

# Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City West/Central 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 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 April 11 – July 11 and as a comparison data from December 10 – March 11, and April 10 – July 10.
- Information from the Neighbourhood Policing teams, August 2011
- Community intelligence.
- Environmental data from Cambridge City Council for the period April 2011 – July 2011, compared with the same period the previous year.

## 2. PREVIOUS PRIORITIES & ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

### Previous Priorities

At the neighbourhood panel meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011, the following issues were adopted as priorities. The tables below summarise action taken and the current situation regarding the priorities that were set:

#### City Central Neighbourhood

<b>Speeding in Maid's Causeway</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	Support the implementation of the 20mph limit
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Between 06/05/11 and 29/7/11 static patrols using speed guns have been conducted in the area of Maids Causeway. The speed of over 124 vehicles has been checked with 89 stopped and spoken to with words of advice given to drivers about their speed. 3 endorseable tickets have been issued for traffic related offences.</p> <p>On 20/06/11 speedwatch training was given to a group of local residents to enable them to help raise awareness with motorists of the new limit.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	<p>The speed survey conducted to 14<sup>th</sup> April to 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011 in total 37,107 vehicles were surveyed travelling Eastbound on Newmarket Road of which a total of 41.12% were exceeding ACPO prosecution guidelines for speed.</p> <p>On the Westbound Newmarket Road 39922 were surveyed of which 49.95% were exceeding the guidelines.</p>
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	<p>Continue?: It is a matter for the committee if they wish to continue with this particular priority. It would seem from the survey that vehicles are still exceeding the 20mph speed limit and that a 40-50 percent of these vehicles are exceeding ACPO guidelines. A further period of speed checks and driver education may be required.</p>

<b>Alcohol-related crime and ASB in Sussex Street and environs</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	Reduce incidents of alcohol related ASB
<b>Action Taken</b>	Between 25/05/11 and 10/08/11 directed high visibility patrols have been conducted in the city centre and green areas mostly

	<p>during the night time hours. Groups of visiting youths engaged with and spoken to and advised about noise and rubbish.</p> <p>All shops in the area visited and spoken to and reassured that action is/will be taken and contact numbers given to report any issues directly to NPT team.</p> <p>On 21/06/11 contact made with the Bursar of Sidney Sussex college reference any ongoing issues within the vicinity of the college and also to discuss the feasibility and possibility of having a litter bin in Sussex Street to assist with the appropriate disposal of refuse.</p> <p>Staff of Sidney Sussex college were spoken to on 09/08/11 and they stated that there had been a vast improvement in levels of anti-social behaviour and litter in the area.</p> <p>From the beginning of July there seemed to be a significant decrease in the number of students in the area many dispersing to Parkers Piece where they have congregated previously.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	No recently reported incidents of anti-social behaviour, urination or litter in the area and reports from college's suggest situation has improved and recent patrols would indicate that foreign students have moved to Parkers Piece.
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	Discharge?: It is again a matter for the committee to review, however recent evidence suggests that through the actions taken the issues around anti-social behaviour and litter have diminished considerably and that this may be a good time to end this objective.

<b>Cycle theft</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	Reduce levels of cycle theft in Central Area (joint plan)
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Between 03/05/11 until 10/08/11 numerous cycle crime patrols have been conducted in the city. There have been several proactive plain clothes patrols also, one resulting a individual being arrested for theft of cycle and subsequently jailed for 22 months. A warrant has also been executed at an address in Cambridge in relation to cycle theft.</p> <p>Searches by officers have also been conducted on individuals</p>

	for cycle theft and items used in the execution of theft have been seized and arrests made.
<b>Current Situation</b>	<p>Whilst cycle theft has seen an increase of 73 offences from 171 in the previous period to 244 it is lower when compared with the same period last year.</p> <p>Daily high visibility and plain-clothes patrols are being conducted in relation to cycle theft in the city.</p>
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	Continue?: It is again matter for the committee if they wish to continue with this priority. However, cycle crime remains a priority issue with the city centre officers.

### City West Neighbourhood:

<b>Cycle theft in Castle and Newnham wards</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	<p>The aim of this plan was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of cycles stolen in the west of the city</li> <li>• Bring offenders to justice</li> </ul>
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Police have carried out a number of days of action making use of a trap bike and other covert tactics. This resulted in 3 arrests.</p> <p>Community Support Officers have hosted surgeries throughout the west of the city. These surgeries have been aimed at a variety of ages and the locations reflect this. Officers have been permitted to make use of pubs, schools, shops as well as the mobile police station in order to reach residents of all ages. During the surgeries the officers have marked cycles with UV marking and registered their property on Immobilise.</p> <p>Officers have carried out street surgeries where cyclists have been stopped when committing any cycling offence and rather than being issued with a fixed penalty ticket they have allowed officers to run checks on their cycles and been issued with crime prevention advice.</p> <p>PCSOs and Police officers have also made use of their search powers. They have engaged with cyclists on cycles that do not fit their profile taking details of cycle and checking it against reported thefts and against the immobilise database.</p>

	Officers identified key suspects within the west of the city that were suspected to have been involved in a large number of cycle offences. The officers lavished attention on the individuals and their movements. One of the individuals was charged with a number of offences including burglary and cycle theft. The officers will maintain the attention on the individuals to limit their opportunities to reoffend.
<b>Current Situation</b>	Cycle theft offences are slightly reduced when compared with same period last year (104 v 112) but significantly higher when compared with last period (112 v 53).
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	Continue: Cycle theft offences currently account for a large proportion of recorded crime in the Castle and Newnham wards.

<b>Dwelling burglary in Castle and Newnham wards</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	The aim of this plan was to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of dwelling burglaries in the Castle and Newnham wards.</li> <li>• To bring offenders to justice.</li> </ul>
<b>Action Taken</b>	Over 243 hours of patrol have been carried out in relation to this priority. These patrols have been a mixture of plain clothes and uniform. Officers have patrolled on foot, cycles and made use of both plain and marked police vehicles.  A large number of the dwelling burglaries have taken place in the colleges within the beat areas. The University officers have visited the colleges along with the crime reduction unit to provide crime prevention. This will remain ongoing as we move into the new academic year.  A well-known college burglar was released from prison during this period and began to re-offend. The West team officers worked alongside reactive and CID officers in order to bring the male to justice. He was subsequently returned to prison.
<b>Current Situation</b>	19 offences recorded compared with 40 in the previous period and 49 in the same period last year.
<b>Continue or</b>	Discharge.

<b>Discharge?</b>	
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<b>Speeding in Castle and Newnham wards</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	The aim of this plan was to monitor the speed of vehicles entering Castle and Newnham.
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Officers have carried out speed checks on Barton Road, Grange Road and Huntingdon Road. The days and times of the checks have been varied. The majority of drivers were well within the speed limits for the locations. A handful of drivers were found to be in excess of 30mph in a 30mph restriction but none were travelling over 35mph. One driver was found to be travelling at 41mph in a 40mph restriction. The drivers were stopped and words of advice were given.</p> <p>Officers accept that drivers do slow down at the sight of an officer with a hand held speed gun and this is likely to have had an impact on the figures recorded. We have requested that a survey is carried out in Granchester Road and Huntingdon Road by our camera enforcement team. Barton Road has not been requested at this time due to the speed camera sited at the location.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	Waiting on speed survey results.
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	Discharge: To give attention as part of normal business.

### **Other Issues**

Officers from the West Team have been involved in the investigation to identify the male sexually assaulting lone females in the Castle and Newnham area. The last linked offence took place in May. The suspect is still outstanding.

Prostitution in and around Histon Road has been raised at a number of West Area committee meetings. Although Histon Road is in the North of the City the impact is felt by residents within Castle. Police officers from the West team have carried out covert patrols in order to identify those that are working within the sex industry. There are only a handful of sex workers that appear to be working in the area and these have been referred to the Sex Workers Advisory Network for support. Visible patrols are being used to deter the sex workers and those that exploit them.

Officers are patrolling the locations used by the sex workers to provide their services. The prostitution on Histon Road is currently a neighbourhood priority for the North of the city and the work carried out by the West team is in addition to the work that the North team are undertaking.

## **Recommendations**

### **Student Crime Intervention**

The student population makes up a large percentage of the victims of crime within the West area with a majority of the colleges being located within the West of the City. Officers will attend the fresher meetings throughout the city giving crime prevention advice. Most have left home for the first time and are used to leaving their bedroom doors open and not ensuring doors and windows are closed as they leave. Many of the students are from abroad and may not be aware of some of our laws in relation to cycling, public order and drunken behaviour. The aim of this intervention would be to reduce the number of students that become the victims of crime and in a few cases the offender.

### **Recording of ASB**

**Please note that due to changes in the Police incident reporting system we will now be using the final call type rather than the Closure Class Definitions in the summary tables listed later in this document.**

### **Neighbourhood trends**

Total crime in City West has seen an increase of 254 offences from 1351 reported in the previous period to 1605 reported in the last 4 month period. It should be noted, however, despite the increase in offences, the current level of offences is still comparatively lower than the same period last year. The increase in offences was largely due to cycle theft across all wards and theft from shop offences in Market. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) has seen an increase but is also at a lower level than that reported in the same period last year.

### **Newnham**

- Total crime in Newnham ward has seen an increase from 101 offences reported in the previous period to 137 over the last 4-month period. Reductions in dwelling burglary and vehicle crime have been countered by notable increases in non-dwelling burglaries and cycle theft.
- During the 4-month period, there were 9 dwelling burglaries reported. Five of these offences occurred on College property in April and May.
- College buildings were further targeted in a series of non-dwelling burglaries on Grange Road, and Madingley Road. Offender(s) mainly targeted these properties for metal and tools. In addition, there were 3



reports of non-dwelling burglaries targeting cycles stored in sheds on Barton Road, Clare Road and Perry Court.

- Cycle theft in Newnham has seen a marked increase from the previous period from 20 offences reported in the previous 4-month period to 48 currently. The vast majority of the offences occurred in and around College premises.
- ASB incidents remain consistent with the previous period with 47 incidents reported compared with 41.
- Over the 4-month period, there were 5 reports of abandoned vehicles, 2 of these reports relate to the same vehicle abandoned on Champneys Walk. The remaining vehicles were found on Adams Road, Newnham Road and West Road.
- Four incidents reported on Fen Causeway/Sheeps Green related to groups of youths, behaving in a rowdy fashion.
- Similarly, there has been a report of a group of youths looking at bikes at a college premises.
- Furthermore, 5 noise complaints were made during the period, compared with 1 in the previous period. Three of these complaints were linked to loud music being played on Grantchester Meadows (all on separate occasions).

### **Environmental Issues**

- Between April and July 2011, there were 14 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 8 during the same period the previous year. This included 3 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 1, which was subsequently claimed by the owner. In addition, 6 CLE26 notices were issued to offenders on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying road tax on a public highway, which will result in a fine issued by the DVLA. 2 vehicles were also impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax. An additional vehicle is also currently pending further investigation. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between April and July 2011, there were 4 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 10 during the same period the previous year. Waste transfer documentation was requested from a trade offender. Lammas Land (3) was the hotspot during the current reporting period. Lammas Land (4) and Fen Causeway (3) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between April and July 2011, 9 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 25 during the same period the previous year. There were no specific hotspots during the current reporting period. Cobbetts Corner (6) and Lammas Land (5) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between April and July 2011, there were no needles reported in either period for this area.

## **Castle**

- Total crime in Castle ward has seen an increase compared to the previous period, 144 crimes were recorded over the last 4-month period, compared with 122 in the previous period. The most notable increase was observed in cycle theft.
- Dwelling burglary offences have halved during the period, with only 10 offences reported. In half of these offences, the offender(s) have gained access through insecure doors or windows.
- Three robberies were recorded on the same day in April on Huntingdon Road whereby an offender has attempted to rob 3 members of the public all within a 10-minute period. The offender was subsequently arrested and charged with these 3 offences.
- Theft from vehicle offences have seen a 25% reduction compared with the previous period. Out of the 8 offences reported, offenders targeted front and rear index plates from 3 vehicles parked on Richmond Road. Offences have been reported on a monthly basis since May.
- A marked increase was noted in cycle theft during the period; however, this was still comparatively consistent with the same period last year. The majority of the cycles were stolen from College premises.
- ASB levels have also seen an increase, from 38 incidents in the previous period to 55 currently. Comparatively, this is consistent with the same period last year.
- Eight of these incidents related to problems with large groups of youths making a lot of noise, using recreational drugs and causing damage. These incidents were situated on Benson Place, Halifax Road, Huntingdon Road, Mount Pleasant and St. Stephens Place.

## **Environmental Issues**

- Between April and July 2011, there were 4 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 6 during the same period the previous year. This included 3 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection. In addition, 1 CLE26 notice was issued to 1 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. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between April and July 2011, there were 15 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 8 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue a verbal warning. Castle Row (3) and Pound Hill (3) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. There were no specific hotspots during the previous year.
- Between April and July 2011, 13 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 35 during the same period the previous year. There were no specific hotspots during the current reporting period. Madingley Road (11) and St Stephens Place (3) were the main hotspots during the previous year.

- Between April and July 2011, 9 needles were reported compared with 2 during the same period the previous year. 5 were removed from Sherlock Close and 3 were removed from Castle Street.

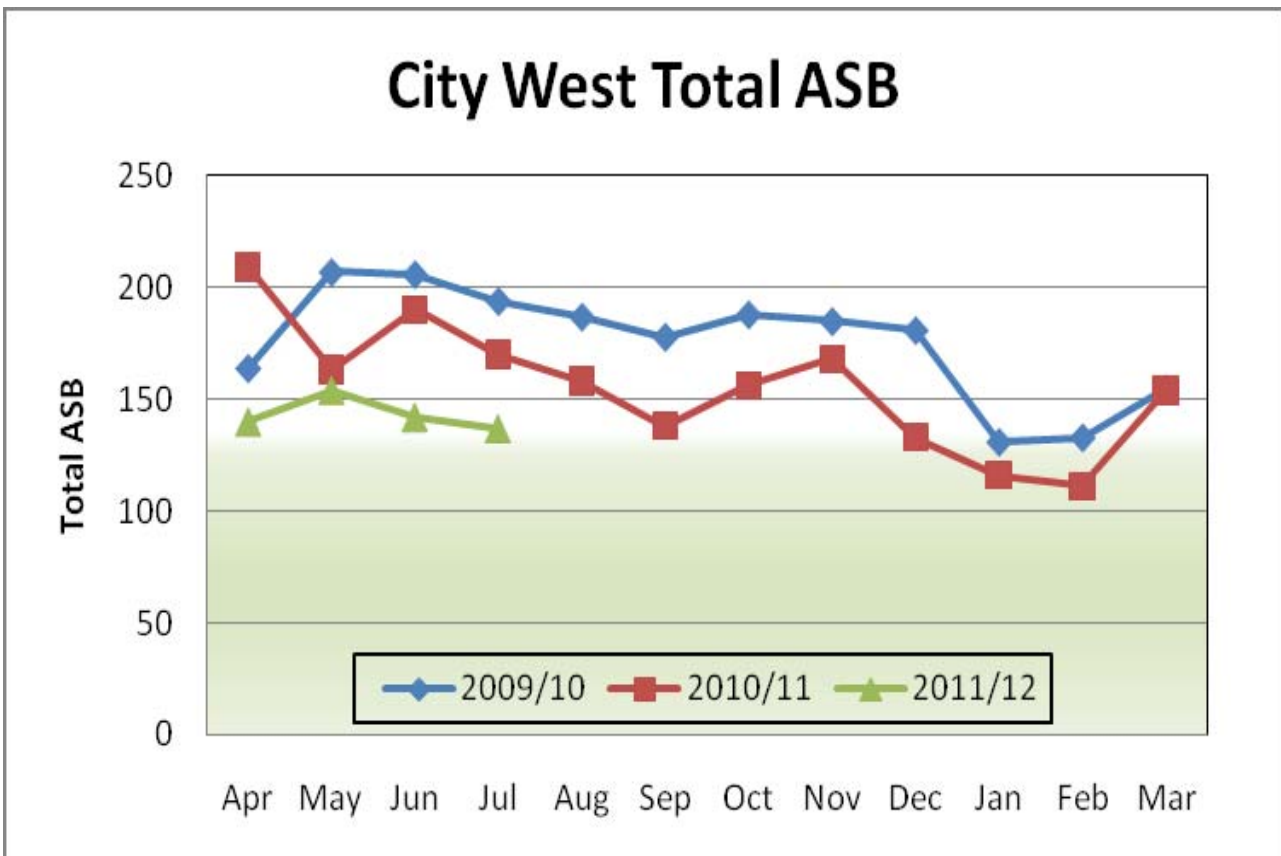
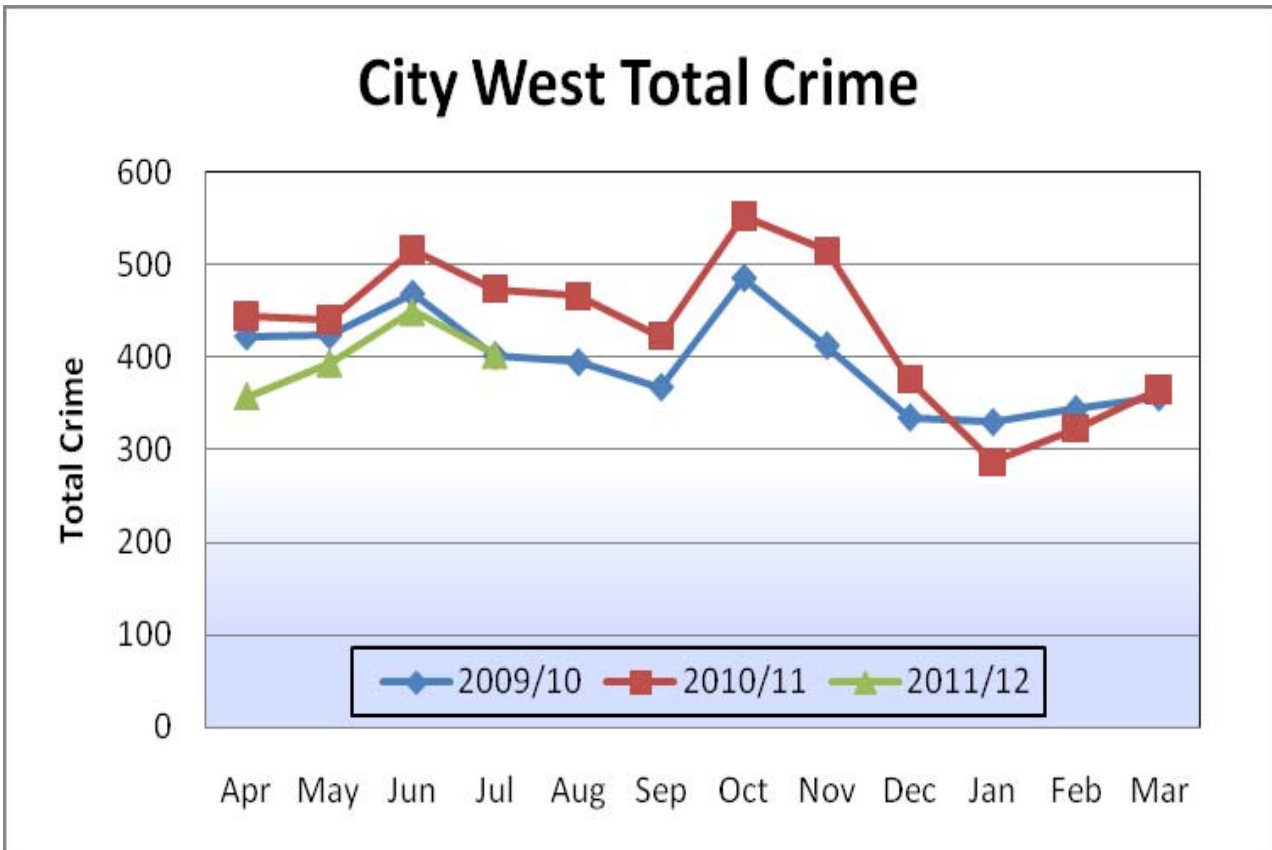
## **Market**

- Total crime in Market has increased from 1128 offences reported in the previous period to 1324.
- Violent crimes in Market ward have increased from 226 offences in the previous period to 241 in the latest 4-month period. This is comparatively lower than the same period last year, which recorded 296 offences. Most of the offences were reported on Parkside (26), Sidney Street (23), Midsummer Common (19), St. Andrews Street (17), Regent Street (14), Rose Crescent (10), Downing Street (10) and Market Hill (10). 139 of these offences have been detected (equating to 58% detection rate).
- During the period there were 3 robberies reported. Two of these offences related to the same incident in April where 2 victims were attacked at the same time on Emmanuel Street. Two offenders were arrested and charged with both offences. The remaining offence occurred in Jordan's Yard, Bridge Street in July, where two offenders targeted a victim while they were using the parking payment machines at the location. Fortunately, the victim managed to fight the attackers off.
- Cycle theft has seen an increase of 73 offences from 171 in the previous period to 244 currently. Cycles were most frequently stolen on Regent Street (18), Parkside (12), Portugal Place (10), St. Andrews Street (10) and Sidney Street (10). Despite the increase in cycle theft, the level of offences was still lower than the same period last year.
- Theft from shop offences have seen an increase from 199 offences in previous period to 241 in the latest period, although, offence levels were still lower than the same period last year. The majority of these were reported on Sidney Street (60), at the Grafton Centre (37), and Petty Cury (24).
- Over the 4-month period, there were 471 ASB incidents reported in Market. Comparatively, this is at a higher level than the previous period which recorded 435 incidents and lower than the same period last year where 617 incidents were recorded.
- During the period, 20 begging/vagrancy incidents were reported in Market. The majority of these were fairly spread out, there were 4 incidents reported in Park Street and a further 2 reported in nearby Malcolm Place. These incidents mainly occurred in May (4).
- Rowdy/Nuisance incidents were mainly reported on St. Andrews Street (22), Regent Street (20), Sidney Street (20), Parkside (17), Chesterton Road (15) and Burleigh Street (11).

## **Environmental Issues**

- Between April and July 2011, there were 7 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 1 during the same period the previous year. This included 5 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection. 1 vehicle was impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax. 1 vehicle is also currently pending further investigation. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between April and July 2011, there were 89 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 83 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue 10 formal warning letters to domestic offenders and 4 formal warning letters to trade offenders. In addition, 3 verbal warnings were issued and waste transfer documentation was requested from 2 trade offenders. Adam and Eve Street (6), King Street (6), Market Hill (6) and Market Street (5) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. The offences at Market Hill accounted for 2 of the formal warning letters being sent and Market Street accounted for 1 of the formal warning letters. Market Street (8), Miltons Walk (5), Market Hill (4), Regent Terrace (4) and Salmon Lane (4) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between April and July 2011, 408 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 260 during the same period the previous year. Park Street (82), Trumpington Street (80), Trinity Street (40), New Square (17) and Downing Street (15) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. Sidney Street (39), Downing Street (23), Park Street (15), Lion Yard (14) and Parkside (14) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Approximately 1772 incidents of anti-social cycling occurred between April and July 2011, compared with approximately 1884 incidents during the same period the previous year. Hotspots during the current period included Market Street (339), Bridge Street (355), Trinity Street (307), Sidney Street (284) and Petty Cury (134). Hotspots during the same period the previous year included Trinity Street (467), Market Street (393), Bridge Street (312), Sidney Street (308) and Petty Cury (148).
- Between April and July 2011, 34 needles were reported compared with 163 during the same period the previous year. 24 needles were removed from Midsummer Common, 3 from Adam & Eve Street and 3 from Parkers Piece. During the previous reporting period 30 needles were removed from Miltons Walk, 26 from Walnut Tree Avenue, 21 from Adam & Eve Street, 20 from Trinity Street and 11 from St Botolphs Lane.

### 3. CURRENT CRIME AND INCIDENT LEVELS



## Current Crime and Incident Levels in Neighbourhood, by Ward

			Dwell. Burg.	Other Burg.	Violent Crime (excl. Robbery)	Robbery	Theft of Vehicle	Theft from Vehicle	Cycle Theft	Theft from Shop	Criminal Damage	Other Crime	TOTAL CRIME	TOTAL ASB
<b>N'hood</b>	<b>City West</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	29	42	257	6	5	26	348	246	101	545	<b>1605</b>	<b>573</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	48	25	243	12	3	36	224	203	81	476	<b>1351</b>	<b>514</b>
		<i>Apr 10 – Jul 10</i>	62	64	293	21	11	73	451	277	109	514	<b>1875</b>	<b>732</b>
<b>Wards</b>	<b>Newnham</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	9	16	8	0	1	6	48	1	9	39	<b>137</b>	<b>47</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	19	3	7	1	1	12	20	2	9	27	<b>101</b>	<b>41</b>
		<i>Apr 10 – Jul 10</i>	21	11	9	2	4	32	58	2	8	55	<b>202</b>	<b>61</b>
	<b>Castle</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	10	6	8	3	2	8	56	4	14	33	<b>144</b>	<b>55</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	21	8	10	2	0	12	33	2	10	24	<b>122</b>	<b>38</b>
		<i>Apr 10 – Jul 10</i>	28	22	12	1	4	20	54	2	12	31	<b>186</b>	<b>54</b>
	<b>Market</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	10	20	241	3	2	12	244	241	78	473	<b>1324</b>	<b>471</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	8	14	226	9	2	12	171	199	62	425	<b>1128</b>	<b>435</b>
		<i>Apr 10 – Jul 10</i>	13	31	296	18	3	21	339	273	89	404	<b>1487</b>	<b>617</b>

## Top Ten ASB Incident Types in the City West Area Neighbourhood, by Ward

### Please Note

Incident levels for each of the wards may not be consistent with the official figures that will be published by the Force and Home Office. This is because the data system used to draw the level of detail needed for the ASB type breakdown for this report may not contain precise locations due to the way incidents are reported e.g. ASB reported where ward boundaries lie could initially be recorded in the neighbouring ward but subsequently corrected.

These figures should only be used as a guide and not regarded as official statistics for publication.

			Abandoned Vehicle	Begging/Vagrancy	Concern for Person	Malicious/Nuisance Communication	Pass Message	Noise Complaint	Rowdy/Nuisance Incident	Street Drinking	Suspicious Circumstances	Violence	Other Call Types	Grand Total
<b>N'hood</b>	<b>City West</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	11	23	7	16	8	22	350	18	9	61	54	<b>579</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	23	26	5	11	2	12	271	15	11	62	80	<b>518</b>
<b>Wards</b>	<b>Newnham</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	5	0	1	6	0	5	25	0	1	0	4	<b>47</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	9	1	0	1	1	1	12	0	1	1	14	<b>41</b>
	<b>Castle</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	4	3	0	5	2	4	21	0	1	2	13	<b>55</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	8			4	0	3	11	1	0	3	8	<b>38</b>
	<b>Market</b>	<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	2	20	6	5	6	13	304	18	7	59	37	<b>477</b>
		<i>Dec 10 – Mar 11</i>	6	25	5	6	1	8	248	14	10	58	58	<b>439</b>

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following Neighbourhood Priorities are recommended for consideration:

- Keeping Student Safe
- Cycle theft