

Neighbourhood Profile Update Cambridge City North Neighbourhood



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CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION	2
	Aim	2
	Methodology	2
2.	PREVIOUS PRIORITIES & ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY	3
	Previous Priorities	3
	Engagement Activity	6
3.	EMERGING ISSUES	6
4.	RECOMMENDATIONS	12
5.	CURRENT CRIME AND INCIDENT LEVELS	13

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:

- Crime and Incident data, from January 11 – April 11 and as a comparison data from January 10 – April 10 and September 10 – December 10
- Information from the Neighbourhood Policing teams, April/May 2011.

2. Previous Priorities & Engagement Activity

Previous Priorities

At the neighbourhood panel meeting on 27th January 2011 the following issues were adopted as priorities. The tables below summarise action taken and the current situation regarding the priorities that were set:

Objective	Sex working and associated Anti-Social Behaviour, Histon Road.
Action Taken	<p>This priority was carried over from the last reporting period.</p> <p>A large part of the publicly-visible problem was two women with drink and drug issues. They were attending Histon Road drunk and were loud and aggressive to members of the public and each other. They were clearly visible, not only to residents, but anyone travelling through the area. Initially, the aforementioned, and a group of around four other girls, were living at the hostel on the corner of Victoria Road and Histon Road. The police worked closely with management of the hostel to ensure this was addressed. This has resulted in most of them being moved on to more suitable accommodation or engaged concerning dangers to their tenancies of continued disorderly behaviour. The multi-agency Sex Workers Advisory Network (SWAN) has also assisted in helping move these girls away and supported them with their problems.</p> <p>At the time of the last meeting, there was a series of residential burglaries, occurring in the streets adjacent to Histon Road, with a number of suspects identified as in casual relationships with some of the girls. The burglary series resulted in the arrest and charge of individuals several weeks ago.</p> <p>In terms of environmental changes, an area in Rackham Close - attractive to street sex workers and punters due to its discrete location - has now been fenced off and new flats now overlook the area.</p> <p>Basic policing - moving on, arrests and stop searches where appropriate - have been our most effective tool to resolve this</p>

	and will continue as part of routine patrols in the area.
Current Situation	The frequency of sightings of sex workers in the road has declined markedly with twenty-five incidents of general anti-social behaviour reported. Although two to three girls still "work" the area on occasion, the problem is greatly reduced. A couple of the original group, seem to have genuinely made positive progress in terms of some of the underlying causes of their behaviour and are moving away from this lifestyle with the assistance of SWAN and drug services. At two recent residents meetings no questions were raised about the problem. One of these - the "Triangle" meeting - specifically looks at perceived problems with the adjacent hostel and community feedback from some twenty or so attendees was overwhelmingly positive.
Continue or Discharge?	Monitor as part of our everyday business, but discharge as a formal priority.

Objective	Anti-Social Behaviour and Street Drinking in the area of Histon Road, Victoria Road and Gilbert Road
Action Taken	<p>This priority was closely aligned to the above but concentrated on a group of rowdy street-drinkers frequenting the area in question.</p> <p>Again, Police worked closely with Riverside English Churches Housing Group staff. Their hostel - 222 Victoria Rd - is home to a fair proportion of the local street drinking community. Measures taken have ranged from changing the nature of support given to drinkers in house and stronger use of enforcing tenancy conditions, to getting a dustbin placed at the bus stop outside the hostel doors to ensure that minor environmental changes can contribute.</p> <p>Police patrols also identified and engaged a groups of local youths, moving through the Darwin Drive and Akeman Street area on occasions, who were also involved in lower level nuisance and disorder to the consternation of residents. Although no offences were revealed, members of the group and parents have been subsequently contacted.</p>
Current Situation	During the period thirty eight anti-social incidents were recorded by Police, with sixteen of those in the area relating

	to reports of street drinking; a reduction from the previous period. From Police patrol and the deployment of officers in response to these calls, three arrests were made.
Continue or Discharge?	Discharge - no evidence of a significant issue at this time.

Objective	Problem Parking and associated Anti-Social Behaviour outside The Shirley School
Action Taken	<p>It is accepted by all that the nature and layout of the school's current environs is insufficient to support significant parent parking. The problem is expected to be alleviated next year with the re-siting of the school in Nuffield Road, better suited to serve the needs of a growing student base.</p> <p>Chesterton's local officers have closely monitored the situation, regularly attending morning and afternoon periods and documenting issues - potential and otherwise. In total 27 dedicated patrols at key times have been undertaken so far this year.</p> <p>The school has been actively working with local officers and it is pleasing to report that there have been no apparent flashpoints of the type reported by the local media when this priority was initially agreed.</p> <p>It remains proportionate for Police patrols to engage parents and educate on the current issues rather than take immediate enforcement action. The volume of patrols and regular engagement with parents and carers has promoted the joint message from Police and The Shirley School management team of the need for respect and consideration for other parents, pupils and the immediate community.</p>
Current Situation	No major issues to report.
Continue or Discharge?	The recommendation is that this remains for the rest of the academic year.

Engagement Activity

Police surgeries continue to operate on a monthly basis across the City. Residents of North City should visit the Constabulary website www.cambs.police.uk and follow the "My Neighbourhood" link or call **0345 446 456 4** and ask to speak to the local team for details of forthcoming events.

3. Emerging Issues

Neighbourhood trends

Total crime in City North has decreased with 961 offences reported over this four month period compared to 1099 offences in the previous period. Comparatively, there were 971 offences reported in the same period last year.

There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour (ASB) incident levels in City North with 709 incidents reported over this 4 month period compared with 616 in the previous period ASB levels are also higher than recorded for the same period last year (667 incidents).

In the wards of the North area there have been 17 wheelie bin fires in 2010/2011 of which eight were deliberate and 4 unknown but suspected to be arson. The proximity to buildings and the numbers of improperly managed bins are an increasing serious fire risk concern. Wheelie bin fires develop very quickly (in a matter of seconds) releasing copious amounts of smoke containing CO, CO₂ and cyanide gases.

Recent events in and around Buchan Street threatened life with Police and Fire working together to identify, charge and remand a male adult offender residing in the North of the City with three offences of arson.

West Chesterton

- Offence levels in West Chesterton have decreased to 225 offences reported from 265 the previous period. However, offence levels have remained stable compared to the 224 offences reported in the same period last year.
- Dwelling burglary offences have increased slightly compared to the previous period (33 offences vs. 29 offences) and compared to the same period last year (24 offences). Most of the offences in this period occurred during the daytime and a variety of MO's were seen. Three

separate offenders were arrested and charged with seven of the burglaries in this month.

- Violent crime offences have decreased compared to the previous period (30 offences vs. 44 offences) but remained stable compared to the same period last year (29 offences). In three of the offences victims had eggs thrown at them by unknown offenders; in two of the offences the offenders threw the eggs from a moving vehicle. In nine of the offences an offender was arrested and charged.
- Theft from vehicle offences have decreased from 18 offences in the previous period to 12 offences in this period. Eight of the offences occurred overnight and items stolen included wheels, satellite navigation systems and laptops.
- There were 42 cycle theft offences in this period compared to 47 offences in the previous period and 54 offences in the same period last year. Similar to the previous period, the majority of the offences are clustered in the vicinity of Chesterton Road.
- Theft from shop offences have remained stable compared to the previous period (17 offences vs. 18 offences) but doubled compared to the same period last year (8 offences). The most common locations for theft from shop offences were Co-op on Chesterton Road (5) and Co-op on Milton Road (7). An offender was arrested and charged in four of these offences.
- Criminal damage offences have decreased slightly from 62 offences in the previous period to 58 in the current period and have also decreased in comparison to the previous year (39 offences). There were eight offences of criminal damage to vehicles on Metcalfe Road over a period of 10 days. All of the offences occurred overnight and in each offence the vehicles wing mirrors had been snapped off.
- ASB levels have increased slightly from 132 incidents in the previous period to 137 incidents in this period. This is an increase compared to the same period last year when there were 121 incidents. Chesterton Road is a hotspot for ASB with 21 incidents, but there didn't appear to be any trends in the incidents. There were eight calls from neighbouring addresses on Greens Road concerning an ongoing neighbour dispute over noise.
- Between January and March 2011 there were 12 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 10 during the same period the previous year. Three vehicles were also impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax and 2 were subsequently destroyed following non-payment of the DVLA fine. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between January and March 2011 there were 14 reports of fly tipping in the ward, compared with 21 during the same period the previous year. 2 reports related to fly tipping on private land and there was no fly tipping

found on one site following inspection. There was sufficient evidence to issue 3 formal warning letters to domestic offenders. Milton Road (5) and Chesterton Road (3) were the hotspots during the current reporting period, compared with Chesterton Road (5) and Victoria Road (3) during the same period the previous year.

- Between January and March 2011, 19 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 38 during the same period the previous year. Chesterton Road (5), Manhattan Drive and Humberstone Road (both with 3) were the hotspots during the current reporting period, compared with Beaulands Close (18) and Chesterton Road (13) during the same period the previous year.
- Between January and March 2011, 11 needles were removed following a clean up along the River Cam, although these needle finds extended beyond the West Chesterton ward. 18 needles were removed from the ward during the same period the previous year, which included 10 from Manhattan Drive and 8 from Chesterton Road.

East Chesterton

- A decrease has been seen in the total number of offences reported in this four-month period compared to the previous period (222 offences vs. 254 offences) and compared to the same period last year (278 offences).
- There were 23 dwelling burglaries in this period compared to 40 offences in the previous period and 23 offences in the same period last year. There was a spate of five offences over a two-day period in January for which an offender has been arrested and charged.
- There were 67 violent crime offences in this period compared to 63 offences in the previous period and 60 offences in the same period last year. In 27 of these offences an offender has been arrested and charged. Seven of the offences concerned domestic disputes between the same couple.
- There were 12 theft from vehicle offences in this period compared to 15 offences in the previous period and 16 offences in the same period last year. In three offences catalytic converters were stolen from vehicles overnight, whilst in another four offences offenders have smashed the windows on vehicles and stolen MP3 players and handbags from within.
- Cycle thefts have more than halved compared to the previous period (13 offences vs. 31 offences) and decreased compared to the 48 offences in the same period last year.
- ASB incidents have increased compared to both the previous period (214 incidents vs. 154 incidents) and the same period last year (198 incidents). Maitland Avenue was a hotspot during the period with 15 of the 18 incidents at that location from the same address. Other hotspots were Kendal Way (16), High Street (15) and Green End Road (14).

- Between January and March 2011 there were 12 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 16 during the same period the previous year. This included 7 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 2, which were subsequently claimed by their owners. In addition, 2 cases are currently pending further investigation. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between January and March 2011 there were 28 reports of fly tipping in the ward, compared with 36 during the same period the previous year. There was no fly tip on site following inspection on one occasion. There was sufficient evidence to issue 7 formal warning letters, one of which was to a trade offender, and one case is currently pending further investigation. Church Street (6) and Green End Road, Maitland Avenue and Dundee Close (each with 4) were the hotspots during the reporting period this year. Church Street (6), Maitland Avenue (5) and Cowley Road (3) were the hotspots during the 2010 period.
- Between January and March 2011, 8 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 23 during the same period the previous year. Ashfield (3) was a hotspot during the reporting period this year, compared with Fen Road (3) during the 2010 period.
- Between January and March 2011, 125 needles were reported compared with 7 during the same period the previous year. 100 needles were removed from an old chest of drawers in a burnt out garage in Green End Road. The remaining 25 needles were reported in the area of the Recreation Ground, public toilets and recycling centre. During the 2010 period, 5 of the needles reported were located in the public toilets.

Kings Hedges

- Total crime has decreased in the last four month period compared to the previous period (268 offences vs. 304 offences) but increased compared to the same period last year (248 offences).
- Dwelling burglary offences have remained stable compared to the previous period (24 offences in both periods) but increased compared to same period last year (19 offences). In the majority of offences, offenders have forced entry via the door and in thirteen of the offences only damage was caused, nothing was stolen.
- Violent offences have decreased in the ward (63 offences compared to 87 in the previous period). An offender has been arrested and charged in 19 of the offences. In 18 offences the violence appear to be domestic violence. Repeat locations for offences were Campkin Road, Minerva Way and Arbury Court.
- Theft from vehicle offences have trebled compared to the previous period (30 offences vs. 10 offences) and more than quadrupled compared to the same period last year. In twelve of the theft from vehicle

offences during April, catalytic converters were stolen from the underside of vehicles, usually overnight.

- There were 28 theft from shop offences in this period compared to 24 offences in the previous period and 20 offences in the same period last year. In fourteen of the offences an offender was charged. Common locations for offences were Tescos on Campkin Road (12), Budgens at Arbury Court (8) and Co-op on Milton Road.
- There were 162 ASB incidents in this period compared to 174 ASB incidents in the previous period and 188 incidents in the same period last year. Seven calls from the same location at Arbury Court concern groups of youth drinking in the street. Seven calls from the same address at Aragon Close in which a female stated that a male is repeatedly banging on her door. Other hotspot areas are Campkin Road (16), Ramsden Square (8), Minerva Way (7) and Edgecombe (7).
- Between January and March 2011 there were 9 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 16 during the same period the previous year. This included 4 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 2, which were subsequently claimed by their owners. In addition, a CLE26 notice was issued to an offender on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying road tax on a public highway, which will result in a fine issued by the DVLA. A further vehicle, which had been burnt out, was destroyed. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between January and March 2011 there were 63 reports of fly tipping in the ward, compared also with 63 during the same period the previous year. There was no fly tip on site following inspection on 2 occasions. There was sufficient evidence to issue 3 formal warning letters to domestic offenders and one case has been referred to the Council's Housing Department. Campkin Road (8) Arbury Court (7), Crowland Way and Edgecombe (both with 5) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period, compared with Campkin Road (10), Arbury Court (8), Cadwin Field and Minerva Way (both with 6) and also Edgecombe (4).
- Between January and March 2011, 12 derelict cycles were dealt compared also with 12 also during the same period the previous year. There were no specific hotspots in the current reporting period, but Northfield Avenue (4) was a hotspot during the same period the previous year.
- Between January and March 2011, there were no needle reports, compared with 18 during the same period last year. Included in those 18 reported last year, 11 were removed from Campkin Road and 4 from St Kilda Avenue.

Arbury

- Total crime in Arbury has decreased compared to the previous four month period (246 offences vs. 276 offences) but increased compared to the same period last year (221 offences).
- Dwelling burglary offences have decreased compared to the previous period (39 offences vs. 53 offences) but increased compared to the same period last year (29 offences). No common MO was seen during the period and offences occurred at all times of the day and night.
- Violent crime offences have decreased to 44 offences in this period compared to 61 offences in the previous period. This is an increase compared to the same period last year (30 offences). In 11 offences the violence appears to be domestic violence. Hotspots for violent crime offences were Histon Road (12) and Victoria Road (5).
- Theft from vehicle offences have decreased to 7 offences from 14 in the previous period. Offenders have stolen the index plates in two offences and the tax disc in two other offences.
- There were 16 theft from shop offences in this period compared to 17 offences in the previous period and 13 offences in the same period last year. All but one of the theft from shop offences occurred on Histon Road with common offence locations being Aldi (7), Iceland (3) and Co-op (2).
- ASB incidents have increased compared to the previous period (196 offences vs. 156 offences) and the same period last year (160 offences). Specific hotspot locations for incidents were Histon Road (25 incidents including varied issues such as prostitution, noisy neighbours, street drinking and vehicle nuisance), Molewood Close (15 incidents, mainly neighbour issues) and Victoria Road (38 incidents, mainly general disorder issues).
- Between January and March 2011 there were 14 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 20 during the same period the previous year. This included 4 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 2, which were subsequently claimed by their owners. In addition, a CLE26 notice was issued to an offender on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying road tax on a public highway, which will result in a fine issued by the DVLA. Two vehicles were also impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax and were subsequently destroyed following non-payment of the DVLA fine. A further case is currently pending investigation. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between January and March 2011 there were 62 reports of fly tipping in the ward, compared with 61 during the same period the previous year. 2 reports related to fly tipping on private land. There was sufficient evidence to issue 4 formal warning letters to domestic offenders and waste transfer documentation was requested from one trade offender. Molewood Close and Harris Road (both with 7), Darwin Drive (6),

Aylesborough Close (5) and Brackley Close (4) were the main hotspots during this year's period. Hazelwood Close (9), Molewood Close and Brackley Close (both with 7), Fordwich Close (5) and Cockerell Road and Bermuda Terrace (both 4) were the main hotspots last year.

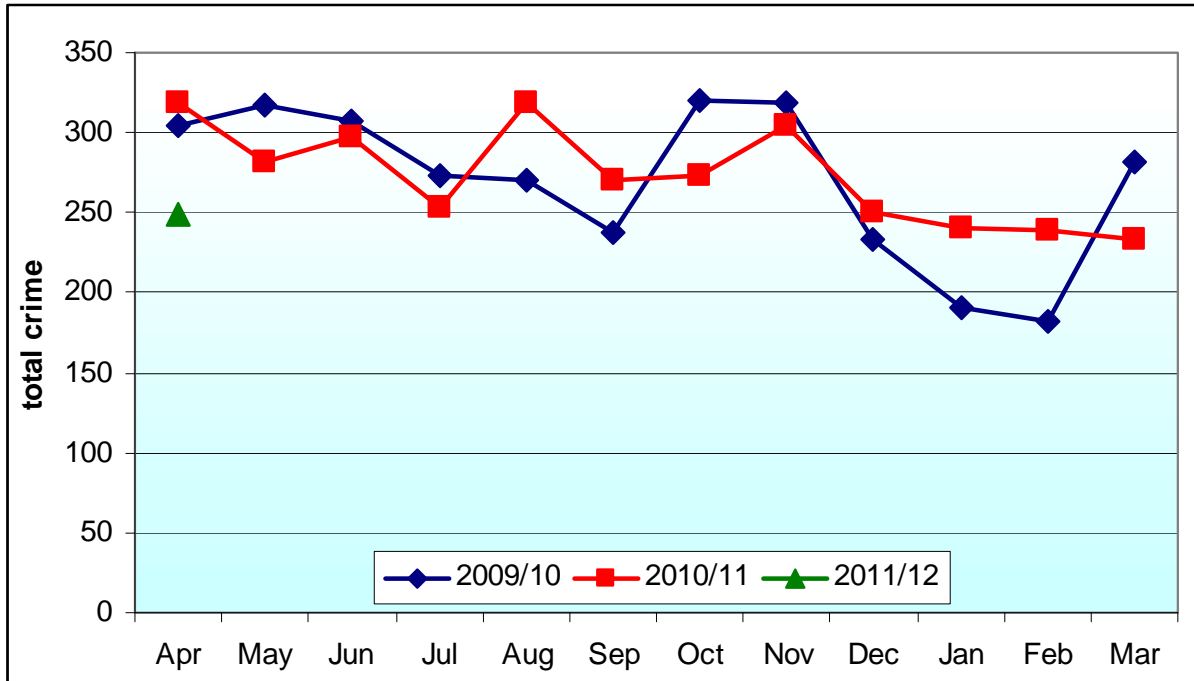
- Between January and March 2011, 19 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 11 during the same period the previous year. Stretten Avenue (5) and Victoria Road (3) were the hotspots during this year's period, compared with Perse Way (4) in 2010.
- Between January and March 2011, 2 needles were reported compared with 5 during the same period the previous year. The 5 needles were removed from Histon Road Cemetery.

4. Recommendations

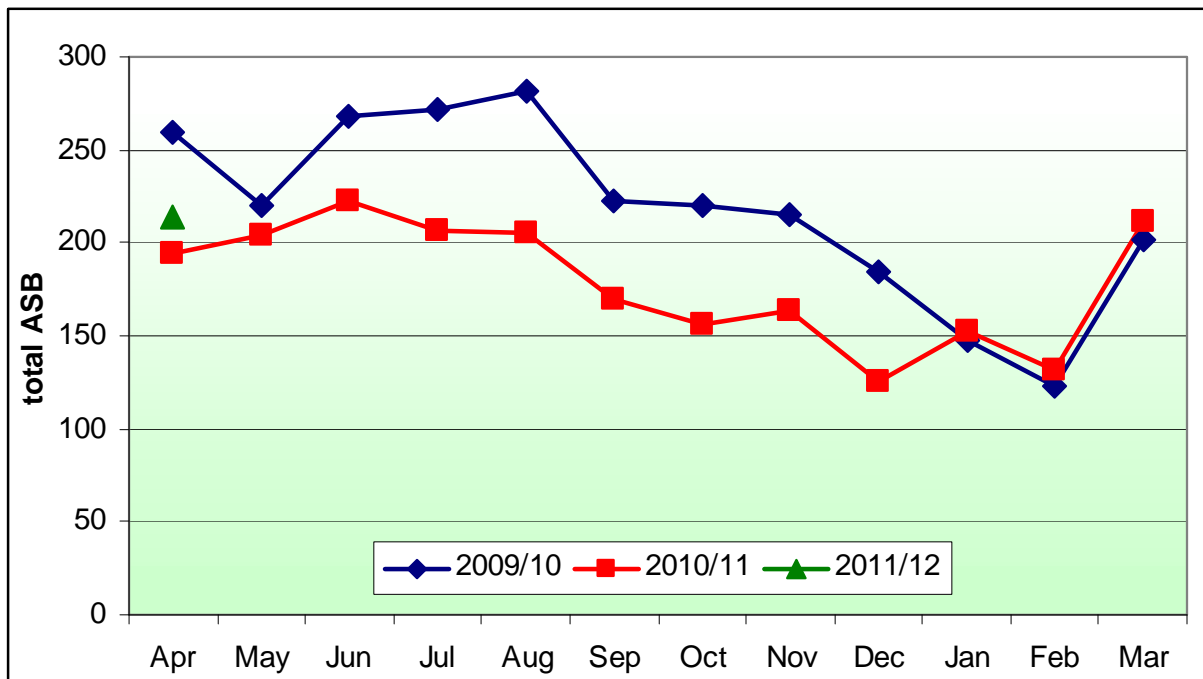
- Continuation of tackling anti-social parking outside the Shirley School.
- Kingsway Flats – Anti-social congregation by youths and drug misuse in the vicinity of residences.
- Further work to identify any patterns in the increase in anti-social behaviour in East Chesterton and to tackle any identifiable causes.
- "Wheelie bin" fires - Prevention and education.

Current Crime and Incident Levels

Total Crime



ASB Incidents



Current Crime and Incident Levels in Neighbourhood, by Ward

			Dwell. Burg.	Other Burg.	Violent Crime ¹	Robbery	Theft of Vehicle	Theft from Veh.	Cycle Theft	Theft from Shop	Criminal Damage	Other Crime	TOTAL CRIME	TOTAL ASB
Nhod	City North	Jan 11 – Apr 11	119	35	204	8	16	61	98	74	128	218	961	709
		Sep 10 – Dec 10	146	37	255	16	22	57	134	65	157	210	1099	616
		Jan 10 – Apr 10	95	69	183	25	39	44	158	43	151	164	971	667
Wards	West Chesterton	Jan 11 – Apr 11	33	7	30	1	1	12	42	17	24	58	225	137
		Sep 10 – Dec 10	29	7	44	2	5	18	47	18	33	62	265	132
		Jan 10 – Apr 10	24	10	29	9	5	16	54	8	30	39	224	121
	East Chesterton	Jan 11 – Apr 11	23	10	67	3	4	12	13	13	26	51	222	214
		Sep 10 – Dec 10	40	12	63	1	3	15	31	6	38	45	254	154
		Jan 10 – Apr 10	23	30	60	6	21	16	48	2	31	41	278	198
	Kings Hedges	Jan 11 – Apr 11	24	8	63	1	9	30	21	28	39	45	268	162
		Sep 10 – Dec 10	24	12	87	9	7	10	25	24	52	54	304	174
		Jan 10 – Apr 10	19	11	64	3	3	7	26	20	52	43	248	188
	Arbury	Jan 11 – Apr 11	39	10	44	3	2	7	22	16	39	64	246	196
		Sep 10 – Dec 10	53	6	61	4	7	14	31	17	34	49	276	156
		Jan 10 – Apr 10	29	18	30	7	10	5	30	13	38	41	221	160

¹ Excluding robbery