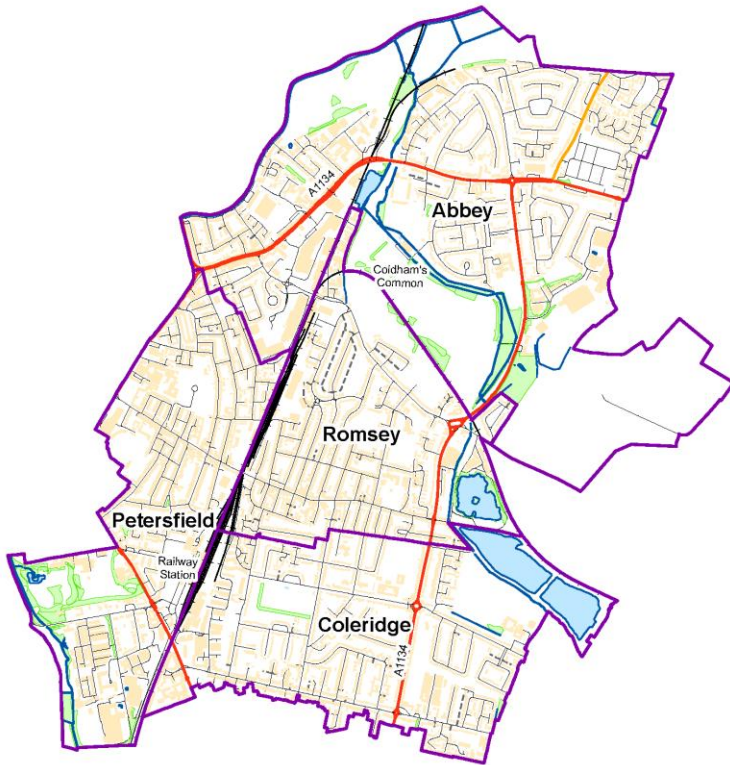


Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City East – June 2023

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 1 December 2022, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Anti-social driving;
- Cycle theft; and
- Drug dealing, anti-social behaviour (focussing on Burnside) 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: There is a city-wide operation in place to tackle anti-social driving, which remains in effect. This operation is heavily supported by volunteer officers from the special constabulary who now have a dedicated team committed to speed monitoring operations and other actions targeting anti-social driving. Where appropriate, traffic offence reports are submitted to prosecute drivers, and powers under section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2002 are utilised to remove offending vehicles from the roads.

In addition, work continues with VOI e-scooters to address their anti-social use. We have a reporting app on our phones which allows an officer to report directly to the company should a VOI e-scooter be seen on a pavement, going through a red light or having more than one rider. These reports lead to accounts being suspended or completely blocked, depending on the severity of the incident. An added benefit is that we don't need to stop the e-scooter to submit this report; we simply need to supply a location, time and e-scooter serial number.

The use of private e-scooters remains a problem and we continue to use the four E's with their users (being Engagement, Explain the law, Encourage a change of behaviour and, for repeat offenders, Enforce). The reason for this approach is that a significant number of people still believe misinformation that they are legal due to the VOI trial, if you have a driving licence.

Current Situation: Many road offences need to be "found committing" by a constable in uniform for a successful prosecution to take place; however, residents are encouraged to keep reporting incidents of anti-social driving and road use in their neighbourhoods. This allows us to build a picture of where to focus our primary patrols and target repeat offenders in cases where registration numbers are given. We can also use these reports when working with partner agencies to address underlying issues, for example traffic calming measures. Residents are also encouraged to engage with community speed watch, where communities themselves can become involved in road safety.

Traffic collision data has been obtained which shows that the highest risk groups around the city are cyclists. Cambridge cyclists account for a greater number of injuries, including serious injury and death, than any other road user. In the East area, key locations are Newmarket Road, the junction with Coldhams Lane and the roundabout at Barnwell Road. Additional patrols will be planned in these areas over the coming months.

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 127 Neil Campbell

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: The operation targeting cycle theft across the city is ongoing. Officers in the east of the city carry out regular patrols, both in plain clothes and uniform, in areas known to be vulnerable to cycle theft. These patrols take place on foot, on bicycle and in vehicles. An officer on the city centre team has been dedicated to cycle crime work city-wide, ensuring CCTV opportunities are not missed to detect offenders and working proactively to deter offending.

We have been utilising social media to educate owners around registering their frame numbers, so they are easily identifiable and more difficult to sell on. We have run several bike marking events around the city, including the east, where we permanently mark the

bike frames and register them on the national bike register, which has been a success in the form of prevention.

Collaborative work with the other neighbourhood teams is ongoing to target those actively involved in theft and those selling on stolen property. These individuals are spread across the city, so while they may not live in the east, targeting them prevents offending in the east.

Current Situation: Cycle crime remains a significant issue in the city, and we continue to address this both in prevention and at the point of theft, utilising all investigative opportunities to identify those involved. Prevention remains the most effective tactic, with education to owners around registering bicycles and correctly securing their bikes, proactive use of CCTV and bike marking events proving effective in reducing theft.

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.

Lead Officer: PS 127 Neil Campbell

Drug dealing, anti-social behaviour (focussing on Burnside) 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: Active patrols are carried out both in uniform and plain clothes to target this type of offending. This is the main daily work of the east team, who are familiar with our most active locations reported to us through social media or 101.

Stop & search is utilised where grounds exist and positive action is taken when an offender is in possession of drugs, which can be arrest or summons to court for simple possession offences.

The east team have recently arrested several dealers from the area, resulting in prison sentences and the recovery of thousands of pounds in cash and drugs. Work will continue to actively target those involved in dealing.

Current Situation: The situation regarding this activity is largely unchanged from the last update, and it remains a priority for all officers working in the city. As described above, we have had several successful results from the proactive work we are doing, but with the wide-scale networks involved in drugs, especially county lines, those arrested are quickly replaced. We ask the community to continue reporting all drug dealing and anti-social behaviour to the force, which enables us to build a picture of offending and direct resources accordingly.

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

Lead Officer: PS 127 Neil Campbell

3. Proactive Work and Emerging Issues

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Proactive work continues around the areas of concern identified.

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.

The ASB team are working with other council teams, Police and support agencies investigating graffiti and ASB in Mill Road Cemetery. Our Street Support officer is carrying out proactive patrols on a regular basis (minimum twice weekly) as well as joint patrols with Police. A re-deployable CCTV application has been approved to be installed at the heart of the cemetery, the CCTV will be installed once approval from the landowner has been gained.

Bradmore Lane success story – Following reports from residents regarding anti-social behaviour in the Bradmore Lane area, the ASB team successfully liaised with residents, support services and Anglia Ruskin university to engage with individuals previously using the area in an anti-social manner, arrange for the location to be cleared and stored.

Cambridge City Council's Public Realm Engagement Team co-ordinate the Cycle Crime Prevention Task and Finish Group, which a sub-group of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership. The group focuses on 3 key areas to reduce cycle crime – Education, Infrastructure and Enforcement.

1) **Education** – '**Save Our Cycles**' Campaign, led by Task Group member Camcycle, encourages the public to record their bike's frame number with a description, **register their bike on [Bikeregister.com](https://www.bikeregister.com)**, which helps the Police trace and return stolen bikes, and to always lock their bike securely to a fixed object even if it is only being left for a few minutes. A range of bike register events have taken place through the year, with a number of bike marking kits being funded by the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, following a successful bid by the Community Safety Team.

2) **Infrastructure** – there has been an audit of the cycle stands in the city, which has included identifying opportunities for safety and security improvements to strengthen user confidence and prevent cycle related crime. Work has been undertaken at Cambridge and North railway stations which could be used in designing out cycle crime at the proposed Cambridge South station. Cambridge City Council provides best practice guidance to new residential developers, which is being updated in the context of the work being undertaken and developing the new Local Plan.

The City Council are making investments to new CCTV coverage around the city centre, and both Fitzroy and Burleigh street to increase our ability to detect cycle crime and support with positive policing outcomes.

3) **Enforcement** - The Police continue their enforcement work and are using theft data combined with the CCTV locations to make sure that they are correctly placed to capture where the cycle theft is more evident. It is important for the public to report any crimes directly to the Police by reporting online using the link <https://www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report-Shared/Report-a-crime> or by calling 101, so that this is officially recorded.

On behalf of the [Cambridge Community Safety Partnership Board](#), Cambridge City Council co-ordinates the Cambs Against County Lines Project, which delivers sessions in secondary schools, raising awareness of county lines to help prevent children being criminally exploited into the movement of drugs and money. Cambs Against County Lines sessions have been delivered to secondary school across the city. We're also in the process of expanding the project to make age-appropriate content for younger children.

The city council also co-ordinates the monthly Peer Groups and Places meeting. This is a multi-agency meeting to discuss areas in local community where there are concerns about young people in relation to anti-social behaviour and/or crime. The meeting is attended by Cambridgeshire County Council (Early Help, Social Care, Youth Offending Service), Cambridgeshire Police, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, local schools and colleges in the Cambridge City locality, local youth-based charities in the Cambridge City locality and registered housing providers. The purpose of the meeting is for agencies to share information about the concerning and risky behaviour by young people and agree actions that safeguard the young people whilst also reducing the impact of their behaviours on the community.

Recently we have created a poster raising awareness to parents about the signs County lines and what to do if they're worried about their child or a child they know.

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

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.