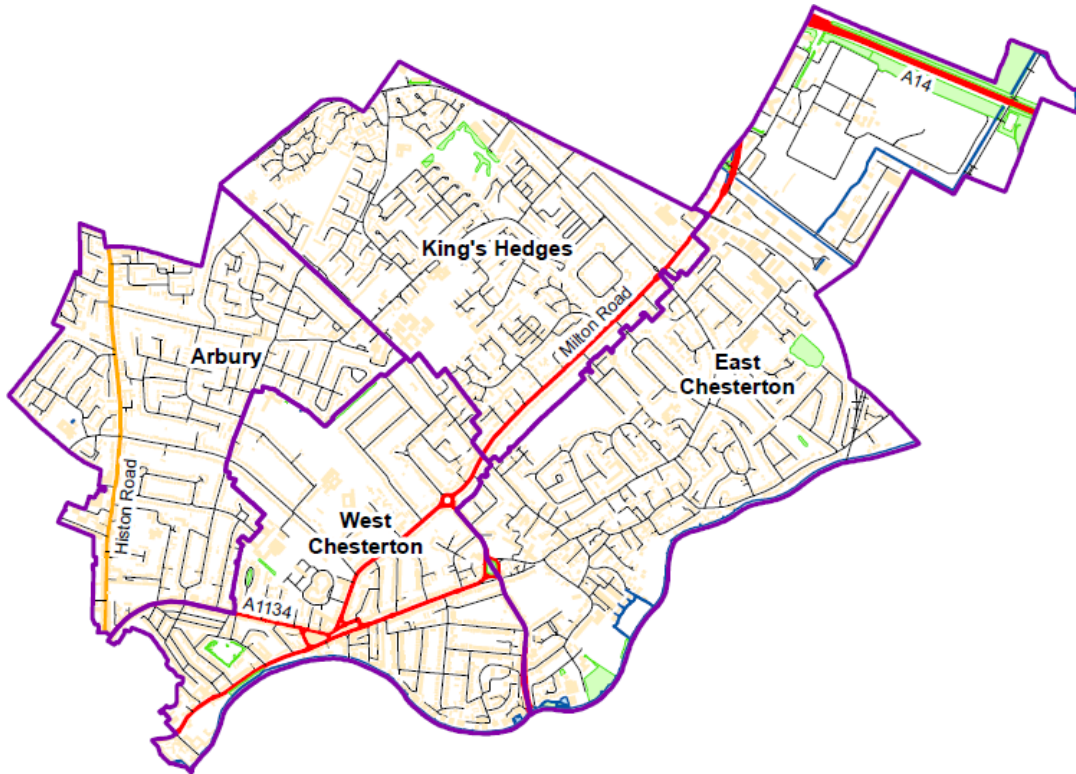


Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City North – November 2023

Wards: Arbury, East Chesterton, King's Hedges and West Chesterton



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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 North Area Committee meeting in June 2023, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Street-based drug dealing, including cuckooing;
- ASB and dangerous driving across the north of the city
- Cycle crime
- Youth and knife crime.

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

Street-based drug dealing, including cuckooing

Objective: Tackling street-based drug dealing and cuckooing

Action Taken: Since the last meeting the Neighbourhood Support team (NST) continue to specifically target county lines across the city. We continue to hold "days of action" utilising plain clothes patrols which generates a number of stop searches, intelligence reports and arrests.

Current Situation: Tackling drug dealing and County Lines remains a priority for Cambridgeshire Constabulary, with a dedicated team (NST) tackling the issue county wide. We continue to work at a local level and have several recent successes tackling street-based drug dealing. We regularly hold patrols and utilise differing tactics, such as plain clothed patrols, patrolling in unmarked vehicles, as well as patrolling on bicycles. Over the last few months officers have put in well over 50km each out on the bikes, leading to successful arrests, stop searches and intelligence gathering. You may have noticed on our social media pages where we have highlighted some of these arrests. We are also in the process of setting up specialist point of contacts within the team, specifically to review partnership referrals, incidents, and intelligence around cuckooing.

Lead Officer: PC 530 LLOYD

ASB and dangerous driving across the north of the city

Objective: Target vehicle-based anti-social and dangerous driving.

Action Taken: Operation STAPLE remains the North City Team's response to vehicle based anti-social and dangerous driving. We continue to target anti-social driving, those driving without insurance, and speeding during "days of action". In June, July, August and October, we carried out more than 70 hours of patrol time. Since June this has resulted in 2 stolen vehicles seized, arrests for drug driving, tickets for various driving offences including use of mobile phones whilst driving, not wearing seatbelts, not securing children correctly, driving whilst disqualified, and careless and inconsiderate driving to name a few. We have also conducted speed checks outside Gilbert Road, where 2 people were reported for driving excess speed.

Current Situation: As mentioned in June, Op PROPULSION, is now in it's educational phase. We currently are stopping and engaging those on e-scooters whilst out in the community and have dedicated weekly patrols every Tuesday and Thursday to this. Words of advice are given to riders.

Lead Officer: PC 2476 YIP

Cycle crime

Objective: Target cycle crime in the city

Action Taken: Operation KONG is the Cambridge city response to cycle crime, tackling all aspects of the crime type, from education to enforcement. There have been many successful cycle marking events that have taken place in the last 6 months.

Current Situation: The action we take, really has not changed since June, this is down to the successes it yields, as highlighted on our social media pages. As well as targeting prolific cycle thieves and handlers, multi-agency work with organisations, such as CamCycle, there have been many successful stories of re-uniting owners with their bikes and prosecuting offenders.

Lead Officer: PC 2018 TINDALL

Youth and knife crime

Objective: Tackle youth and knife crime

Action Taken: Operation GUARDIAN is a city-wide policing plan to tackle habitual knife carriers in Cambridge City. It consists of an outlined multi-factorial approach through target hardening, engaging with the identified individual, school engagement, and engagement with youth services. Subjects are identified and graded according to risk, creating cohorts of individuals listed as SIGNIFICANT, MODERATE or EMERGING. There is now a minimum set of standards for each cohort which involves varying degrees of intrusiveness. As expected, those in the significant category are the most intrusive, receiving bi-monthly engagement from police, linked-in work with partner agencies such as the youth offender service, and school engagement, all to try and discourage subjects from carrying knives.

Current Situation: This is now a force wide initiative, in June this was very much in its infancy. However, we are now starting to see the positive results this multi-agency approach is having. In the North, we have seen success in working with a young person to reduce their risk from significant, to no longer scoring, and leaving the cohort. This is very much long-term problem solving and engagement with agencies and individuals to ensure that we are reducing the risk to themselves and others.

Lead Officer: Each person on the cohort has their own dedicated officer.

3. Proactive Work and Emerging Issues

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Nothing further to report

Cambridge City Council

The Cambs Against County Lines Project co-ordinated by Cambridge City Council on behalf the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership Board, continues to raise awareness of county lines to help prevent children being criminally exploited into the movement of drugs and money. The project is currently in the process of expanding to make age-appropriate content for younger children with the production of a KS2 video. In addition, a flyer for parents and carers has been created to increase their awareness of county lines and potential impacts on young people. This flyer has been shared with various external agencies. More recently this flyer was included within the Autumn 2023 Edition of the Cambridge Matters publication.

The City Council co-ordinated multi-agency Peer Groups and Places meeting meets monthly to discuss areas in local community where there are concerns about young people in relation to anti-social behaviour and/or crime and in particular where young people might be at risk of criminal exploitation, such as County Lines. The purpose of the meeting is for agencies to share information and agree actions that safeguard the young people whilst reducing the impact of their behaviours on the community. This multi-agency

working allows for a contextual safeguarding approach to be adopted and the exploration of alternative activity that young individuals could positively engage with.

The ASB team are currently working with partner agencies in relation to a number of cases in the North of the city involving adults at risk of cuckooing or criminal exploitation. In cuckooing case we will often have more than one victim, the vulnerable person being exploited and the residents suffering due to the ASB they are witnessing. Whilst the cuckooed address may attract a great deal of ASB, the person living is usually vulnerable, under a great deal of duress and unable to manage or control what is happening to them. Similarly, those living closest to the cuckooed address may be severely impacted by the disturbances. In these particular cases we are working with partners to ensure victims are safeguarded, perpetrators are identified or deterred from visiting the area and just as importantly the residents affected have a point of contact and feel reassured their concerns are being addressed. We have also installed re-deployable CCTV to assist with the gathering of evidence.

We are currently leading on problem solving work in a number of ASB hotspot areas. The Community Problem Solving Coordinator will facilitate stakeholder meetings to develop a coordinated approach to respond to community concerns. This work focuses on building trusted relationships with professionals, community groups and residents to ensure a community led approach is taken when resolving place based ASB. Current areas of work include Carlton Way, where there were reports of drug and alcohol related ASB, verbal abuse and intimidation, littering and rough sleeping which was having a significant impact on residents. By working in partnership with partner agencies and stakeholders we were able to put measures in place to improve safety and reduce the risk of crime and ASB in the area. This included licensing checks on premise, installing re-deployable CCTV, securing bin stores and trade waste and arranging litter picks through the Community Pay Back scheme. We also carried out letter drops to encourage reporting and linked in with support services in relation to concerns of rough sleeping.

As part of the ongoing Cycle Crime Prevention work and the 'Save Our Cycles' Campaign which encourages the public to register their bike on Bikeregister.com, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office (OPCC) and Cambridge City Council funded Cycle Marking Kits and Camcycle's Save our Cycle campaign leaflet continue to be promoted and used at bike marking events across the City.

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.