

# Neighbourhood profile update Cambridge City North Neighbourhood



January 2012



Sergeant Jason Wragg, North  
Area Neighbourhood  
Sergeant

Lynda Kilkelly, Safer  
Communities Manager,  
Cambridge City Council



## CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	2
2. PREVIOUS PRIORITIES	3
3. ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY	5
4. EMERGING ISSUES	5
5. RECOMMENDATIONS	13
6. CURRENT CRIME TRENDS	14

### 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 September 11 – December 11 and as a comparison data from May 11 – August 11 and September 10 – December 10
- Information from the Neighbourhood Policing teams, December 2011.
- 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 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011 the following issues were adopted as priorities. The tables below summarise action taken and the current situation regarding the priorities that were set:

<b>Parking issues at the new Shirley School</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	Reduce complaints of obstructive parking and bad driving at the Shirley School, Nuffield Road, Chesterton
<b>Action Taken</b>	Local Officers have regularly attended the location at the relevant times, in order to show a visible presence and avail themselves to the local community. We have monitored calls for service and maintained contact with all concerned parties, through regular meetings. This has included inviting the City ASB Team to become involved; which they have. Initially it was intended to break the action plan into two phases – education (one month) and enforcement (two months). At this stage there has been no requirement for enforcement.
<b>Current Situation</b>	Shirley School has just completed its first full term, at the new Nuffield Rd. site. Initially there was some disquiet about parking issues, on both Nuffield Rd. and Laxton Way but this has declined. There are no (not for Nuffield or Laxton) recorded jobs related to this issue since September 2011, which bodes well. Local officers have regularly attended/monitored the situation and will continue to do so. The School are in talks with Cambridge County Council Road Safety and Parking Dept. with a view to placing various restrictions/controls on driving and parking in the relevant areas.
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	Discharge – continue to monitor as part of our everyday business. No immediate concerns.

<b>Anti-social behaviour - Victoria Road area</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	Reduce incidents of ASB in the vicinity of 222 Victoria Road (City Council to lead)
<b>Action Taken</b>	Members from the City Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team met with staff at 222 Victoria Road about ongoing complaints

	<p>of nuisance and ASB around the hostel. It was agreed that the ASB Team would hold a street surgery with housing representatives, the police and other agencies, to meet with local businesses and residents to discuss concerns they might have in their community. This would also help to inform our work in the area and to make sure that we are targeting the issues that are affecting local residents. The surgery was held on the 16th January from 4-6pm and we will be able to feed back about this surgery at the committee meeting. Use made of Section 27 Violent Crime Act 2004 to disperse nuisance drunks outside, with several arrests made where appropriate and necessary. Daily contact with staff, with a regular presence from the local policing team, for varying periods of time. Sergeant Wragg has held meetings with both local and area management of Riverside ECHG and met with the three local councillors. Support for staff inside the hostel, where needed. There have been problems in a communal TV room, wherein officers have expelled or arrested trouble-makers as appropriate.</p>
<b>Current Situation</b>	<p>Problems outside have declined considerably, but the colder weather has also undoubtedly helped. Inside the hostel the TV room has been closed for periods of the day to disrupt the circumstances leading to drunken ASB. Local police continue to visit on a daily basis and liaise with management and staff. Riverside ECHG has plans to considerably change the nature of the hostel in the near future.</p>
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	<p>This is a work in progress, with a long-term solution identified, but not yet attained.</p>

<b>Reduce deliberate fire setting</b>	
<b>Objective</b>	<p>Continue the work commenced during the previous period to reduce incidents of non-accidental fires (Fire Service lead).</p>
<b>Action Taken</b>	<p>Partnership community support efforts in the area have included joint house to house enquires, advice and support provision. An environment audit has been undertaken which will be supported by an action day on January 17<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the action day is to reduce the opportunity for arson, improve protection assets and waste management. Plans for a 'FireWatch' scheme similar to neighbourhood</p>

	watch are being developed.
<b>Current Situation</b>	Two serious fires have occurred since the last report to committee, both in the Aragon & Sackville Close areas. Police enquires continue and detection support has been deployed.
<b>Continue or Discharge?</b>	It is suggested this continues.

### 3. ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

We have continued with the Arbury Court “surgeries” on the last Wednesday of every month and have begun to introduce the same at the Brownsfield Centre in East Chesterton (although this has had a seemingly low take-up). On a weekly basis, we have put out Ecops messages, to subscribers. Generally this has been information of upcoming events, crime advice and good news stories. We have been able to report (within the strict constraints, in which we work) much good news this period. A great deal of this has been success against drug dealers and handlers of stolen goods. As a Team we execute at least one warrant per week and follow up the action with reassurance and door-to-door visits by PCSOs.

### 4. EMERGING ISSUES

#### Neighbourhood trends

Total crime in City North has decreased with 761 offences reported over this four month period, which is a 156 decrease compared to 917 offences in the previous period. Comparatively, there were 1099 offences reported in the same period last year. There has been a decrease in anti-social behaviour (ASB) incident levels in City North with 527 incidents reported over this 4-month period compared with 697 in the previous period. ASB levels are also lower than recorded for the same period last year (616 incidents).

#### West Chesterton

- West Chesterton offence levels have decreased to 170 offences reported from 216 the previous period. Comparatively, there were 265 offences reported in the same period last year.
- Violent Crime has increased by 4 offences with 37 reported in this period compared to 33 in the previous period. This is still lower when compared

to the same period last year which had 44 offences reported. Seventeen of these offences were domestic related.

- There have been no reported robberies in this period compared to 4 in the last period and 2 offences the same period last year.
- Dwelling burglary offences have increased in line with the seasonal trend (which peaks during the months of December to January), with 11 being reported, compared to 8 the previous period. The same period last year had 29 reported offences.
- Theft from vehicle offences have increased to 15 offences from 9 offences. Again this is in line with the seasonal trend where vehicle crime peaks during the months of September and October. Offences are still less compared to the same period last year (18). Six offences in this period, items were left in view and offenders have smashed the window of the vehicle to steal them.
- This quarter has seen a reduction in cycle thefts from 47 the same period last year to 39 this period. This is also a decrease from the previous period where there were 53 offences. Most of the cycle offences this quarter have been along Chesterton Road (9) and Histon Road (8).
- ASB levels have decreased from 117 incidents in the previous period to 94 incidents in this period. This is a decrease compared to the same period last year when there were 132 incidents. Victoria Road has had the most reported incidents, but the majority of these are associated to a local hostel. There have been on other trends of note.

### **Environmental Services Data**

- Between August and November 2011, there were 6 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 8 during the same period the previous year. This included 3 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 1, which was subsequently claimed by the owner. 2 vehicles were also impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax, 1 of which was subsequently destroyed following non-payment of the DVLA fine. 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 30 during the same period the previous year. There was no sufficient evidence to issue formal warning letters. There were no specific hotspots during the current reporting period. Downham's Lane (11) and Milton Road (4) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 22 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 34 during the same period the previous year. Birch Close (7) and Cutter Ferry Path (3) were the main hotspots during the current

reporting period. Herbert Street (3) was the main hotspots during the previous year.

- Between August and November 2011, 2 needles were reported compared with nil during the same period the previous year. The needles were removed from Trafalgar Street.

### **East Chesterton**

- Offence levels have remained relatively consistent with the previous period, and are considerably lower than the same period last year. The vast majority of the reductions were seen in dwelling burglary and violent crimes.
- Of the 15 dwelling burglary offences reported, the majority occurred in November (6 offences) and December (5). Offender(s) were mainly jemmying rear windows/doors and targeting electrical goods and jewellery.
- Only 1 robbery offence was reported during the period following no reports in the previous period. The offence occurred in October where a female victim walking along the High Street was pushed into a wall by 2 males and her shoulder bag stolen.
- Violent Crime in East Chesterton has reduced in offences from 42 in the last period to 32 offences this period. During the same period last year there were a total of 63 offences. Compared to the same period last year offences this period are significantly less. Ten of these offences are domestic related, and no hotspots or trends have been identified in the offences.
- Thefts from vehicle offences have seen an increase of 5 on the previous period and 2 on the same period last year. This was largely due to a series of 9 offences throughout the period, where offender(s) have smashed windows to gain entry to vehicles during evening/overnight times. A further 4 offences during the period have targeted sets of index plates.
- Cycle theft offences have increased from the previous period but remains lower than the same period last year at 27 cycles reported stolen. Repeat streets for offences were Ferry Lane (2 offences), Green End Road (2), St. Andrews Road (2), Water Lane (2) and Water Street (3).
- An observed reduction in ASB incidents was seen against both the previous period and the same period last year with 119 incidents reported over the 4-month period. Hotspot locations for incidents were seen on High Street (9 incidents), Fallowfield (8), Discovery Way (8), Green End Road (8), Scotland Road (7) and Pearmain Court (7). The vast majority of these incidents were rowdy/nuisance, however, most of the Pearmain Court incidents were related to neighbour disputes.

### **Environmental Services Data**

- Between August and November 2011, there were 9 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 18 during the same period the previous year. This included 3 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 1, which was subsequently claimed by the owner. 2 vehicles were also impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not



having valid road tax, 1 of which was subsequently destroyed following non-payment of the DVLA fine. There were no specific hotspots during either period.

- Between August and November 2011, there were 41 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 32 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue 6 formal warning letters to domestic offenders. Church Street (4), Downhams Lane (3), Dundee Close (3), Milton Road (3), Nuffield Road (3) and Oak Tree Avenue (3) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. The offences at Downhams Lane accounted for 2 of the formal warning letters being sent, Nuffield Road accounted for 2 letters and Oak Tree Avenue accounted for 1 of the letters being sent. Church Street (5), Green End Road (4), Maitland Avenue (4), Fen Road (3) and Kendal Way (3) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 14 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 20 during the same period the previous year. Nuffield Road (3) was the hotspot during the current reporting period. Union Lane (4), Bramblefields (3), Chesterton Recreation (3) and Cowley Road were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 16 needles were reported compared with 21 during the same period the previous year. 10 were removed from Oak Tree Avenue. During the previous reporting period 16 needles were removed from Church Street.

### **Kings Hedges**

- Total crime in Kings Hedges has fallen during the 4 month period with 194 offences reported compared with the previous period and the same period last year (261 and 304 respectively).
- Dwelling burglary offences remain consistent with the previous period with only 10 reported over the 4-month period. This is comparatively much lower than the 24 offences reported in the same 4-month period last year. It is unknown if the offences are linked as offender(s) have used varying methods to gain entry to properties.
- The number of violent crime offences has fallen to 49 reported crimes this period. This is a reduction of 9 offences from the previous period (58). When compared to the same period last year, there has been a reduction of 38 offences (87). Twelve of these offences are domestic related. There are no particular hotspots or trends.
- Robbery offences have increased to 7 offences this period from 4 offences the last period. No trend has been identified and the offences show no hotspot. The majority of these offences have occurred in the very early hours of the morning where cash has been taken from the victims. Robbery offences when compared to the same period last year have decreased from 9 offences.
- Similarly to crime levels, ASB in Kings Hedges has also seen a reduction against the previous period and the same period last year with 155 reported (against 185 and 174 respectively). Repeat streets for incidents include Campkin Road (26 incidents) and Arbury Court (19). The majority of the incidents make reference to large congregations of rowdy youths causing problems for the local residents and businesses. Other issues raised included intoxicated people acting in a hostile manner.

### **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 2 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 4, which were subsequently claimed by their owners. 1 vehicle was also impounded on behalf of the DVLA for not having valid road tax. Campkin Road (5) and Nun's Way (3) were hotspots during the current reporting period. There were no specific hotspots for the same period the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, there were 128 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 95 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue 22 formal warning letters to domestic offenders. In addition, 2 verbal warnings were issued. Arbury Court (25), Campkin Road (17), Woburn Close (4), Edgecome (8) and Minerva Way (8) were the main hotspots during the current reporting

period. The offences at Arbury Court accounted for 6 of the formal warning letters being sent and the offences at Woburn Close accounted for 4 of the warning letters being sent. Arbury Court (14), Minerva Way (10), Campkin Road (8), Edgecome (8), Nun's Way (5) and Sackville Close (5) were the main hotspots during the previous year.

- Between August and November 2011, 13 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 19 during the same period the previous year. Atkins Close (4), Cadwin Fields (4) and Campkin Road (3) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. Albemarle Way (4) and Minerva Way (3) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 1 needle was reported compared with 4 during the same period the previous year. The needle was removed from Arbury Court. During the previous reporting period 3 needles were removed from Nun's Way.

**Arbury**

- Offence levels in Arbury have seen a notable reduction from 249 in the previous period to 203 in the latest 4-month period. This is also comparatively much lower than the same period last year, which recorded 276 offences.
- Dwelling burglary levels remain consistent with the previous period at 18 offences reported. Entry MOs employed included forced entry (6 offences), these were mostly seen in December, and smashed glass (4) in September and October. Repeat streets for offences include Hazelwood Close (3) and Roseford Road (2). Following on from the previous update, 2 further distraction burglaries took place, both of which occurred on the same day in December and offender(s) targeted vulnerable victims on Rutland Close and Humphreys Road by claiming they were from the water board to gain entry.
- Violent offences have increased this period to 59 offences from 46 offences the previous period. Offences have slightly decreased from the same period last year where there were 61 offences. Of the 59 offences, 15 were domestic related and 5 of those are repeat offences related to one issue. Also five of the violent offences related to a hostel in the area.
- Theft from vehicle offences have increased to 13 offences reported during the 4-month period. This is relatively consistent with the same period last year, which recorded 14. Offences occurred during September (5 offences) and November (8). Offender(s) have smashed windows of vehicles to gain entry in 4 offences. All of these offences occurred on a weekend. Cash and cash boxes were targeted in 3 of these offences. Five sets of index plates were stolen during the period, 4 of which occurred throughout November (accounting for half of November's theft from vehicle offences).
- Theft of pedal cycle offences has seen a minor decline in comparison to the previous period and same period last year. Repeat streets for cycle theft include Akeman Street (2 offences), Alpha Road (2), Chesterton Road (2), Hazelwood Close (2) and Histon Road (8).
- Over the 4-month period, 159 ASB incidents have been reported compared with 197 in the previous period. Hotspot areas include Victoria Road (35 incidents), Histon Road (26) and Darwin Drive (14). Darwin Drive incidents mainly refer to aggressive behaviour by groups of youths in the area. Histon Road incidents mainly related to alcohol-fuelled problems and several incidents of rowdiness by groups of youths. The Victoria Road incidents mainly relate to anti-social behaviour reported at the hostel, or drink related problems on the road.

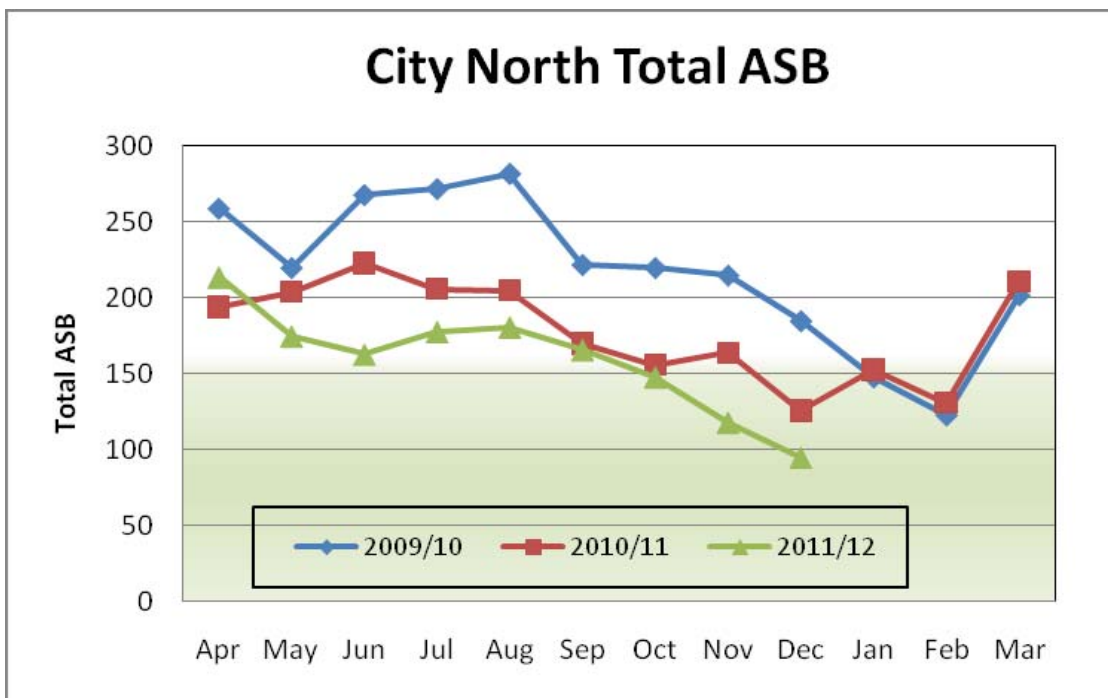
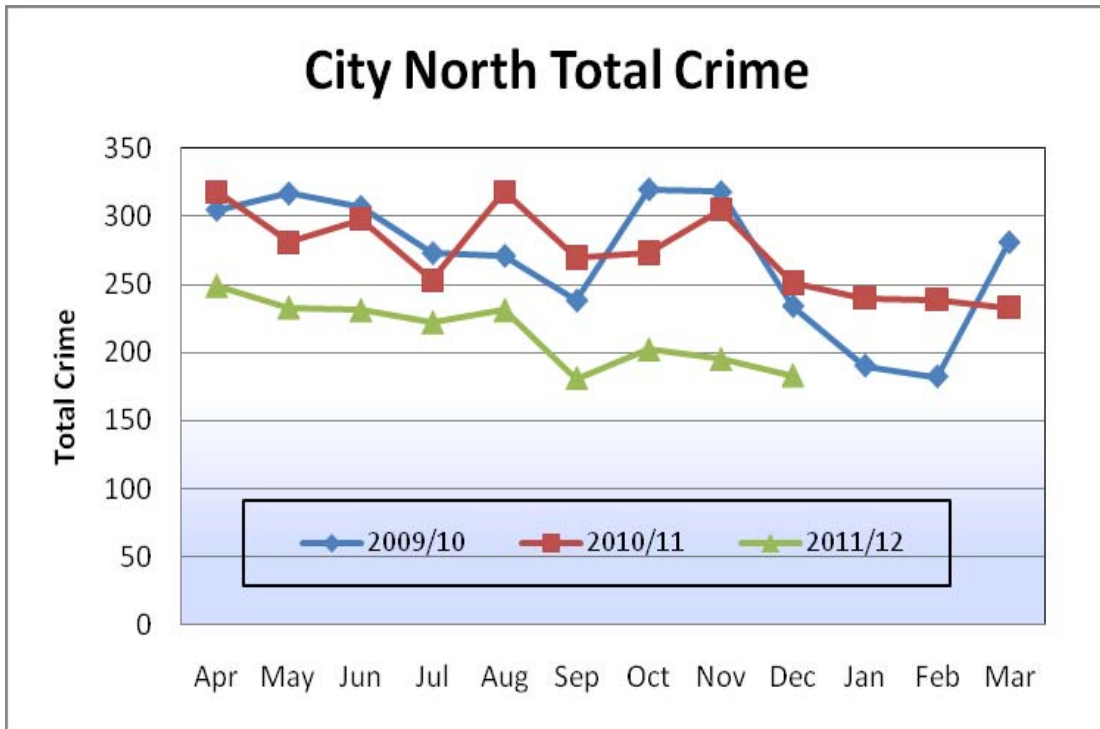
**Environmental Services Data**

- Between August and November 2011, there were 10 reports of abandoned vehicles in the ward compared with 14 during the same period the previous year. This included 2 vehicles, which were not on site following inspection and 1, which was subsequently claimed by the owner. In addition, 1 CLE26 notices was issued to an offender on behalf of the DVLA for not displaying road tax on a public highway, which will result in a fine issued by the DVLA. An additional vehicle is also currently pending further investigation. French's Road (3) was the hotspot during the current reporting period. There were no specific hotspots for the same period the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, there were 89 reports of fly tipping in the ward compared with 134 during the same period the previous year. There was sufficient evidence to issue 3 formal warning letters to domestic offenders. Hazelwood Close (17), Aylesborough Close (9), Brackley Close (9), Harris Road (9) and Stretten Avenue (8) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. The offences at Hazelwood Close accounted for 2 of the formal warning letters being sent and the offences at Stretten Avenue accounted for 1 of the formal warning letters being sent. Molewood Close (17), Cockerell Road (12), Brackley Close (11) and Kingsway Flats (10) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 27 derelict cycles were dealt with compared with 27 during the same period the previous year. Victoria Road (9), Cockerell Road (6), Bermuda Road (3) and Carlton Way (3) were the main hotspots during the current reporting period. Cockerell Road (4), Carlton Way (3) and Stretten Avenue (3) were the main hotspots during the previous year.
- Between August and November 2011, 14 needles were reported compared with 28 during the same period the previous year. 8 were removed from St Albans Road. During the previous reporting period 27 needles were removed from Histon Road.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Continue to reduce ASB around 222 Victoria Rd.
- A number of complaints about cycling offences (no lights/on paths etc) have been received and should be given consideration.
- Continue with arson preventative work.

### 6. CURRENT CRIME AND INCIDENT LEVELS



## CURRENT CRIME AND INCIDENT LEVELS IN NEIGHBOURHOOD, BY WARD

			Dwell. Burg.	Other Burg.	Violent Crime <sup>1</sup>	Robbery	Theft of Vehicle	Theft from Veh.	Cycle Theft	Theft from Shop	Criminal Damage	Other Crime	TOTAL CRIME	TOTAL ASB
<b>Nhod</b>	<b>City North</b>	<i>Sept 11 – Dec 11</i>	54	29	177	9	13	58	100	40	120	161	<b>761</b>	<b>527</b>
		<i>May 11 – Aug 11</i>	48	51	179	10	11	49	133	76	164	196	<b>917</b>	<b>697</b>
		<i>Sept 10 – Dec 10</i>	146	37	255	16	22	57	134	65	157	210	<b>1099</b>	<b>616</b>
<b>Wards</b>	<b>West Chesterton</b>	<i>Sept 11 – Dec 11</i>	11	4	37	0	2	15	39	4	25	33	<b>170</b>	<b>94</b>
		<i>May 11 – Aug 11</i>	8	16	33	4	2	9	53	10	25	56	<b>216</b>	<b>117</b>
		<i>Sept 10 – Dec 10</i>	29	7	44	2	5	18	47	18	33	62	<b>265</b>	<b>132</b>
	<b>East Chesterton</b>	<i>Sept 11 – Dec 11</i>	15	11	32	1	6	17	27	2	30	53	<b>194</b>	<b>119</b>
		<i>May 11 – Aug 11</i>	12	12	42	0	4	12	22	14	32	41	<b>191</b>	<b>198</b>
		<i>Sept 10 – Dec 10</i>	40	12	63	1	3	15	31	6	38	45	<b>254</b>	<b>154</b>
	<b>Kings Hedges</b>	<i>Sept 11 – Dec 11</i>	10	8	49	7	2	13	5	21	38	41	<b>194</b>	<b>155</b>
		<i>May 11 – Aug 11</i>	8	6	58	4	2	20	24	29	64	46	<b>261</b>	<b>185</b>
		<i>Sept 10 – Dec 10</i>	24	12	87	9	7	10	25	24	52	54	<b>304</b>	<b>174</b>
	<b>Arbury</b>	<i>Sept 11 – Dec 11</i>	18	6	59	1	3	13	29	13	27	34	<b>203</b>	<b>159</b>
		<i>May 11 – Aug 11</i>	20	17	46	2	3	8	34	23	43	53	<b>249</b>	<b>197</b>
		<i>Sept 10 – Dec 10</i>	53	6	61	4	7	14	31	17	34	49	<b>276</b>	<b>156</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excluding robbery