

Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City South Neighbourhood

April 2018



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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 on-going 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 the six months from September 2017 to February 2018, compared to the previous six months (March 2017 to August 2017) and the same six months last year (September 2016 to February 2017); and
- Information provided by the Safer Neighbourhood Policing team and the City Council's Safer Communities team.

2 CURRENT PRIORITIES

At the South Area Committee meeting of 02 October 2017, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- Combatting ‘county lines’ issues;
- Burglary patrols; and
- Operation Mantis.

The Neighbourhood Action Group assigned the actions to be taken and the lead officers for each of the priorities. The tables below summarise the action taken and the current situation.

Combatting ‘county lines’ issues	
Objective	Tacking organised crime gangs operating in the South area using the “County lines” model
Action Taken	County lines disruption activity continues to be the primary focus of the Prevention teams. They use a combination of tactics, including disruption visits to addresses associated with this activity and Misuse of Drugs Act search warrants at addresses identified as persistently housing out of area drug dealers. Intelligence about suspected drugs supply is reviewed daily by the on duty Prevention Sergeant and longer term activity is reviewed regularly in collaboration with the Partnership Team leads. We have executed drugs warrants across the South area, including addresses in Hanover Court, Leete Road, Cherry Hinton Road and Colville Road, This has resulted in the seizure of several thousand pounds worth of criminal property in the form of drugs and cash as well as several arrests and pending prosecutions.
Current Situation	Activity targeting County lines criminal gangs falls into the Cambridgeshire Force Priority on tacking child abuse and exploitation. One of the complexities of our drug supply issues is the use of young people to move drugs from one County to another. The young people involved in this type of criminality need to be treated in a balanced way, understanding that ‘yes’ they are involved in serious criminality but recognising that they have often been groomed for or exploited to undertake this role.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

Burglary patrols	
Objective	To conduct high visibility reassurance patrols in known burglary dwelling hotspots.
Action Taken	Leading up to Christmas, the entire County experienced a significant rise in burglaries. Trumpington and Queen Edith's in particular appeared to be the target for this increased activity. This sudden rise in offending caused us to place significantly more resources into preventing further burglaries and catching those responsible. Local PCSOs, police officers and detectives from Serious Crime Teams and the Burglary Team were utilised to ensure that every viable opportunity to identify and catch these individuals was exploited. As a result, we have secured charges against two sets of individuals: first, being a group of local individuals; second, we are also seeing a large regional burglary operation draw to a close, the result of which is an organised crime gang, operating across the region, charged and remanded to court. Local Community Teams were focused on: reassuring victims about ongoing police activity; addressing issues around the repeat targeting of vulnerable premises; assisting at community events, providing information where it didn't risk compromising ongoing operations; and advice about the reasonable steps homeowners could take to protect their premises and property.
Current Situation	The two main crime series that caused the significant rise have been addressed. Burglary remains one of the Cambridgeshire Force Priorities. The Local Policing Review will allow Partnership officers to focus on long term solutions to reducing offending by spotting the early signs of criminal offending and diverting people away from this dependency on crime.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

Operation Mantis	
Objective	To conduct welfare visits on persons believed to be involved in prostitution, in a bid to safeguard any vulnerable individuals.
Action Taken	Operation Mantis was launched just over two years ago to safeguard people who may be coerced or controlled as sex workers. Piloted in Cambridge, this was then adopted Force-wide and more recently has been assessed and evaluated by the Home Office as an example of good practice to be promoted and passed on to other Police Forces across the country. In this reporting period, 18 addresses have been visited and 36 individuals spoken with. The police officers

	tasked with these visits follow a strict protocol, focusing on ensuring the safety of the individuals they engage with and allowing them to collect as much information and evidence as possible to safeguard those individuals against exploitation. Five of the 18 visits have resulted in follow up enquiries.
Current Situation	The activity directed through Operation Mantis falls into the Force Priority on modern day slavery, seeking to identify and assist individuals who have been trafficked, tricked or coerced into this sort of activity against their will or taking advantage of a difficult set of circumstances in which they find themselves.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

3 PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Force Priorities

We hope this brief update around our force priorities can help give you a clearer picture of what your local team are doing, often out of sight, to help keep your ward safe.

Domestic abuse

Violence in the home remains one of the Constabularies priorities. We know on average a victim will have suffered some kind of abuse 35 times before calling the police. For this reason we must attend quickly and do all that we can to investigate what has happened today and perhaps over many years. Someone in your ward will call 999 every day to report domestic abuse, and in fact the police in Cambridge will deal with around seven cases of domestic abuse every day. On average five arrests are made each day in Cambridge City for domestic abuse.

Dealing with domestic abuse requires local officers to have time to build trust with victims, much of this work is done out of the sight of the general public. A great deal of time is also spent investigating and preparing our investigations for a court to hear. Our prosecution rate is improving, and this is only possible if we continue to prioritise our time and resources to dealing with it.

Child abuse and exploitation

In some of our local updates we will talk about work being undertaken to tackle drugs. We are tackling drugs at the source: the dealers. Again this is work undertaken out of sight and is quite different from dealing with street level drug deals. One of the complexities of our drug supply issues is the use of young people to move drugs from one County to another. The young people involved in this type of criminality need to be treated in a balanced

way, understanding that 'yes' they are involved in serious criminality but recognising that they have often been groomed for or exploited to undertake this role.

Child exploitation is now better understood in our society; horrific accounts arising from Rotherham focus our attention on the importance of working with other agencies to protect our children. One of the core functions of the South team is to be part of the local multi agency groups who work together around specific people, places and families to ensure they are safe. Rather than focus in this update on head line convictions, we would like to explain a little about the work that is undertaken by the local team to prevent these headlines, more work which is undertaken away from the front line but is very much protecting your ward.

Our prevention team is regularly involved in proactive operations, acting on intelligence which is fed to us from you, the public, and from our multi agency partners. The use of child abduction warning notices is helping us target those adults who open their homes to young people, facilitating everything from truanting to the most serious of offences. Our work with the child sexual exploitation team also requires us to act to intervene with those starting to build unhealthy or inappropriate relationships with young people. This is work that we cannot talk about publically, but is ongoing every day.

Burglary

History shows us that people burgle for a number of reasons, and the motivation can be wide ranging including drugs addiction, alcohol abuse, dysfunctional upbringing and family units and poverty; none of which excuse the criminal behavior, but show us there is a way to work long term to reduce offending.

Your local team are key to spotting these early signs and helping divert people away from this dependency on crime. We work to support young people with offending siblings, frequent and regular offenders, those with "dual diagnoses" (with multiple diagnosed issues such as alcohol and mental health issues), and our priority offenders who might not choose to work with support services.

When it is needed, we will mobilise a significant number of officers to be visible and out on the front line to crack down on burglary. This update has been around a theme, the work of your local officers that goes on behind closed doors. The work of reducing and preventing burglary is no different, and the long terms reductions are often happening out of sight.

Emerging areas of concern which have been highlighted to the local neighbourhood officers are:

1) Anti-social behaviour on the Guided Busway.

There have been a couple of incidents of members of the public using the Busway being threatened or intimidated, and on two occasions, assaulted by other persons either using or loitering on the Busway.

2) Street begging on Hills Road and between Union Road and Coronation Street.

We have received several reports about anti-social behaviour and aggressive street begging, along with the other problems, which surround this issue in the area between Hills Road, Coronation Street and Union Road.

Cambridge City Council

Safer Communities' Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Officers continue to take proactive action in tackling serious cases of ASB in the South, including working in partnership with other housing providers and the police neighbourhood teams.

We continue to use the Neighbourhood Resolution Panel Scheme as a way of finding resolution between parties involved in a dispute: we currently have one case going through the Scheme in the South.

We are currently dealing with reports of ASB associated with the street life community in the Hills Road area, which is also having an impact on Hanover Court and the surrounding area. Individuals are being offered support to move away from a street-based lifestyle, however there are a number of individuals unwilling to engage and enforcement action is being pursued. Safer Communities is working closely with the Public Realm Enforcement Officer, police and support agencies in order to deal with the issues and have met with businesses and residents to take statements. Residents and businesses are being encouraged to report any drug related activity on 101 or via the online reporting form on the Police website. They can also report non-criminal activity or general concerns to Safer Communities on 01223 457950.

We continue to promote Cambridge Street Aid as the best way to help individuals who may be rough sleeping or begging. To date, Cambridge Street Aid has raised over £27,000 in donations, 100% of which is available as grants to individuals who have a current or recent history of rough sleeping or street homelessness and are trying to move away from a street-based existence. To date, more than 80 individuals have benefitted from this scheme.

In October 2017, Safe Communities introduced a new way in which reports of ASB are handled by the Council. All reports are now assessed by Safer Communities and assigned to a named officer within the Council. We hope that this will offer a more streamlined and accountable service to customers.

CB1 Development

Following a stakeholder workshop in July 2017, residents made it clear that their priorities for action at CB1 were communication, community cohesion and ASB (see below for further details). A steering group (comprising of key stakeholders) has been actively working to make sure that these priorities are being progressed.

Communication: This has been focused on ensuring residents across the CB1 development area know what is going on and who to contact when there is an issue, whether this is on the estate or within the block they live in. As a result, a website has been developed (<http://cb1community.org.uk>). The website features key management contact information via an interactive map of the area, and a section for reporting incidents to the relevant management organisations. There is also the ability to sign up to updates from the website on upcoming resident meetings, events and estate news. The website was launched in February 2018 at an event attended by 30 local people and organisations, and continues to grow in use and popularity.

Community Cohesion: This area of work has focused on talking to residents to see how they want to be involved in CB1 matters. Residents were keen to know “who’s who”, future plans for Mill Park and also to look at ways to engage the local community in events and forums that creates opportunities for residents and students to unite, to increase mutual understanding, trust and communication. There was an initial residents meeting in February 2018 attended by 21 local residents and another very constructive meeting was held on 28 March 2018.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB): A CB1 focus group (comprising all stakeholder partners) has focussed on developing pages for the website to include a shared definition of what is ASB and contact details of who to report incidents of ASB to. The website pages also include the various building management contact details. These pages are fairly comprehensive and it is hoped that use of these pages as a way of reporting ASB will help capture issues as and when they arise and will highlight how reports are being progressed. Future work for this focus group will include working with residents in developing a Charter on what is and is not acceptable behaviour, and setting up of a residents’ association. The focus group will also look at citywide priorities and work trends that impact or cross over at the CB1 development (e.g. street life issues). The focus group intends to meet biannually.

4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CURRENT CRIME & ASB INCIDENT LEVELS BY WARD

			Dwelling Burglary	Other Burglary	Violent Crime / *with injury	Robbery	Theft of Vehicle	Theft from Vehicle	Cycle Theft	Theft from Shop	Criminal Damage	Other Crime	TOTAL CRIME	TOTAL ASB
AREA	City South	Sep 17 – Feb 18	136	47	259 / *50	13	14	122	192	25	126	311	1,245	296
		Mar 17 – Aug 17	84	70	287 / *59	11	15	70	198	30	101	310	1,176	409
		Sep 16 – Feb 17	63	68	227 / *55	7	13	82	136	19	92	259	966	401
WARDS	Cherry Hinton	Sep 17 – Feb 18	38	7	73 / *21	6	4	17	15	10	26	55	251	61
		Mar 17 – Aug 17	24	7	84 / *19	2	4	12	23	7	31	63	257	87
		Sep 16 – Feb 17	26	18	90 / *21	2	2	18	14	5	29	55	259	109
	Queen Edith's	Sep 17 – Feb 18	45	16	72 / *12	2	3	24	41	0	24	66	293	58
		Mar 17 – Aug 17	31	20	75 / *18	1	3	22	41	0	31	88	312	87
		Sep 16 – Feb 17	24	22	47 / *12	0	2	20	20	0	18	76	229	73
	Trumpington	Sep 17 – Feb 18	53	24	114 / *17	5	7	81	136	15	76	190	701	177
		Mar 17 – Aug 17	29	43	128 / *32	8	8	36	134	23	39	159	607	235
		Sep 16 – Feb 17	13	28	90 / *22	5	9	44	102	14	45	128	478	219

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

We seek views from this committee on those local issues that the police and partner agencies can work together to action and report on at the next committee meeting.