

Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City South 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 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 five months from March 2018 to July 2018, compared to the previous five months (October 2017 to February 2018) and the same six months last year (March 2017 to July 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 23 April 2018, the committee recommended adopting the following priorities:

- ASB on Guided Bus Way;
- Street begging – Hills Road;
- Mill Park – Open Space; and
- Cherry Hinton Lakes – Trespass and dangerous behaviour in hot weather

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.

ASB on Guided Bus Way	
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take action to tackle an increase in violent crime on the Guided Bus Way. 2. Review crime and disorder on the Bus Way and provide a report on long term trends and problem-solving opportunities.
Action Taken	<p>The community action team were commissioned with “immediate” and “long term” problem solving, as follows:</p> <p>Immediate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Initial analysis of the area indicated that two groups were acting independently of each other, both using violence on persons using the Bus Way on foot or on cycles. □ One group was acting exclusively on the Guided Bus Way, working on bikes in a “pack” to target victims. Their motivation was unknown, but they were taking high risks for very low financial rewards. □ The second group were profiled independently from the first with a separate modus operandi. □ Patrols were already in place prior to the priority setting and remained targeted at areas known to be used by both groups. □ Publicity around patrol activity was increased, balanced with a continued need to take discrete and covert action to catch and deter offending. □ A number of persons who had made comment about being victim to crime in the area (on social media) were contacted and asked to provide more information. This had limited results. □ Arrests for a group of offences had been made prior to the priority setting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Two persons have been charged with common assault: one sentenced to a 6 month drugs testing order on conviction. ❑ One person is currently still under investigation for a series of robberies which include incidents on the Bus Way. <p>Long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ An environment visual audit has been completed and a series of recommendation have been taken forward for work with Cambridgeshire County Council to improve safety along the bus route. ❑ Recommendations include lighting, removal of graffiti, CCTV and design of some open spaces.
<p>Current Situation</p>	<p>Analysis was requested to establish the type and quantity of crimes and incidents that have been reported on the Guided Bus Way to the South of Cambridge City. Crime reports, incidents and Stop&Search records were analysed for the period 1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018 for two locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Route 1: Cambridge Railway Station and Trumpington Park and Ride ❑ Route 2: Trumpington Community College and Addenbrooke's Hospital. <p>Both data extractions were given a 40m buffer zone either side of the bus lane to include incidents that may have occurred close to the routes. A total of 361 crimes and incidents were recorded. These reports can be separated to 145 crimes and 216 incidents. The largest number of offences was for theft of pedal cycle: 78 crimes recorded (54%). There have been 23 (16%) crimes recorded on Route 1 of the Bus Way which include assaults, public order and robbery offences. The highest number of crime types within this group was for common assault (7.5%) and ABH (6.4%). There were 3 robberies reported (2%).</p> <p>In the twelve month period requested there were multiple crime types reported but analysis reveals two predominant crime series: cycle theft and violence offences. Reports were concentrated around the Cambridge Railway Station and the immediate area (267 offences) followed by Trumpington Park & Ride (46 offences). Analysis indicated that 12 (3%) of all crimes and incidents list young male suspects who are known to associate together: this group are linked to 2 of the 3 robberies reported and 2 assaults. Research also indicates that a further 16 (5%) of all crimes and incidents display a similar modus operandi and are linked to a wider series of crime.</p>

	<p>Current hypothesis and recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Robbery and violent crimes have reduced owing to the targeting of a group of suspects. □ The environment/location remains unchanged. The location of the historical incidents is isolated, with no CCTV coverage. After 9pm, there are no buses running; as such there is no natural surveillance of the areas. Owing to this, the area will remain an attractive place to commit crime. □ Crime and disorder levels a few metres off the Bus Way are at “normal” levels, consistent with the area in general, which tend to indicate that the cause of the problems is primarily around design specific to the Bus Way. □ Longer term environmental changes will need to support and then overtake Police patrols as the primary and sustainable reduction method.
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (provided by Inspector Paul Rogerson)

Street begging – Hills Road	
Objective	Continue to tackle street begging in partnership with the City Council’s Safer Communities team.
Action Taken	<p>Immediate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Active patrols of the area, giving a greater police presence to reassure members of the public and to provide a good customer service. □ Stop checks to establish which individuals were causing persistent issues in the area and to capture any intelligence information. □ Interjection and prosecution, if required, for dealing with ASB and criminality. □ Liaising with the local community to find out what the issues are and identifying what positive supportive schemes are available to resolve the issues. □ Encouraging people to report any concerns relating to begging and vagrancy. <p>Long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The City Council applied for and received a civil injunction on this area, targeting six individuals from the street life community who had been causing persistent issues in the area, despite being regularly moved on and warned about their behaviour. The injunction commenced on 16 May 2018 and is valid until 16 May 2020. This was personally delivered, by police officers, to the named individuals in June and emailed to Officers and Operation Connect

	partners for awareness. All individuals have been given a map to show them the areas they are not allowed to be in. Further detail on the injunction can be found in the City Council update in Section 3 below.
Current Situation	Police data has shown an increase in the number of reports for begging in the area, particular around April 2018. This would also correlate to our increased presence in the area and encouraging people to report incidents to the police. Overall, calls for service have dropped since the serving of the injunctions; however July did see a slight rise. This would be in part due to the good weather and an influx of beggars travelling into Cambridge to target our flourishing tourist industry. Members of the local community have verbally expressed a positive response to the current situation in the local area and feel things have improved.
Lead Officers	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Mill Park – Open Space	
Objective	Prevent ASB and disorder
Action Taken	<p>Immediate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Active patrols of the area, giving a greater police presence and moving people on, where appropriate. □ Liaising with local communities to find out if problems in the area are increasing or decreasing. <p>Long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Patrol area; identify offences to local authority for eviction purposes, if deemed necessary. □ Gather intelligence information to safeguard those that are vulnerable; prevent further offences and attack criminality □ Encourage the local community to keep reporting any issues to the police, where applicable.
Current Situation	<p>There are three specific issues in the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Youth-related ASB consistent with other green/open spaces in the city. □ Drug-related presence, dealing and use of cannabis and Class A drugs. □ Use of the open spaces by street life community or homeless people. <p>Active patrols and moving people on have helped displace some of the above issues. Officers report that the times and sections of the areas used are not consistent. Whilst perception from residents is that unwanted activity is all the time, our patrols have found that there are limited consistent times to be</p>

	<p>present and disrupt activity, thus affective patrol has been limited.</p> <p>Work will continue to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ encourage reporting which is still insufficient to inform and predictive patrol model; □ encourage use of online intelligence reporting; □ increase the amount of visible presence to deter and gather intelligence; □ build some further opportunities to meet with the public at a local surgery or drop in, to gain more confidence and community intelligence; and □ work with other police teams to inform other work being targeted against county line and local drug dealers. <p>Longer term work will continue with developers and the City Council's Safer Communities team to design out crime and look at how the space is being used for corrupted purposes.</p>
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Cherry Hinton Lakes – Trespass and dangerous behaviour in hot weather	
Objective	Work with land owners to ensure public safety.
Action Taken	<p>Cherry Hinton Lakes are owned jointly by property developer, Andersons (managed by Carter Jonas) and Peterhouse College; they are not open to members of the public. They are the remnants of historical cement quarries, which are exceptionally deep: the water is very cold and there are no safe entrances or exits to the water. There is also a lot of old machinery and debris under the water, therefore it is extremely dangerous. Although there are ten feet high fences placed around the lakes, people still find a way to get in to go swimming (the main entrance for the trespassing appears to be at the end of Snakey Path, accessed by Daws Lane in Cherry Hinton). There have been reports of school children smoking cannabis and drinking alcohol; a dangerous combination if swimming took place.</p> <p>The police teams have continued to feedback health and safety concerns and security advice to the land owners.</p>
Current Situation	With the increase in hot weather, there has been a high level of trespassing on to the site. The last weekend of June saw significant numbers of reports to the owners regarding trespassing. Information from local residents has suggested well over 100 people trespassed on one Friday night alone.

	<p>The owners have looked to secure all the fencing and boundaries to deal with the issue; however this is not stopping access to their land.</p> <p>Periodic police presence has continued, but this report again underlines responsibilities of land owners to secure their sites. It is our recommendation that the area committee invite representatives of the land owners to the next committee meeting.</p>
Lead Officer	Sergeant Jim Stevenson, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

3 PRO-ACTIVE WORK & EMERGING ISSUES

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County drug line disruption in Cambridge continues. More recently, police tactics to close in on so-called “cuckooed” addresses (addresses which are taken over by dealers) have been successful to the point where we believe this modus operandi is no longer being used regularly. Dealers are thus favouring street based dealing, so we have seen an increase in “visibility” with this method of bringing drugs into our community. Our intelligence work with surrounding forces and the Metropolitan Police remains key.

Patrols to tackle the most serious ASB hotspots are outlined about in the Guided Bus Way report. There are no other persistent hotspots which we have defined as serious, but seek the committee’s feedback as part of this engagement process.

For the next quarter, the usual patrol and preventative work will be put in place to try and keep Halloween and Bonfire Night as safe as possible.

Some recent serious incidents in the city remind us of the need for vigilance against knife crime. Operation Sceptre (the annual knife amnesty) will run between 18 and 24 September. There are no specific issues we believe the area committee need to consider, other than their support for this operation. Through our high harm nominals management process the local team are working with people who we are concerned about being involved in knife crime.

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Hills Road Injunction

Officers from the Safer Communities team, with the support of the police and partner agencies, pursued civil enforcement action against individuals

involved in serious nuisance and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the Hills Road and surrounding area. Officers liaised with residents and businesses in the area to gather information about the issues of concern. Complaints included aggressive or persistent begging, rough sleeping, urinating and defecating in areas used by the public, drug dealing, drug use and drug paraphernalia being discarded in public and private areas. Where we received complaints of rough sleeping, it was usually linked to other ASB. Six individuals were identified as being the most problematic and involved in ASB on a daily basis.

On 16 May 2018, as a result of the evidence provided by the community, the City Council secured civil injunctions against six named individuals, excluding them from the area for two years. The terms of the injunction prevent them from being in the area and surrounding streets. The City Council also secured possession of Hanover and Princess Court garages, due to reports of the same individuals and persons unknown using the garages for rough sleeping and drug related activity. The residents and businesses were in support of the action taken due to the ongoing nature of the ASB and the impact it was having.

Of the six individuals, two had their own secure accommodation, two were in hostel accommodation and two were not accepting the options available to them. All six individuals were offered a considerable amount of support so they did not have to beg or sleep rough. All were linked in with a support agency or worker but refusing to engage. Since the injunction, the Safer Communities team has not received any reports of further issues in that area, although they are continuing to monitor the situation through partnership working with the police and other agencies.

CB1 Development

Meetings have continued between stakeholders and residents at CB1. The CB1 website has proved to be a very proactive source for highlighting upcoming events. Cambridge BID showed the BBC coverage of Wimbledon outside in the space in between One Station Square and The Tamburlaine Hotel from 2 July for two weeks. A large screen showed all of the BBC coverage and highlight programs every day from 12noon to 8pm. Other events are publicised on the website.

CB1's Mill Park re opened on 13 August 2018: this was highly publicised on the CB1 website. The park has been well received and all is looking well with no reported issues. We will continue to monitor the park, working together with the police and stakeholder partners. In September, the CB1 ASB Focus Group will be analysing the ASB data compiled over the summer months of June to August. The Focus Group will also look at City-wide priorities and work trends, which may impact on the CB1 Development, for example, street life issues.

Residents discussed Community Engagement in CB1 and this has now been addressed formally with the appointment of a Community Engagement and Project Coordinator. Their key role will be to engage with local stakeholders to gain an understanding of CB1 and to work with all local stakeholders to improve the local area.

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.