

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 August 11 – November 11 and as a comparison data from April 11- July 11, and August 10 – November 10.
- Information from the Neighbourhood Policing teams, November 2011.
- Community intelligence.
- Environmental data from Cambridge City Council for the period August 2011 – November 2011, compared with the same period the previous year.

2. PREVIOUS PRIORITIES & ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

Previous Priorities

At the neighbourhood panel meeting on 25th August, 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: Speed enforcement – 20mph limit	
Objective	Speed enforcement activity to support the implementation of 20mph speed limit.
Action Taken	<p>Since this priority was set speed enforcement activity within 20mph limit areas has received support from officers additional to the local neighbourhood team including staff from the roads policing unit.</p> <p>From 1st of September 2011 checks have been conducted on Maids Causeway Jesus Lane and other surrounding roads. This has resulted in over 12 hours of time being spent on conducting speed checks with over 100 vehicles stopped and drivers spoken to about their speed. To date, 8 fixed penalty notices have been issued for excess speed and 2 for other traffic offences.</p>
Current Situation	Checks will continue but officer time needs to be balanced against other policing priorities.
Continue or Discharge?	For consideration by the committee. If this continues it would be helpful to know the level of inputs and what outputs and outcomes that would be sought and considered acceptable.

City Central: Alcohol and group related ASB in Grafton Centre area.	
Objective	To reduce incidents of unacceptable behaviour in the vicinity of the Grafton Centre.
Action Taken	Cambridge City Council's ASB Team conducted a 'street surgery' around the Grafton Centre on 23 rd November between 1pm and 6pm, focusing on problems associated with street people in the area. The team, with neighbourhood police officers, visited shops and homes in and around the Grafton Centre area, giving people a chance to tell them about any anti-social behaviour problems they are experiencing in the area. They also handed out a flyer describing the type of

	<p>behaviours that justify the police or Council being called in. The results were positive and an action plan has been drawn up to address the issues raised.</p> <p>This priority also received support from officers additional to the neighbourhood team and has received almost daily attention with officers tasked to visit the area and use their powers to address behaviour that often resulted in requiring those behaving badly to leave the area using Section 27 Dispersal Notices. Some arrests were also made in the course of this activity.</p> <p>On 27th October a meeting was held with management representatives of Willow Walk Hostel, the city centre NPT team and residents of the Grafton Area to address the issue. Management of Willow Walk were made aware of the anti-social behaviour problems involving their residents and agreed to take action alongside the police to tackle the issue.</p> <p>As a result of the targeted and focused police approach around the Grafton area reports of anti-social behaviour have reduced. However, a recent survey in the area still evidences that the problem continues. There is also evidence that some of the behaviour and those responsible have dispersed into the city centre.</p> <p>On 5th December 2011 a meeting was held between councillors, police and council officials to tackle the growing issue of anti-social behaviour relating to the street life community in market Street and Sidney Street. As a result of that meeting evidence is being gathered by PS Drury to consider the introduction of a new Section 30 Dispersal Order.</p>
<p>Current Situation</p>	<p>The issue of anti-social behaviour in Grafton area has improved with fewer calls received from residents and businesses in area. Officers report that there are now fewer congregations of street life people outside the church on Fair Street as was previously the case. However, a recent survey of residents shows that they continued to be concerned and affected by the problem.</p>
<p>Continue or Discharge?</p>	<p>It is suggested that this location is considered as part of the wider problem currently under review.</p>

City West: ASB associated with sex workers in Histon Road	
Objective	To address the problem of sex working in Histon Road area and reduce the impact on the local community.
Action Taken	<p>Patrols have been carried out by plain-clothes officers averaging 2 nights per week throughout the period that this priority has been running. 10 female sex workers were identified working in the area of Histon Road. These females varied in ages and backgrounds but the majority had drug and/or alcohol issues.</p> <p>Officers initially engaged with the sex workers liaising with support agencies in order to address the needs of the females and remove their need to rely on prostitution. This engagement resulted in 6 of the 10 females receiving support from the Cambridge Drug Intervention Programme and the Sex Workers Advisory Network (SWAN) who ran an outreach service to support the operation.</p> <p>Two of the sex workers were reluctant to take this step and enforcement was required. It was not the preferred outcome but a necessary step to obtain compliance. Following enforcement, 1 female continued to work in the area and was located most evenings by officers. Officers collate the evidence of her behaviour and applied to the court for an Anti-social Behaviour Order to prevent her from being on foot in Histon Road or the surrounding roads between 7pm and 7am. This ASBO was granted at the end of November.</p> <p>Ten males have been reported for summons for soliciting. Many others have been interviewed and had letters sent to the registered keeper of the vehicle explaining the priority and the fact that the vehicle and been seen loitering in the area.</p>
Current Situation	<p>During the patrols over the last few weeks officers have not identified any females working but have found an increase in the number of males that approach female officers. The officers believe that this is due to the lack of sex workers and will continue to target these males.</p> <p>Feedback from residents has been positive. They report the area as being much quieter in relation to the prostitution issues.</p> <p>SWAN has indicated they no longer need to provide an outreach service on Histon Road due to the lack of sex workers</p>

	present to make use of the service.
Continue or Discharge?	Officers will continue to carry out patrols to maintain low levels of ASB in relation to the prostitution. It is suggested that this can now be discharged as a priority and dealt with normal policing business.

City West: Cycle theft	
Objective	To reduce incidences of cycle theft across the area.
Action Taken	<p>Officers attended all ‘fresher’s talks in the Colleges. They provided crime prevention advice as well as information regarding safer cycling. The officers took along laptops to encourage those attending to sign up with immobilise. Officers have hosted Immobilise surgeries in the street, at Shire Hall, at local schools and colleges.</p> <p>A male handling cycles stolen in Cambridge was identified as living in Suffolk. Officers worked with Suffolk police to execute a warrant on the address recovering 2 high value cycles that were stolen in the City.</p> <p>A male and female have been identified as being responsible for a significant number of offences. The female has been charged and sent to court. The male is currently on bail while further evidence is secured.</p> <p>A known cycle thief has had a number of cycles seized from him by police. Unfortunately no one has reported them stolen despite the individual not being able to account for being in possession. The cycles remain in the property store until ownership can be proven.</p>
Current Situation	<p>Cycle theft across the committee area has reduced significantly from the same period last year and also in comparison to the last period. Market ward shows a an increase when compared with the last period but is again down substantially compared to the same period last year.</p> <p>Figures for December will be available at the meeting.</p>
Continue or	For determination at the meeting.

3. NEIGHBOURHOOD TRENDS

Total crime in City West has seen a decrease of 110 offences from 1605 reported in the previous period to 1495 reported in the last 4-month period. This is also a decrease from the same period last year when there were 1956 reported offences. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) has also seen a decrease with 541 incidents in this period compared to 573 in the last. This is also lower than last year when there were 620 reported incidents.

Newnham

Crime

- Total crime in Newnham ward has seen a decrease from 137 offences reported in the previous period to 116 over the last 4-month period. Reductions in dwelling burglary, other burglary, violent crime, cycle theft and other crime have been countered by notable increases in Theft from vehicle and criminal damage.
- During the 4-month period, there were 5 dwelling burglaries reported, this is a decrease compared to 9 reported in the last period. In four of these offences the property had been left insecure.
- Cycle theft in Newnham has decreased with 48 offences reported in the previous 4-month period to 40 in this period. The vast majority of the offences occurred in and around College premises.
- Theft from vehicle offences have increased with 11 reported in this period compared to 6 in the previous. This is still notable lower than the same period last year when there were 37 offences. In the majority of offences, windows have been smashed and various items stolen. Three offences occurred in Herschel Road, but no specific day/time.

ASB

- ASB incidents have decreased compared to the previous period (36 incidents vs. 47 incidents) this is also lower than the same period last year (45).
- Over the 4 month period, there were 13 Rowdy/Nuisance Incidents. There were no patterns or hotspots for these incidents.
- There was one report of males tormenting swans in the River and another incident involved youths throwing stones at cows and chasing them in Sheeps Green.

Environmental Services Data

- Between August and November 2011, there were 13 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 8 during the same period the previous year. This included 6 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 4, which were subsequently claimed by their owners. Also following inspections 3 vehicles were not abandoned. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between August and November 2011, there were 11 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 11 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue 2 formal warning letters to domestic offenders. Lammas Land (3) was the hotspot during the current reporting period. Lammas Land (6) was the hotspot during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 24 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 25 during the same period the previous year. Newnham Road (6) was the hotspot during the current reporting period. Lammas Land

(7), Queens Road (4), Barton Road (3) and Grange Road (3) were the main hotspots during the previous year.

- Between August and November, there were no needles reported in either year for this area.

Castle

Crime

- Total crime in Castle ward has seen a decrease compared to the previous period, 111 crimes were recorded over the last 4-month period, compared with 144 in the previous period. The most notable decrease was observed in cycle theft.
- Dwelling burglary offences have more than halved during the period, with only 4 offences reported compared to 10 in the previous period. In one offence, a distraction burglary occurred when offenders stated they were from the water board and victim later discovered a handbag was missing.
- Theft from vehicle offences have remained stable compared with the previous period (9 offences vs. 8 offences). Out of the 9 offences reported, offenders targeted front and rear index plates from 4 vehicles parked in Oxford Road, Sherlock Close, Canterbury Street and Halifax Road.
- A marked decrease was noted in cycle theft compared to the previous period (44 offences vs. 56 offences), and compared to the same period last year (73). 19 of these offences occurred on or near college premises.

ASB

- ASB levels have also seen a decrease, from 55 incidents in the previous period to 45 currently. Comparatively, this is also lower than the same period last year (50 incidents).
- Eight of these incidents related to problems with groups of streetlife causing damage, being aggressive and causing disturbance to residents.
- There were four calls relating to prostitutes loitering in the area of Belmore Close and Warwick Road.

Environmental Services Data

- Between August and November 2011, there were 7 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 6 during the same period the previous year. This included 6 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between August and November 2011, there were 14 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 8 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue 2 formal warning letters to domestic offenders and 1 formal warning letter to trade offenders. In addition, 2 verbal warnings were issued and waste transfer documentation was requested from both trade offenders. Histon Road (3) was the hotspot

during the current reporting period. There were no specific hotspots during the previous year.

- Between August and November 2011, 24 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 11 during the same period the previous year. Castle Street (6), Victoria Avenue (6), Huntingdon Road (3) and Pound Hill (3) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. Windsor Road (3) was the hotspot during the previous year.

Market

Crime

- Total crime in Market has decreased from 1324 offences reported in the previous period to 1268. This is also lower than the same period last year (1583).
- During the period there were 3 robberies reported. One of these offences related to a shop assistant being threatened with a knife while an offender stole items worth nearly £18,000. The offender has been arrested and charged for this offence.
- Cycle theft has seen an increase of 36 offences from 244 in the previous period to 280 currently. Cycles were most frequently stolen on Regent Street (22), Parkside (14), Trumpington Street (11) Portugal Place (10) and St. Andrews Street (9). 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 a decrease from 241 offences in previous period to 211 in the latest period, offence levels are also still lower than the same period last year. The majority of these were reported on Sidney Street (57), at the Grafton Centre (36), Petty Cury (18) and Market Street (17).
- The theft of mobile phones and similar devices from licensed entertainment venues is currently a major concern and is receiving priority attention. Since late September large numbers have been stolen at night time venues and multiple offences have occurred on a number of different occasions. The problem has received wide publicity and efforts are being renewed to highlight the problem.

ASB

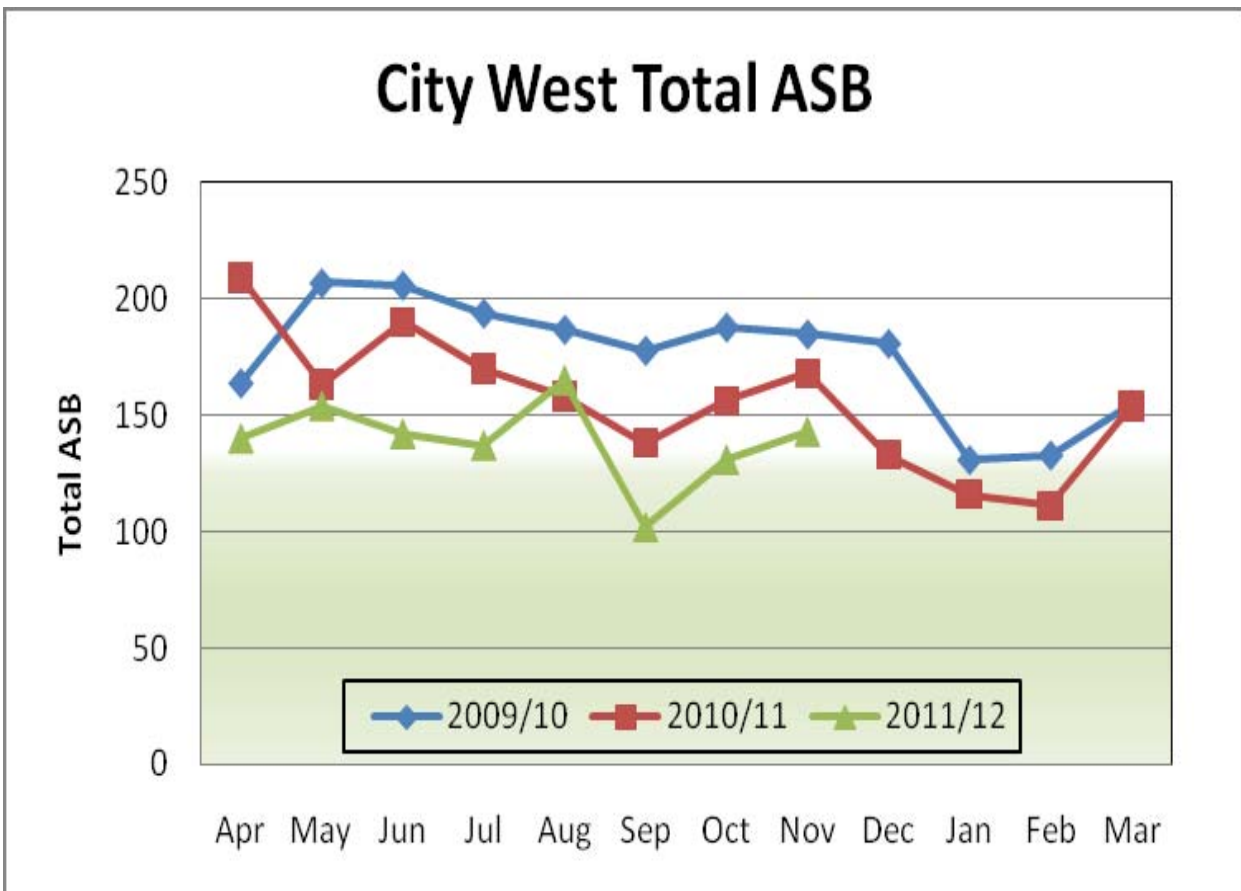
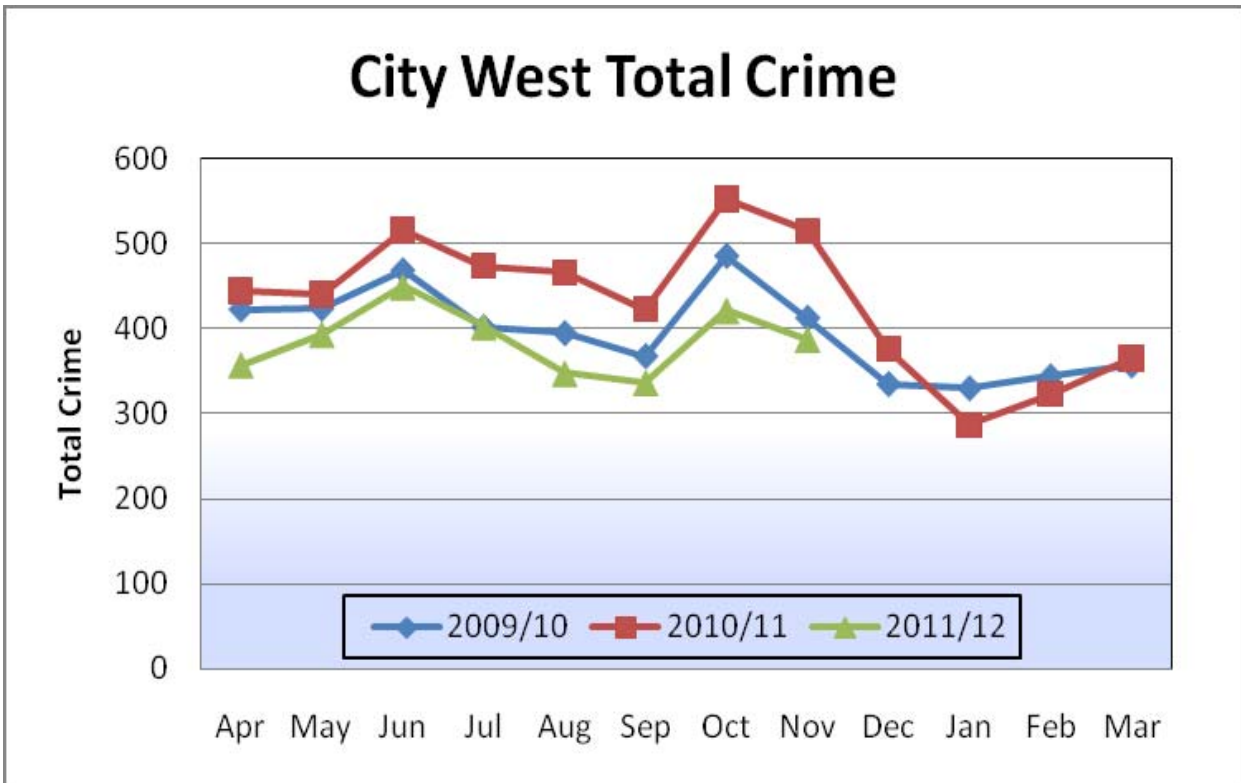
- Over the 4-month period, there were 460 ASB incidents reported in Market. Comparatively, this is at a lower level than the previous period, which recorded 471 incidents, and also lower than the same period last year where 525 incidents were recorded.
- During the period, 17 begging/vagrancy incidents were reported in Market. The majority of these were fairly spread out, there were 3 incidents reported in Park Street and another one reported in nearby Malcolm Place.

- There were 288 Rowdy/Nuisance incidents which were mainly reported on Regent Street (24), St. Andrews Street (31), Parkside (18), Sidney Street (12), Fitzroy Street (12) and Grafton Centre (12).

Environmental Services Data

- Between August and November 2011, there were 5 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 2 during the same period the previous year. This included 3 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection. 2 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. There were no specific hotspots during either period.
- Between August and October 2011, there were 152 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 95 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue 7 formal warning letters to domestic offenders. In addition, 13 verbal warnings were issued and waste transfer documentation was requested from 8 trade offenders. Sidney Street (15), Free School Lane (10), St Andrews Street (9), Bridge Street (7), Eden Street (7), Market Passage (7), Petty Cury (7) and Victoria Avenue (7) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. The offences at Victoria Avenue accounted for 5 of the formal warning letters being sent and Eden Street accounted for 1 of the formal warning letters. City Road (5), Drummer Street (5), King Street (4) and Petty Cury (4) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 430 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 307 during the same period the previous year. Sidney Street (62), Park Street Cycle Park (24), St Andrews Street (23), Little St Mary's Lane (22), Bridge Street (21) and Parkside (17) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. Downing Street (29), Trumpington Street (26), Sidney Street (15), Regent Street (13), and St Mary's Passage (13) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 27 needles were reported compared with 84 during the same period the previous year. 16 were removed from Fitzroy Street. During the previous reporting period 24 needles were removed from Chris's Pieces.

4. CURRENT CRIME & INCIDENT LEVELS



CURRENT CRIME AND INCIDENT LEVELS IN CAMBRIDGE CITY WEST 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
N'hood	City West	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	11	37	229	4	5	31	288	212	64	614	1495	541
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	29	42	257	6	5	26	348	246	101	545	1605	573
		<i>Aug 10 – Nov 10</i>	36	52	306	27	5	87	533	296	113	501	1956	620
Wards	Newnham	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	5	6	7	0	2	11	40	0	12	33	116	36
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	9	16	8	0	1	6	48	1	9	39	137	47
		<i>Aug 10 – Nov 10</i>	8	15	15	3	2	37	67	1	11	40	199	45
	Castle	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	4	7	12	1	1	9	44	1	9	23	111	45
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	10	6	8	3	2	8	56	4	14	33	144	55
		<i>Aug 10 – Nov 10</i>	17	10	7	1	1	19	73	7	12	27	174	50
	Market	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	2	24	210	3	2	11	280	211	43	482	1268	460
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	10	20	241	3	2	12	244	241	78	473	1324	471
		<i>Aug 10 – Nov 10</i>	11	27	284	23	2	31	393	288	90	434	1583	525

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	Noise Complaint	Rowdy/Nuisance Incident	Street Drinking	Suspicious Circumstances	Violence	Vehicle Nuisance	Other Incidents	Grand Total
N'hood	City West	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	10	23	7	8	20	318	18	7	65	12	49	537
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	11	23	7	16	22	350	18	9	61	6	56	579
Wards	Newnham	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	2	1	0	3	3	13	0	0	2	4	7	35
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	5	0	1	6	5	25	0	1	0	2	2	47
	Castle	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	3	5	0	0	6	17	1	2	1	1	8	44
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	4	3	0	5	4	21	0	1	2	3	12	55
	Market	<i>Aug 11 – Nov 11</i>	5	17	7	5	11	288	17	5	62	7	34	458
		<i>Apr 11 – Jul 11</i>	2	20	6	5	13	304	18	7	59	1	42	477

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following Neighbourhood Priorities are recommended for consideration:

- Alcohol and drug related ASB in the city centre and surrounding area.