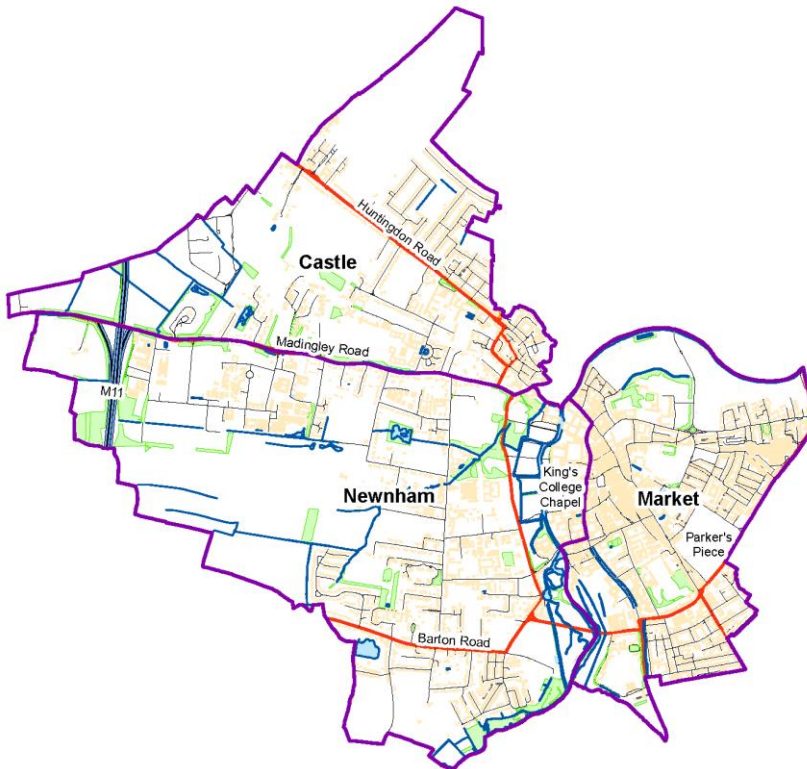


Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City West/Central – November 2022

Wards: Castle, Market and Newnham



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Contents

1. Introduction	3
Aim	3
Methodology	3
2. Current Areas of Concern	3
Anti-social behaviour on green spaces, e.g. Jesus Green	3
Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and scooters, particularly in the City Centre and central open spaces	4
Street begging	4
Supporting the new (police campaign) expected on drugs with focus on frequent users and the night time economy	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 16 June 2022, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Anti-social behaviour on green spaces, e.g. Jesus Green;
- Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and scooters, particularly in the City Centre and central open spaces;
- Street begging; and
- Supporting the new (police campaign) expected on drugs with focus on frequent users and the night time economy.

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 on green spaces, e.g. Jesus Green

Objective: To address the issues of anti-social behaviour (ASB) on the City Centre green spaces.

Action Taken: Over the summer period, there has been continued patrol work carried out around the green spaces within the City Centre, notably Jesus Green and Parker's Piece where there have been a number of reports of disorder. This has resulted in a number of people being searched for a range of different reasons. As well as the overt patrol work

that was carried out by the City Centre team and supported by the wider Cambridge Policing team, reviews of crime trends and patterns were also carried out and this information was used to target the patrols to the right places at the right times. Over the summer period, the green spaces were well used and whilst there was an increase in reports over and above those recorded the previous period, this was not in excess of what would be expected in this period.

Current Situation: As the weather gets colder and the nights draw in, the use of the green spaces reduces. The areas are still patrolled by the team to provide a visible presence as well as to deal with any issues that are either encountered or reported. The seasonal nature of these locations means that we do not believe that the matter needs to have a significant amount of focus until the summer months next year.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and scooters, particularly in the City Centre and central open spaces

Objective: To deal with issues related to related to delivery mopeds and scooters.

Action Taken: We have worked with a number of the delivery companies to provide advice and guidance to new drivers around safe riding and ASB caused by drivers, and explaining the impact their behaviour has on the people around them.

Officers have taken advantage on occasions of the ability to report inappropriate use of scooter to VOI, which leads to people who are breaching the standards having their accounts cancelled.

The team are aware of the key locations for issues of note.

Current Situation: There continues to be reports most notably around the Market Square, and the team are carrying out patrols as and when required.

We would also like to remind you of one of our Watch schemes, [Community Speed Watch](#), where communities themselves can become involved in making the roads safer in Cambridge.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

Street begging

Objective: To address issues of street-based begging within the City Centre.

Action Taken: We continue to work closely in partnership with the City Council's Community Safety Team to identify and deal with the people involved in this kind of behaviour. As well as targeted patrol work and (where appropriate) enforcement action, both agencies work hard to ensure that people are directed away from this behaviour and (where possible) remove the reasons that people are begging in the first place.

As well as this work, we have started work on a project to deal with the use of signs when people are begging. This work will continue with a staged approach to the enforcement of this issue.

We also work with the various retails and shopping centres around the City to support them in dealing with this kind of issue and identifying people in need of support.

Current Situation: This continues to be core work for the team and will continue going forward.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

Supporting the new (police campaign) expected on drugs with focus on frequent users and the night time economy

Objective: Dealing with issues of drug use and sale within the night time economy (NTE)

Action Taken: This is part of the wider work within the NTE. As well as targeted, high visibility and plain clothed patrol work being carried out to disrupt and deal with offences, we continue to support and work with the venues who are key partners. The venues not only provide information and intelligence to help officers identify and deal with the right people, but their searching policy also makes it much more difficult for people to enter the venues with drugs.

Current Situation: This work continues to form part of the central work carried out by officers committed in policing the NTE and will continue, notably in the run up to Christmas and the New Year.

Cambs Against County Lines weblink - Visit [Cambs Against County Lines](#) for more information, including links to resources.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Nothing further to report

Cambridge City Council

The Community Safety Team (CST) continues to take proactive action where there are reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) or nuisance behaviour, and works in close partnership with other agencies, such as housing providers, police neighbourhood teams and other partner agencies when tackling complex cases. We will consider preventative, supporting and enforcement action as appropriate, depending on the nature and risk level of the case.

Working with our Police partners recently, the CST has been successful in excluding a particularly problematic individual from the Sidney Street area, giving respite to the businesses affected by their anti-social behaviour. The exclusion is in place until

November 2023. We are pleased that the action has had a positive impact on the individual who has not breached the exclusion and is now accommodated and engaging with support.

Due to ongoing concerns about nuisance and anti-social behaviour issues around the Grafton Centre (including Burleigh Street and Cobbles Yard), the CST has begun speaking to local partners and agencies, including the Police and management of local shops, to discuss what interventions can be implemented to increase feelings of safety and reduce anti-social behaviour and the number of individuals rough sleeping within these areas.

The CST is currently working with partners in the housing and support services to ensure those who are rough sleeping or begging, and often causing concern to the public, are supported to engage with the housing and support options available to them. [Cambridge Street Aid](#) continues to raise awareness of safe ways in which the public can help those on the streets, rather than giving spare change which may only lengthen the time spent on the streets. The 4th Annual Cambridge Street Aid Week in October raised almost £5,000 in donations; 100% of which will be used to provide grants to individuals with a current or recent history on the streets to help them move away from a life on the streets.

Save Our Cycles – Linked to the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership, the multi-agency Cambridge Cycle Crime Prevention Task Group is chaired by Cambridge City Council. The Task Group, which includes Camcycle, businesses, the two universities and the police, launched a [Save Our Cycles](#) campaign for the public to encourage locking and registering cycles.

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.