <p>On 26th October 2015 the 'Lights instead of tickets' (LIT) campaign was re-launched. This targets cyclists who are stopped without lights during the hours of darkness issuing them with a traffic offence report (a ticket). From this they are given an option to either purchase a set of lights or pay a £50 fine. Cyclists have seven days to purchase a set of lights and present the receipt at a main police station, where it is stamped and the fine/prosecution is voided.</p>
Current Situation	<p>We will continue to conduct speed checks in the area for the next three months to see if the situation improves. These will be in addition to the above speed watch checks.</p> <p>We will also, as stated, continue to maintain enforcement of cycle offences along with the LIT campaign.</p>
Lead Officer	Sergeant Colin Norden, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

3 PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES

Over the last three months the number of thefts from motor vehicles has increased across the city, with a large number of items stolen being power tools from builders' vehicles. Officers from the East Team have led the search for offenders and a number have been arrested and further offenders identified. Officers have also recovered a significant amount of stolen property linked to these crimes along with a number of vehicles used in connection with them using false number plates.

Officers conducted an operation after it was identified that stolen property was being advertised online. The result of this was the recovery of numerous stolen items, all from the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire areas. The property had been stolen from motor vehicles and houses. A male has been charged with these offences and will appear before Crown Court shortly.

There has been an increase in the number of reports of thefts of charity boxes in parts of the city over the last three months. These offences have been conducted by a number of offenders who have been identified by local Officers and prosecuted.

Update from the Safer Communities Section Team: The Safer Communities Team have developed and delivered a programme of workshops discussing anti-social behaviour and healthy relationships at Coleridge Community School and St Bede's school for pupils in years 9, 10 and 11, which were very well received. These schools have pupils from the East area. The team held street surgeries at Barnwell Road Shops, Ditchburn Place and Riverside and attended community days in St Bedes, Ditton Fields and a Seniors Fair at the Cambridge United Football Stadium. The Team also participated in another week of Safety Zone sessions for primary school children from across the City talking to them about ASB, what they think it is, what constitutes ASB, the consequences of being involved in it and being a victim of it.

The Team have been involved in cases of anti-social behaviour across the East area and actions have been taken to address this: For example, 2 undertakings have been signed, 3 Notices of Seeking Possession have been issued and mediation has been undertaken by the Team which has been very successful. The team also secured possession of a property due to ongoing serious ASB issues. A Community Protection warning was given to a boat owner on Riverside where there were associated ASB issues.

The Safer Communities Team have been liaising closely with the Police and Homelessness agencies to tackle problematic rough sleeping in various

locations, including an area to the rear of Parkside Pool, East Rd/St Matthews Street garage blocks and the disused churchyard on Newmarket Rd. These areas have been referred to the City Council's multi-agency task and target meeting for regular action planning and monitoring and complainants are being updated on a regular basis.

Three problematic beggars have been issued with Community Protection warnings. As a result two have a less visible street presence. The third continues to be problematic and will be receiving a Community Protection Notice. Various reports have been received about a number of areas where vulnerable residents are being taken advantage of by visitors. The Safer Communities Team is currently working with the Police and other agencies to ensure that tenants remain safe and any problematic visitors are dealt with.

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	Oct 15 – Dec 15	36	38	119	10	10	37	182	49	78	172	731	315
		Jul 15 – Sep 15	54	41	126	4	7	37	150	56	66	186	727	287
		Oct 14 – Dec 14	46	13	128	6	8	35	203	75	81	193	788	336
WARDS	Abbey	Oct 15 – Dec 15	10	9	47	5	5	17	35	19	31	48	226	97
		Jul 15 – Sep 15	16	10	42	1	2	13	17	16	18	47	182	80
		Oct 14 – Dec 14	12	6	58	1	0	15	33	36	25	42	228	101
	Coleridge	Oct 15 – Dec 15	9	13	21	2	4	5	24	6	9	49	142	45
		Jul 15 – Sep 15	4	10	35	0	1	9	22	3	15	31	130	54
		Oct 14 – Dec 14	15	0	19	2	2	3	44	1	17	36	139	62
	Petersfield	Oct 15 – Dec 15	6	9	36	2	0	8	103	18	23	47	252	111
		Jul 15 – Sep 15	22	13	38	3	0	7	86	27	22	69	287	121
		Oct 14 – Dec 14	9	3	34	3	1	12	100	26	21	81	290	106
	Romsey	Oct 15 – Dec 15	11	7	15	1	1	7	20	6	15	28	111	62
		Jul 15 – Sep 15	12	8	11	0	4	8	25	10	11	39	128	32
		Oct 14 – Dec 14	10	4	17	0	5	5	26	12	18	34	131	67

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to target the supply of controlled drugs
2. Continue to target street-based ASB in and around Mill Road