

Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City East – December 2020



Wards: Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield and Romsey

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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 East Area Committee meeting of 17 September 2020, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Anti-Social Driving;
- Cycle theft; and
- Drug dealing and the protection of local young people – child criminal exploitation.

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

Anti-Social Driving

Objective: To mitigate the impact of anti-social driving on residents in the East of the City, and to identify and act against repeat anti-social drivers.

Action Taken: This is an update at an earlier than usual stage. Three of the four areas in Cambridge has an active "local area of concern" relating to anti-social driving and so the wider issue is being tackled under one Operation, with individual Constables retaining responsibility for implementing measures in their own geographic area. Whitehill Road, Peverel Road and Wadloes Road have been identified as specific areas of concern, based on incident reporting and views expressed by the community.

Days of action are currently being planned for each relevant area of the City, on which neighbourhood officers and specially-trained officers will have use of equipment, including the decimetre (to measure noise) and speed enforcement devices. We are currently hoping to hold these days of action throughout December, but plans will be finalised once the correct resources are confirmed as available. There will be a further update at the next area committee meeting.

Neighbourhood officers have increased high-visibility patrols in these areas, as well as tackling the issue across the beat area. The driver of one vehicle, regularly reported for anti-social driving in the Romsey area, has been traced to an address elsewhere in the City and is currently under investigation for offences linked to the supply of controlled drugs: if he is charged with these offences then we will apply to the courts for revocation of his driving licence. The same applications will also be made in respect of two other individuals, resident in the East of the City, who are also currently under investigation for offences linked to the supply of controlled drugs.

There will also be police representation at the now-convened McDonald's Working Group (first meeting scheduled for 25 November). As agreed at the last area committee meeting, the police do not own resolution of issues relating to McDonald's, however we remain committed to taking action where appropriate against any identified individuals and vehicles whose anti-social driving is linked to the McDonald's site.

Vehicles have also been seized across the City for a variety of offences. Vehicle seizures in the East, since the last area committee meeting, include two cars being driven without insurance, and a moped being ridden anti-socially on a footpath.

Current Situation: Work is ongoing as above and a fuller update will be provided at the next area committee meeting.

Lead Officers: DS 2393 Kiri MAZUR and PC 2325 IBEGGAZENE

Cycle theft

Objective: To reduce the impact of cycle theft on those living, working, and parking their bicycles in the East area of the City.

Action Taken: Police activity has been undertaken to identify and disrupt cycle theft throughout the months of October and November. Two offenders have been charged with cycle theft and related offences, and were subsequently remanded into Custody, awaiting trial. Two offenders have been charged with cycle theft and related offences and subsequently bailed, pending trial. Three further offenders remain under investigation pending the completion of outstanding enquiries, after which a decision will be made on whether there is sufficient information available to charge them with any offences.

Current Situation: The proactive work undertaken is being reviewed for learning, and a decision on whether any aspects of it can be absorbed into daily "business as usual" for the neighbourhood team, or whether regular periods of dedicated proactive work will take place in the future.

There is Constabulary representation at a newly-established multi-agency cycle crime task group, which includes representatives from CamCycle, Cambridge City Council and Neighbourhood Watch. We continue to work with partners, including the Council and Neighbourhood Watch, to identify opportunities for increasing public knowledge of, and use of, police reporting mechanisms and bike registration portals, such as the National Bike Register. We continue to discuss security and crime prevention methods at the Cycle Point with Greater Anglia. Neighbourhood officers are represented at a national level, working with multiple different forces to identify best practice, share intelligence and look at industry wide preventative measures.

Lead Officer: DS 2393 Kiri MAZUR

Drug dealing and the protection of local young people – child criminal exploitation.

Objective: To identify and disrupt the perpetrators of organised drug dealing, and to safeguard and divert young people at risk of becoming victims of criminal exploitation linked to drug dealing and County lines.

Action Taken: The Neighbourhood support team (formerly the impact team) retain the lead responsibility for County lines disruption, and continue to spend a significant amount of time patrolling in the East of the City, making numerous arrests and seizures of controlled drugs and criminal property.

Neighbourhood Officers have recently dismantled a cannabis factory in the East of the City, with one person arrested and charged with cannabis production. They are subsequently being investigated by the UK Border Agency for immigration offences. Cannabis plants, worth thousands of pounds, have been taken out of the controlled drugs market as a result of this action.

Officers have also been supporting Op SCEPTRE, the recent national week of action against knife crime, with proactive patrols and inputs to school-aged children about the dangers of carrying weapons, and what support is available. An application is being prepared for additional Redeployable CCTV in the vicinity of Cambridge Central train station which, if granted, would potentially assist in tackling this area of concern as well as the area of concern for cycle theft.

Current Situation: A fuller update will be provided at the next area committee meeting.

Lead Officer: DS 2393 Kiri MAZUR

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Our proactive work will continue to focus on the areas of concern identified at the last area committee meeting.

Cambridge City Council

The City Council's Community Safety Team (CST) has continued to work with partners to provide a responsive service regarding reported incidents of anti-social behaviour throughout the initial lockdown and continues to through the second lockdown.

The CST is currently investigating reports of street drinking and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in an area of Barnwell, issues around youth-related ASB near Brandon Court, and nuisance linked to various moorings on Riverside. The team is working closely with partner agencies, including the police, alongside the members of the community, to identify those responsible for the nuisance and to take appropriate action to prevent this nuisance from continuing.

All rough sleepers have been provided with accommodation during the Coronavirus pandemic, however, we are aware of areas where there is ASB associated with rough sleepers who are not accessing the accommodation. We are also aware of a number of individuals with a persistent street presence in the East area, and in these cases we continue to work in partnership with the police and homeless support agencies to consider the most appropriate response, to ensure that their behaviour is not impacting on the wider community and that they have the support they need to access accommodation and services.

A new Cambridge Street Aid contactless giving point has recently been launched at Grafton West Car Park for people to safely make donations to Street Aid, which can help people to move away from a life on the streets.

The CST has been granted a civil Injunction to tackle significant ASB in an area in the East of the city, and they are currently pursuing a second through the civil court. The team has also served a Notice of Seeking Possession for ASB.

4. *Additional Information*

At the 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 map'; and 'statistics'. This gives a good overview of issues within the local area. To access the local area's relevant data, type "Cambridge" into the search engine on the homepage and then select the relevant area (Cambridge City Centre policing team, Cambridge – North policing team, or Cambridge – South policing team).

5. *Recommendations*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary request that the current areas of concern are recommended to continue, to allow the usual full six months for dedicated work in these areas.