

Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City South – September 2020



Wards: *Cherry Hinton, Queen Edith's and Trumpington*

Produced by:

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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 areas of concern 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 data received from the following sources:

- The Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team for the area;
- The City Council's Community Safety Team;
- The general public, via online and telephone crime and intelligence reporting; and
- Consultation with elected Ward and County members.

2. Current Areas of Concern

At the South Area Committee meeting of 9 March 2020, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Address youth anti-social behaviour on the Anstey Way Estate;
- Address youth anti-social behaviour in Trumpington Meadows; and
- Continue work to address serious street-based violence, child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.

Lead officers and actions to be taken were agreed following the committee meeting. The work undertaken and current situation is detailed below.

Address youth anti-social behaviour on the Anstey Way Estate

Objective: Disrupt antisocial behaviour (ASB) in the locality; increase public feeling of safety in the community; increase public awareness in reporting methods; and divert youths associating with others committing, or at risk of committing ASB.

Action Taken: Work in this area has continued in a reduced capacity owing to the increase in Government guidance and restrictions related to the Coronavirus pandemic. Full nationwide lockdown was implemented on 23 March, two weeks after the last committee meeting. It is only within the last month that there has been a recognisable return to normality with many businesses reopening, and larger gatherings being allowed. There

was a reduction in antisocial behaviour (ASB)-related calls for service in this area, as well as in the wider City, in line with the implementation of restrictions. Patrols of the Anstey Way estate and surrounds have continued since the last area committee meeting, and the details of those identified as involved in the previous ASB have been monitored for appearances in reported incidents and crimes.

Current Situation: We remain in close contact with partners in the Council's Community Safety Team, City Homes and Housing Associations, continuing to share information and providing evidence to support tenancy enforcement action where necessary. Patrols of the area by local officers continue. The former and current Government restrictions on gatherings and behaviour have been, and are being, utilised where needed to disperse groups gathering and related ASB, in compliance with the national direction to utilise enforcement as a last resort. We are closely monitoring reports of ASB in the area, now that lockdown is lifting, and will react to any increase in 999/101 calls by seeking to identify those responsible and take appropriate criminal action, or support appropriate civil action taken by our partners. Within the last week, there has been a single report brought to our attention, of a group gathering and behaving in an antisocial manner on the new development close to Anstey Way, and patrols will be carried out on late shifts to identify and disperse, if appropriate. Apart from this report, there have only been two calls for service to this part of the estate, so there is no current pattern or hotspot identified.

Lead Officer: PC 207 Catling

Address youth anti-social behaviour in Trumpington Meadows

Objective: Disrupt ASB in the locality; increase public feeling of safety in the community; and monitor reported issues on the wildlife trust land of the Meadows.

Action Taken: The above work and synopsis of Anstey Way ASB is true for the Meadows too with less of a defined line between ASB issues experienced by both than there were about six months ago. The previous entries of this report are just as relevant here. In addition, however, following the previous work and target hardening done with the Wildlife Trust, ranger Becky Green has kept us updated of any incidents or movements of concern that have happened on their land and, with appropriate triage and involving relevant partners such as the Environment Agency, far fewer reports have been received in the last six months.

Where groups have been gathering on the nature reserves, in breach of Coronavirus regulations, and we have been able to attend, these groups have been given appropriate advice and have been dispersed. Regular patrols of the area were carried out by Neighbourhood and Response officers throughout lockdown.

Current Situation: Patrols of the area by local officers continue. Scanning of reported incidents since the date of the last committee meeting reveals low numbers and no single identifiable hotspot area.

Lead Officer: PC 207 Catling

Continue work to address serious street-based violence, child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.

Objective: To identify and safeguard those children and young people most at risk of becoming victims of serious street-based violence, child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.

Action Taken: Serious street-based violence, child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation remain priorities for the Constabulary. We remain focused on proactive identification, in conjunction with our partners, of those young people (aged under 18) who are most vulnerable to being exploited and becoming involved in county lines drug dealing. This is being used as a basis on which to engage with these young people directly, at home and with their parents and guardians present, or indirectly via school and other partner services, to offer support and opportunities for diversion away from criminal behaviour. This is being undertaken presently in partnership with the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the County Council. Engagement and diversion with those youths most at risk has continued virtually throughout lockdown. Those at lower risks are engaged with and diverted to support and other provisions by police and schools.

Current Situation: To complement this ongoing work, we are reviewing how we communicate and work in partnership with housing associations and the City Council. There can be an escalation of risk to individuals and communities at the point a young person leaves and enters independent accommodation for the first time, be that to their own accommodation or shared accommodation with other young people. The nature of this work is sensitive but is critically important to reduce the possibility of vulnerable young people becoming entrenched in criminal lifestyles, and to improve their prospects of employment and successfully transitioning into independent adulthood.

Lead Officer: DS 2393 Kiri Mazur

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Since the last committee meeting, there have been reports of criminality and antisocial behaviour among the street-based community on Hills Road and around the Railway Station, including aggressive begging. Unfortunately, these reports have been passed informally and are not reflected in the searchable records of calls made to 101 or via online reporting. One particular individual is currently awaiting trial for public order and assault offences, and we are applying for a Criminal Behaviour Order which, if granted post-conviction, is anticipated to significantly reduce the community impact of their behaviour and ensure that more appropriate sanctions can be applied in future. It is important that issues of this nature are reported through the correct channels. Many street-based individuals are well known to the Neighbourhood Teams across the City and better information reporting will make us more able to swiftly identify and disrupt those causing the most concern for the community.

Calls regarding individuals accessing communal garage spaces in the Lime Avenue Estate and using the areas for smoking cannabis and associated antisocial behaviour have been noted, however efforts to get a reply from the relevant housing agencies in charge of the

buildings, to make them less easily accessible, have not been successful. As a result, these have formed part of the standard patrol plans with further lines of enquiry being followed up where they have been present.

Your local officers are also increasing patrols around Cherry Hinton Hall in response to a recent increase in calls regarding issues in the Park. Work previously done in this area saw a great reduction in issues attributed to a specific group of young people, who were all diverted away from such behaviour through work with the City Council's Community Safety Team.

Three simultaneous Misuse of Drugs Act warrants were carried out at addresses in the South and East of the City in June 2020. Drugs, cash and items of criminal property were seized, and all individuals concerned remain under investigation while enquiries continue. Another Misuse of Drugs Act warrant was carried out at a property in Kingfisher Way in March 2020. This investigation is nearing its conclusion and advice is sought from the Crown Prosecution Service on whether charges can be brought. Tenancy enforcement action is also being taken. These are just two examples of proactive work to target the distribution of controlled drugs in the South of the City. None of this would be possible without the multiple pieces of information received from people reporting their concerns about activity in the Southern wards. Thank you for sharing information with us and please continue doing so; remember, you can report information anonymously via the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website.

Cambridge City Council

Throughout the lockdown period, the Community Safety Team (CST) has continued to operate a frontline service. We have continued to provide a responsive service, using virtual options where appropriate and would encourage residents to contact us with their concerns.

Due to several reports received regarding an individual around Walpole Road, the Community Safety Team organised a professionals' meeting with all involved in that area to discuss a unified approach to resolve issues. Since then, there have been no further complaints.

The Community Safety Team has been facilitating the Cambridge City cohort of Transforming Lives, which is a multi-agency County-wide led programme, working with young people. The Cambridge City cohort has six Netherhall School pupils who are engaging well with the programme. As well as facilitating the cohort, the Community Safety Team is also running the session across the County as part of the programme, looking at County Lines and Child Criminal Exploitation.

We are currently investigating reports of rowdy nuisance, drug-related activity and criminal damage to Hodson's Folly and are liaising with the police, our Streets and Open Spaces team and stakeholders, including residents and the volunteers who look after the Folly to look at how we prevent this continuing.

We have received several reports about reckless and anti-social driving in the Trumpington area involving young people on mopeds. The Community Safety Team is currently liaising with the police to look at how we can prevent this continuing.

Two Notices of Seeking Possession (NoSP) have been served on two households in the South for antisocial behaviour (ASB), and we have court action pending for a further two injunctions.

We conducted an Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) at The Paddocks following a resident request. A letter and Neighbourhood Watch advice has been sent to all the residents.

The use of the green (Mill Park) during this time has generated some complaints. We are working with partners and keeping an eye on the situation to ensure that it does not escalate. We are very mindful that the Coronavirus pandemic has meant that open spaces have been a recreational need for many parents with children out of school and, working with partners, we will aim to strike the right balance for any action undertaken. We hope to do some noise monitoring to see how noisy it is during the latter part of the summer/early autumn, and will be doing some work with residents to devise a shared consensus of what is acceptable (e.g. what is anti-social noise and what is 'too late' for the children to be out).

We have received reports of street life-related issues and continue to work with support partners and the police. One individual has been given a warning letter and has been asked to leave and not attend the area.

4. *Additional Information*

At neighbourhood level, the [POLICE.UK](https://www.police.uk) website allows for swift access to local crime and anti-social behaviour data at street level. The website can display crimes on a map as well as in chart format, along with trend lines. The three most important sections within this website are: 'overview'; 'crime'; and 'view detailed statistics'. This gives a good overview of issues within the local area.

5. *Recommendations*

None are advised. We seek views from this committee on those local areas of concern that the police and partner agencies can work together to action and report on at the next reporting committee meeting.