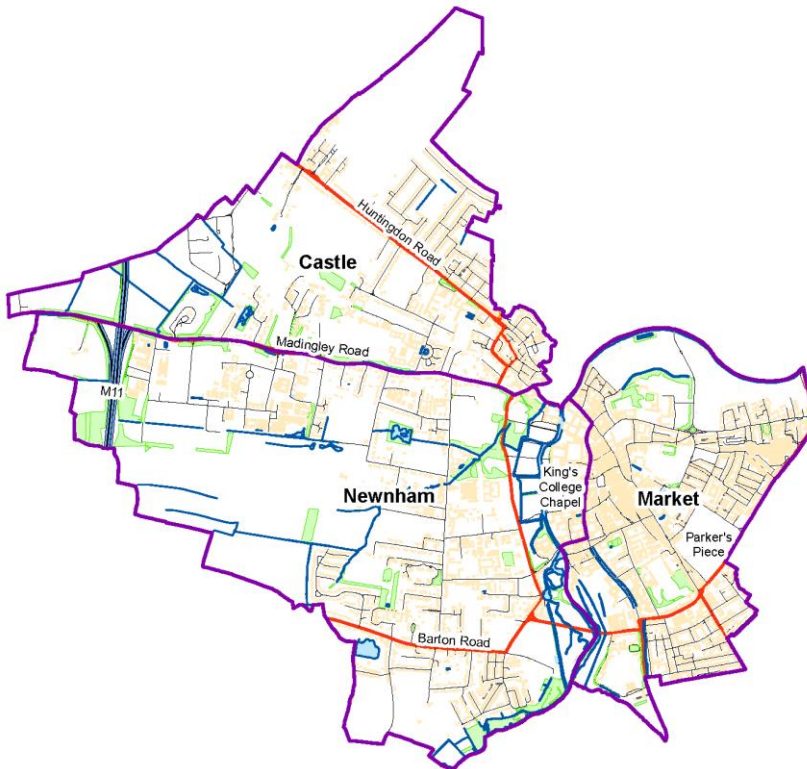


Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City West/Central – June 2021

Wards: Castle, Market and Newnham



© Crown copyright and database right 2021. Ordnance Survey Licence No. 100019730.

Produced by:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary:

- Inspector Edward McNeill
- Sergeant Kevin Misik

Community Safety Team, Cambridge City Council:

- Lynda Kilkelly, Community Safety Manager
- Sarah Steggles, Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer



Contents

1. Introduction	3
Aim	3
Methodology	3
2. Current Areas of Concern	3
Anti-social behaviour in King Street/Willow Walk	3
Anti-social behaviour in open and green spaces	4
Night time economy/alcohol related disorder	5
3. Proactive Work and Emerging Issues	5
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	5
Cambridge City Council	5
4. Additional Information	6
5. Recommendations	6

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 West/Central Area Committee meeting of 26 November 2020, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Anti-social behaviour in King Street/Willow Walk;
- Anti-social behaviour in open and green spaces; and
- Night time economy/alcohol related disorder.

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

Anti-social behaviour in King Street/Willow Walk

Objective: To deal with ongoing and persistent issues of anti-social behaviour (ASB) in both the King Street and Willow Walk areas.

Action Taken:

King Street - The team has worked hard around several different issues in the King Street area. These have related to street drinking and the associated ASB. Officers have found that there has been a draw to the area, which had worsened these issues. This focussed on a resident of Manor Place whose address had been taken over by unwanted visitors. The team has addressed these issues in two ways: firstly, we worked with a wide range of

partner agencies, including the City Council's housing provider, mental health and social care providers, to offer relevant help and support to the resident at the location, with a view to them being able to effectively manage their tenancy to reduce the anti-social behaviour (ASB) that is associated with it and also to ensure that they were appropriately supported; and secondly, when it became clear that the resident was unable to manage these issues alone, the decision was made to apply for a closure order under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, which means that only the person who lives at the address can lawfully be there. The actions have been successful in reducing the issues and helping the resident in question access the support that they need.

As well as this work, targeted patrol work continues to be carried out by the team in the area.

Current Situation: There has been a reduction in the reports of issues in the area. The order in question is in place for a further period and the hope is that this time will allow the relevant support services to put their plans in place.

Willow Walk - There have been limited issues around the Willow Walk area. There are still sporadic reports of ASB in the area and these incidents are managed by both the response teams and the City Centre team.

As well as dealing with these reported issues, we continue to engage with the staff at the hostel to help with the management of any issues that occur.

Current Situation. The main issues in this area recently have related to drug use around the Grafton West Car Park and patrol work is ongoing in this area both by police officers as well as the City Council's Environmental Crime officers.

Lead Officer PS Kevin Misik

Anti-social behaviour in open and green spaces

Objective: To deal with issues of anti-social behaviour on the open and green spaces within the area.

Action Taken: There has been ongoing patrol work carried out across the main green spaces within the area throughout the reporting period. Most issues that have been reported to the police have been linked to Jesus Green. Targeted patrol work has been carried out in the area and whilst it is true to say that there have been relatively large numbers of people using the area to meet, that this has been in appropriately-sized groups.

The most notable issue has been the student gathering which took place on Caesarean Sunday. Despite engagement with the various colleges by both the Constabulary and the Council, several students declined the advice that was given to them and chose to meet up. A proportionate policing operation was put in place and whilst there was no formal action taken by officers several people who chose to attend against college advice were reported to these respective colleges and appropriate action taken.

Current Situation: With the reopening of the internal licenced venues, there is likely to be a reduction in the number of people who are going to be meeting at this location during the

evening, though it is fully anticipated that the locations will continue to be busy. There have been several reported issues over the last few weeks which have resulted in a patrol plan being put in place in the area. This work is ongoing.

Lead Officer: PS Kevin Misik

Night time economy/alcohol related disorder

Objective: To ensure that the night time economy (NTE) is safe and free from anti-social behaviour.

Action Taken: As with many issues over the course of the pandemic, there have been many changes over the reporting period. Venues have been open for limited numbers and then closed again. The NTE effectively closed on Christmas Eve and only re-opened a fortnight ago.

There have still been issues which have been linked to the changed NTE. This has mostly been linked to the area around the Quayside and linked to large gatherings of people in the area. As a result of these issues, enhanced patrols were carried out. These led to various dispersal orders being used as a response to the reports of anti-social behaviour. These orders have been effective in reducing the reported issues. Also, there have been reports of drug use in the area and this has led to several people being searched and arrests have been made. These matters are still ongoing.

Current Situation: The venues are now reopening and there will be changes with the final stage of unlocking, currently expected in June, and linked to Euro 2021. There are current plans in place to deal with these issues.

The first few weeks of reopening have been relevantly issue-free. The venues are now well practiced in dealing with the issues which are part of the current government guidance.

Lead Officer: PS Kevin Misik

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Work continues around the three main streams of work within the area: retail crime, street life issues and the night time economy. As well as these main areas of work, the team continues to support the work of the wider Cambridge city team; this includes, but is not limited to, cycle crime, safeguarding vulnerable people and vehicle-related issues. As well as this work, we are supported by a number of officers from the special constabulary, most notably in our policing of the night time economy.

Cambridge City Council

The Community Safety Team continues to work in partnership with the police and support agencies to respond to complaints of anti-social behaviour associated with begging and sleep sites. We are currently investigating complaints about various individuals who have

been identified as behaving in a manner which is having an impact on the wider community in the City Centre. Warning letters are being issued to six individuals whose behaviour continues to be problematic, despite accommodation and support being made available to them. We are also producing some Street Aid literature targeted at the street life community which provides information about support available and how to access a Street Aid grant.

The Community Safety Team is leading on a [Cambridge Community Safety Partnership](#) project, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, to raise awareness about County Lines and Criminal Exploitation in the City, both for school aged children, professionals, and adults. Leading a multi-agency task group as part of this project, a survey was conducted which received over 1,000 responses from residents in the City. Using information from the survey and knowledge from colleagues in other agencies, a film was commissioned which will highlight issues around County Lines, grooming and criminal exploitation from a safeguarding perspective. It is expected that the film will be available for use in schools and community settings in the summer months and beyond.

4. Additional Information

At the neighbourhood level, the [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

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.