

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Policing and Safer Neighbourhood Report Cambridge City West 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 Area Committee meetings, multi-agency neighbourhood action groups 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 November 09 – February 10 and as a comparison data from July 09 – October 09, and November 08 – February 09.
- Information from the Neighbourhood Policing teams, March 2010
- Cambridge City Council, City Services data, November 09 – February 2010 and as a comparison data from the same period during 08/09.

2. Previous Priorities & Engagement Activity

Previous Priorities

At the Area Committee on 10th December 2010, the following issues were adopted as priorities. The tables below summarise action taken and the current situation regarding the priorities which were set:

1. Anti-social congregation in public spaces – Market Ward.	
Objective	<p>1. Identify current hotspot areas for problematic congregation in public spaces.</p> <p>2. Increase police presence in those areas to identify and respond effectively to criminal offences.</p> <p>3. Make use of powers under Section 30 to disperse individuals where lawful, proportionate and necessary to offer immediate respite to those disproportionately affected by such congregation.</p> <p>4. Engage with residents, traders and their representatives to gather a qualitative picture of impact and gather community intelligence to seek to effectively tackle problems identified.</p>
Action Taken	<p>At the commencement of the plan hotspots were identified at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burleigh Street, Fitzroy Street and Grafton area • Sidney Street, Sussex Street and locale <p>During the period focused patrols in these areas resulted in 11 arrests for mainly drunken and public order offences. Dispersal powers were used on 33 occasions in those areas designated under the existing dispersal order, with 1 arrest for returning to the location within the stated dispersal time.</p> <p>In addition, Section 27 was used 3 times outside of the designated dispersal area to manage persons who were drunk and acting anti-socially.</p> <p>These interactions were almost exclusively with members of the Streetlife community and there was little evidence of problematic congregation by others.</p>

	<p>Consideration has been given by the Police and the City Council as to whether there is an evidence base to support the introduction of a further Section 30 area in locations away from the existing dispersal zone to which some problematic individuals have moved. It has been concluded that, at this time, there is insufficient evidence to justify an order. This will be discussed at the Committee meeting.</p> <p>A City Council Licensing Committee decision not to grant an alcohol license to Tesco's new store in East Road was passed based on police and public evidence of the likely negative community impact of granting one. Following an unsuccessful appeal concerning their Mill Road store, Tesco have elected not to appeal the Committee's decision on the East Road store to Magistrates.</p>
Current Situation	<p>Reports and feedback suggest that a reduction in problematic congregation in the Burleigh Street, Fitzroy Street and Grafton area following focused enforcement, has resulted in displacement of some individuals to Midsummer Common, parts of the Fair Street and its vicinity. These are now receiving attention.</p> <p>There has also been a reduction in congregation in the historic city centre at previous hotspot areas of Sidney Street, Sussex Street and locale but some presence remains.</p> <p>Clearly some engagement has been very positive and has provided immediate respite for persons in the vicinity of hotspot locations, but the challenges of relocation by determined individuals who then continue to engage in unacceptable behaviour that disproportionately affects others remains.</p>
Continue or Discharge?	Suggest continue - particularly given anticipated improvements in weather conditions making congregation in public spaces more attractive.

2. Anti-social use of vehicles – Market Ward.

Objective	1. Gather and present information back to the committee concerning the findings of Police patrols at the specific locations
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	<p>identified.</p> <p>2. Seek where appropriate to take enforcement action and educate offenders as to the issues raised by the Area Committee.</p> <p>3. Work closely with Taxi operators in the city</p>
Action Taken	<p>During the period 38 penalty notices have been issued for a variety of offences in the Market Ward. 2 drivers have been reported for using vehicles without insurance and one case was resulted where a taxi driver challenged the issue of a ticket, but Magistrates upheld the case as one of guilt on the part of the driver.</p> <p>The particular areas of note remains over-ranking at St Andrew's Street by taxis and community feedback concerning Magdalene Street, where an accident occurred during the period where a pedestrian was struck by a bus. The environmental issue of the limited space and dense flow of traffic at this point is noted.</p> <p>Patrols have largely drawn together the themes of both anti-social use of vehicles and cycles (see below).</p> <p>A safer city grant has been made available to host a Taxi Driver Crime prevention event, this is currently being organised.</p>
Current Situation	<p>There remains no one key issue or offence type in the City Centre relating to the use of vehicles, but officers continue to engage with and challenge numerous drivers during the course of patrols.</p> <p>Whilst enforcement efforts are successful in causing some to think hard about their actions and not repeat them, there will always be occasions in any City where vehicles are used anti-socially.</p>
Continue or Discharge?	Suggest continue.

3. Anti-social use of cycles – Market Ward.

Objective	To raise awareness of the dangers of cycling without lights after dark (as a priority) and other cycling offences.
Action Taken	<p>Following on from a specific week of action in October on this issue further evening events were held in January.</p> <p>During the week commencing the 18th January Police, City Council (City Rangers, Enforcement Team and Safer Communities) and the County Council 'Bikeability' Officer ran illegal cycling enforcement and education evenings.</p> <p>The focus was on the issue of cycling without lights where offending cyclists were issued with fixed penalty notices for cycling with no lights. Lights were provided to those receiving fines. Although other offences such as cycling on the footpath and cycling the wrong way round the one way system were also dealt with. An additional action evening was held in early February. Six evenings in total were held in January and February. Many cyclists were spoken to about safe cycling in the city.</p> <p>The project was heavily publicised to make it clear why the work was being carried out, interviews took place on Star and Heart FM, with local student papers and with the Cambridge Evening News to ensure the message to cycle safely and legally was spread as widely as possible.</p> <p>The Rangers committed time to provide words of advice to individuals cycling illegally in the city centre. Approximately 1,816 incidents of anti-social cycling occurred between November 2009 and February 2010, compared with approximately 1,015 during the same period the previous year. Particular hotspots during the 09/10 period were Sidney Street (350, compared with 224 during the 08/09 period), Trinity Street (340, compared with 214 during the 08/09 period), Bridge Street (316, compared with 176 during the 08/09 period), Market Street (247, compared with 149 during the 08/09 period) and Petty Cury (206, compared with 109 during the 08/09 period).</p> <p>Routine police patrols in the city centre looked at this issue.</p>
Current Situation	The lighter evenings approaching will reduce the impact of the cycling without lights issue, however, illegal cycling remains an ongoing issue all year round.

Continue or Discharge?	Suggest discharge – a campaign will be run again after the summer

Engagement Activity

Engagement events permitting members of the public to meet the City West Neighbourhood Policing Team and discuss matters in a relaxed environment are listed on the Constabulary's website.

They include:

- Monthly evening surgeries at Co-Op, Histon Road
- Regular surgeries at the Central Library, Grand Arcade and the mobile library sited in the Market Square
- Surgeries at the Newnham Croft School

For further details please visit www.cambs.police.uk and look for the "My Neighbourhood" link or call 0345 456 456 4.

For more private matters, officers will be happy to arrange a meeting at your convenience or discuss matters via telephone.

Cambridge Sex Workers Advisory Network (SWAN) – the most recent meeting to set up an advisory network for sex workers in Cambridge was held in January. The meeting was very well attended by voluntary and statutory agencies with a responsibility for working with and assisting sex workers in Cambridge. Full working practices are at the final stage of being signed off and work is progressing to set up a drop in surgery to work with sex workers in Cambridge.

3. Emerging Issues

Neighbourhood trends

Total crime in City West has seen a large reduction in comparison to both the previous period and the same period last year. Total crime figures may have been affected by the extreme weather in December 2009 and January 2010.

There have been large decreases in violent crime and cycle theft offences. Dwelling burglaries and vehicle crime have seen a reduction. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents have also decreased compared to the previous period and the same period last year.

Newnham

- Total crime in Newnham has seen a reduction compared to both the previous period and the same period last year.
- There were 10 dwelling burglaries in this period compared to 5 offences in the previous period and 14 offences in the same period last year. There don't appear to be any patterns or trends in the offences as different MOs were used and offences occurred at different times of the day and night.
- Violent crime offences have decreased by almost three quarters compared to the previous period (8 offences vs. 31 offences). This is also a decrease compared to the same period last year (20 offences). In two of the offences female students have been working in their room at a desk and have seen a male exposing himself outside their windows.
- Theft from vehicle offences have remained stable compared to the previous period (17 offences vs. 15 offences). During December, 5 vehicles were broken into in the area around the University Rugby ground, some had windows smashed others had their locks tampered with.
- Cycle theft offences have decreased compared to the previous period (27 offences vs. 37 offences) but remained stable compared to the same period last year. Sixteen of the offences occurred at one of the colleges in Newnham Ward.
- ASB incidents have decreased from 54 offences in the previous period to 31 offences in this period. This is also a decrease compared to the same period last year when there were 44 offences. There were no patterns and trends in the ASB incidents which occurred during this 4 month period.

- Between November and February 09/10 there were 6 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward, compared with 9 during the same period the previous year. This included 2 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 3 CLE26 notices, which were issued to offenders on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying road tax on a public highway. These will result in fines issued by the DVLA. Another vehicle was impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax and the vehicle was subsequently released after a fine was paid to the DVLA. There were no hotspots during either period.
- Between November and February 09/10 and during the same period 08/09 there were 16 reports of flytipping within the ward. All were removed within 24 hours and there was sufficient evidence to issue one domestic offender with a warning letter. In addition waste transfer documentation was requested from two trade offenders. Lammas Land (5, compared with 6 the previous year) was a hotspot during this period. Granchester Meadows (3) was also a hotspot during the 08/09 period.
- Between November and February 09/10, 19 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 15 during the same period the previous year. Lammas Land (3) was a hotspot in 09/10 whereas Madingley Road Park & Ride was a hotspot during the same period the previous year (5).
- Between November and February 09/10, 3 needles were reported compared with 0 during the same period the previous year. There were no specific hotspots.
- 7 items of graffiti were removed by the City Rangers between November and February 09/10, compared with 11 during the same period the previous year. Fen Causeway (5) was a hotspot during the 09/10 period whereas Granchester Meadows (4) and the Paradise Nature Reserve (3) were hotspots during the same period the previous year.

Castle

- Total crime in Castle ward has decreased compared to both the previous period (102 offences vs. 167 offences) and the same period last year (177 offences). This decrease was mainly due to decreases in 'burglary other' offences, 'theft from vehicle' offences, cycle theft offences and criminal damage offences.
- Dwelling burglary offences have remained stable compared to the previous period (18 offences vs. 19 offences) and compared to the same period last year (19 offences). Three of the offences occurred at Trinity College in

November, two on the same date. An offender has been arrested and charged for both offences.

- 'Theft from vehicle' offences have halved in this four month period compared to the previous 4 month period (9 offences vs. 18 offences). Three of these offences occurred on Pound Hill on the same evening in November. A window had been smashed in all three vehicles and items such as cash, credit cards and digital cameras were stolen.
- Cycle theft offences have decreased from 49 offences in the previous period to 35 offences in this period. Common locations for cycle theft offences were New Hall on Huntingdon Road, Trinity Hall on Trinity Lane and Trinity College on Trinity Street.
- ASB incidents have decreased compared to both the previous period (39 incidents vs. 74 incidents) and the same period last year (81 incidents). The area around Castle Street was a hotspot for incidents, most of which were rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour.
- Between November and February 09/10 there were 11 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward, compared with 9 during the same period the previous year. This included two vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 2 CLE26 notices, which were issued to offenders on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying road tax on a public highway. These will result in fines issued by the DVLA. Three vehicles were also impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax and these vehicles were subsequently released after a fine was paid to the DVLA. A further 2 cases have been referred to the police. There were no hotspots during 09/10, but Oxford Road (3) was a hotspot during the 08/09 period.
- Between November and February 09/10 there were 9 reports of flytipping within the ward, compared with 13 during the same period the previous year. All were removed within 24 hours and there was sufficient evidence to issue a warning letter to a domestic offender. One case is currently pending further investigation. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between November and February 09/10, 16 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 26 during the same period the previous year. Marion Close (4) was a hotspot in 09/10 compared with the following during the same period in 08/09: Castle Street and Haymarket Road (both 4), Storey's Way and Whymans Lane (each with 3).

- Between November and February, 3 needles were reported over 2 occasions, compared with 17 needles over 2 occasions during the same period the previous year. There were no hotspots in 09/10, but 15 needles were removed from near a bin cupboard at Honey Hill in the 08/09 period.
- 3 items of graffiti were removed by the City Rangers between November and February 09/10, compared with 0 during the same period the previous year. There were no specific hotspots.

Market

- Total crime in Market Ward has decreased compared to the previous period (1224 offences vs. 1336 offences) and compared to the same period last year (1352). This decrease is mainly due to a large decrease in cycle theft offences.
- Burglary other offences have almost halved compared to the previous period (17 offences vs. 30 offences). In 3 of these offences which all occurred on Trumpington Street in January an offender has been arrested and charged.
- Violent crime offences have decreased compared to the previous period (234 offences vs. 252 offences) but increased compared to the same period last year. Saturdays (62) and Sundays (42) were the most common days for offences to occur. An offender has been arrested and charged in 119 of all the violent crime offences.
- There were 10 robbery offences in this period compared to 8 offences in the previous period and 23 offences in the same period last year. Two of the robberies occurred on or close to Parkers Piece in the early hours of the morning. The victim was pushed to the ground and had his money stolen in both offences.
- Theft from vehicle offences have decreased compared to the previous period (16 offences vs. 24 offences). There does not appear to be any patterns or trends in these offences.
- Cycle theft offences have decreased from 265 offences in the previous period to 190 offences in this period. This is an increase compared to the same period last year when there were 173 offences. Common locations for cycle theft offences were Parkside (14), Trumpington Street (13), Regent Street (12), Jesus Lane (9) and St Andrew Street (8).

- There were 253 theft from shop offences in this period compared to 243 offences in the previous period and 333 offences in the same period last year. In 184 offences an offender has been arrested and charged. Common locations for theft from shop offences are Debenhams in The Grafton Centre (28), Sainsburys on Sidney Street and Boots on Sidney Street. The theft from shop offences tended to occur between 14:00 – 17:00.
- Other crime offences have increased compared to the previous period (419 offences vs. 405 offences) but decreased compared to the same period last year (460 offences). Forty-nine of these offences were possession of a controlled drug 939 of which were cannabis). Twenty-four of the offences were fraud by false representation offences and an offender has been arrested and charged in 6 of these offences.
- ASB incident levels have decreased compared to the previous period (560 incidents vs. 619 incidents) and compared to the same period last year (626 incidents). The incidents were mainly rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour (439 incidents), 79 of which were alcohol related. Sixty of the offences involved fights, whilst another 46 incidents involved shouting and swearing.
- Between November and February 09/10 there were 3 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward, compared with 11 during the same period the previous year. This included 1 vehicle, which was not on site following inspection and another ,which was impounded and the offender issued with a fixed penalty notice. There were no hotspots during the 09/10 period, but Adam & Eve Street (3) was a hotspot during the same period the previous year.
- Between November and February 09/10 there were 129 reports of flytipping within the ward, compared with 198 during the same period the previous year. All were removed within 24 hours and there was sufficient evidence to issue 8 warning letters to domestic offenders and another with a Section 46 notice. In addition, 2 verbal warnings were given. A warning letter was also sent to a trade offender and waste transfer documentation was also requested from a further 8 trade offenders. Hotspots during the 09/10 period included Market Street (14), City Road (11), St John's Street (9) and Adam & Eve Street (6). Hotspots in the 08/09 period included Kings Parade (17), Trumpington Street (13), Market Square (11) and Regent Terrace (9) and Corn Exchange Street (8).

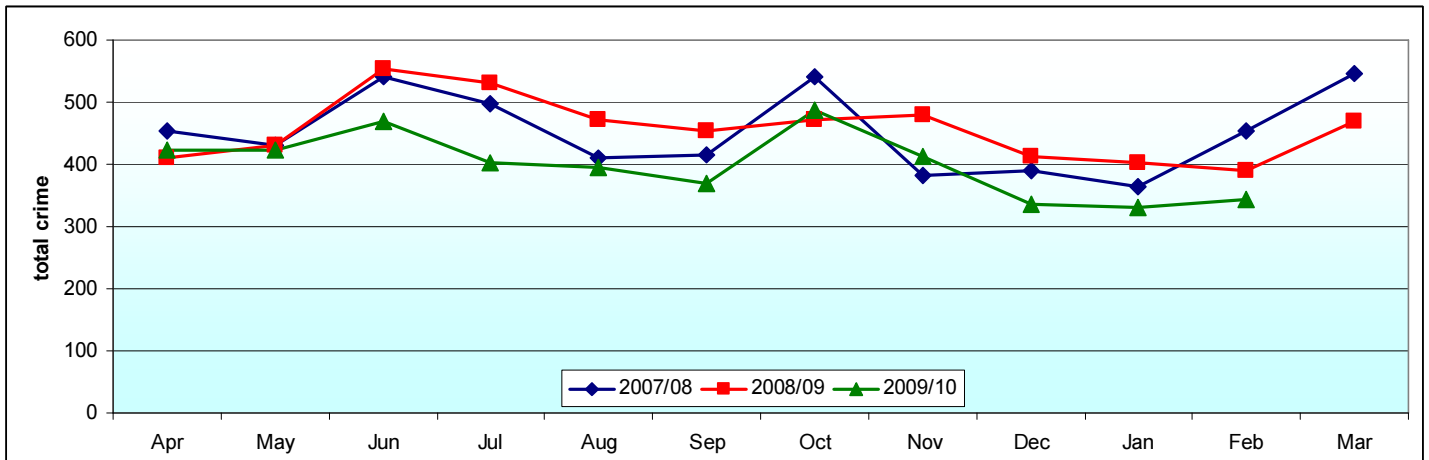
- Between November and February 09/10, 137 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 299 during the same period the previous year. Derelict cycles are removed by the City Rangers and it should be noted that the reduction in cycles dealt with reflects changing demands in workload and is therefore not indicative of an overall decline. Hotspots included Sidney Street (19), Downing Street (17), Guildhall Street (15) and Drummer Street (10). Hotspots during the same period in 08/09 included: St Mary's Passage (24), Sidney Street (23), Peas Hill, Bridge Street and Trinity Street (15) and Trumpington Street (11).
- Between November and February 09/10, 150 needles were reported. 150 needles were also reported during the same period the previous year. Hotspots during the 09/10 period were in the Adam & Eve Street Car Park (33, with 15 unused, over 2 occasions compared with 79 over 1 occasion during the previous year), Fair Street (6 needles over 4 occasions compared with 24 needles over 6 occasions the previous year), Grafton West Car Park (40 needles over 12 occasions compared with 22 over 2 occasions during the previous year), Salmon Lane (39 needles, with 6 unused, over 5 occasions) and King Street (15 needles over 5 occasions). Park Parade (15 needles over 1 occasion) was a hotspot in the 08/09 period.
- 9 items of graffiti were removed by the City Rangers between November and February 09/10, compared with 8 during the same period the previous year. Clarendon Street (3) was a hotspot during the 09/10 period whereas Kings Street (3) was a hotspot during the same period the previous year.

4. Recommendations

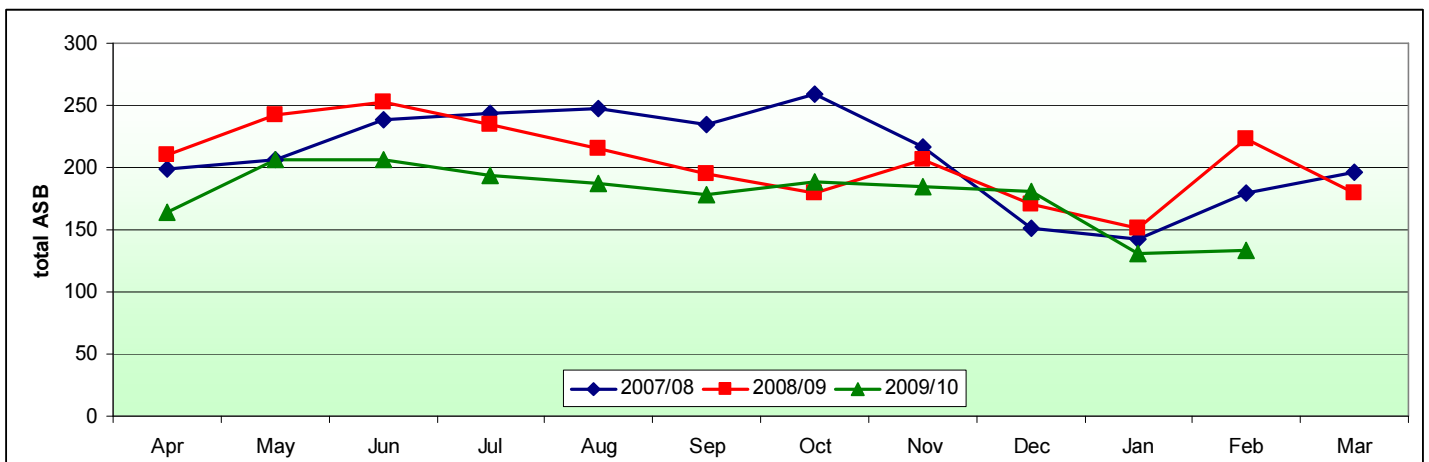
- Continuation of anti-social congregation in public spaces – Market Ward.
- Continuation of anti-social use of vehicles – Market Ward.

5. Current Crime and Incident Levels

Total Crime



Total ASB



Current Crime and Incident Levels in Neighbourhood, by Ward

			Dwell. Burg.	Other Burg.	Violent Crime	Robbery	Theft of Vehicle	Theft from Veh.	Cycle Theft	Theft from Shop	Criminal Damage	Other Crime	TOTAL CRIME	TOTAL ASB
Nho	City West	Nov 09 – Feb 10	32	29	248	11	2	42	252	256	133	417	1422	630
		Jul 09 – Oct 09	37	59	291	11	5	57	351	248	126	466	1651	747
		Nov 08 – Feb 09	46	48	251	38	6	50	248	334	94	569	1684	751
Wards	Newnham	Nov 09 – Feb 10	10	6	8	0	1	17	27	1	6	20	96	31
		Jul 09 – Oct 09	5	10	31	1	1	15	37	2	13	33	148	54
		Nov 08 – Feb 09	14	14	20	10	0	13	27	0	17	40	155	44
	Castle	Nov 09 – Feb 10	18	6	6	1	0	9	35	2	8	17	102	39
		Jul 09 – Oct 09	19	19	8	2	0	18	49	3	21	28	167	74
		Nov 08 – Feb 09	19	14	15	5	2	17	48	1	26	30	177	81
	Market	Nov 09 – Feb 10	4	17	234	10	1	16	190	253	80	419	1224	560
		Jul 09 – Oct 09	13	30	252	8	4	24	265	243	92	405	1336	619
		Nov 08 – Feb 09	13	20	216	23	4	20	173	333	90	460	1352	626