

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - 1 FEBRUARY 2007

SAFER STREETS - STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

Report by Superintendent Elizabeth Weir, Sub Divisional Officer East Ayrshire

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Local Committee Members of Crime Figures and Police activity within their area. Community Constables will continue to report to their respective Community Councils with more detailed information. This meeting will also provide an opportunity for members to provide feedback to Strathclyde Police on areas of concern and to have these concerns addressed.

2. CRIME TRENDS

- 2.1 The following crime statistics relate to the area of East Ayrshire Beat's 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 & 47.

- 2.1.1 They cover the period from 1 April to 30 November 2005/2006.

Beat 41 Cumnock

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drug Possession	Drug Supply
April 2005-Nov 2005	83	35	5	12	15	74	17
April 2006-Nov 2006	115	10	6	18	40	56	6

There has been an increase in crimes of violence in the Cumnock area, however the majority of this increase has been in petty assault with 90 of the crimes of violence being detected. Housebreakings to dwelling houses continues to fall. Vehicle crime has increased significantly although more than half have been detected.

Vandalism in Beat 41 has decreased significantly from 205 reported incidents in the period from April-Nov 2005 to 183 incidents in the same period for 2006.

Beat 42 Lugar, Logan, Netherthird and Craigens

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drug Possession	Drug Supply
April 2005- Nov 2005	64	9	3	4	9	15	4
April 2006- Nov 2006	40	6	2	12	10	16	0

There has been a decrease in the number of crimes of violence in the Lugar, Logan, Netherthird and Craigens area. Housebreakings are showing a slight decrease in domestic dwelling houses, and to garages and sheds. Commercial premises have increased quite significantly. Vehicle crime also shows a slight increase.

Vandalism in Beat 42 has also shown a slight increase from 79 reported incidents to 88 incidents.

Beat 43 Auchinleck, Skares and Ochiltree

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drug Possession	Drug Supply
April 2005- Nov 2005	65	7	1	6	21	25	7
April 2006- Nov 2006	53	9	1	5	8	27	6

There is an overall reduction in crimes of violence and to vehicles in the Auchinleck area which is encouraging. Housebreakings to homes have increased slightly with housebreakings to garages and sheds and commercial premises remaining static. Proactively tackling misuse of drugs has continued to successfully detect drug related crime.

Vandalism in Beat 43 has fallen from 97 incidents to 87 reported incidents.

Beat 44 Mauchline

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drug Possession	Drug Supply
April 2005- Nov 2005	25	6	5	12	5	14	4
April 2006- Nov 2006	16	10	2	8	12	9	2

There has been a general reduction in overall crime in the Mauchline area. Crimes of violence have shown a marked decrease. However, there has been an increase in domestic housebreakings and vehicle crime. But positively, house breakings to garages and sheds and commercial premises show a noticeable decrease.

Vandalism for Beat 44 has decreased from 36 incidents to 24 incidents.

Beat 45 Catrine and Sorn

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drug Possession	Drug Supply
April 2005- Nov 2005	19	4	2	6	5	6	0
April 2006- Nov 2006	29	5	1	6	16	12	0

There has been an increase in crimes of violence, and vehicles in the Catrine and Sorn area. Housebreakings to dwelling houses have increased but housebreakings to garages and sheds and to commercial premises and dwelling houses remain static which is pleasing. Again, proactively tackling misuse of drug offences has resulted in a noticeable increase in persons being reported.

Vandalism has shown an increase in beat 45 from 41 incidents to 59.

Beat 46 Muirkirk and Glenbuck

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drug Possession	Drug Supply
April 2005- Nov 2005	22	1	0	0	5	5	0
April 2006- Nov 2006	27	3	0	1	5	3	1

Crimes of violence and housebreakings to homes have increased slightly in the Muirkirk area, however garages and sheds remain at zero and there is only a slight increase in housebreakings to commercial premise. Vehicle crime and drug offences remain static.

Vandalism has shown an increase from 18 reported incidents in the time period last year up to 32 for the same period this year.

Beat 47 New Cumnock

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drug Possession	Drug Supply
April 2005- Nov 2005	24	9	2	3	11	11	3
April 2006- Nov 2006	26	7	0	6	10	7	0

In the New Cumnock area, crimes of violence have increased only slightly. The number of housebreakings to dwelling houses, garages and sheds has shown a decrease and at the same time housebreakings to commercial premises have increased slightly. Vehicle crime has showed a slight decrease.

There has been a decrease in Vandalisms in the New Cumnock area from 66 reported incidents to 44 incidents.

- 2.2** The detection rate for group 1 – 7 crimes (all crimes and offences) in the committee area is currently running at 68%, which is an extremely favourable detection rate.
- 2.3** The Ayrshire Division Control Strategy for 2006 – 2007 focus' on Violent Crime, Acquisitive Crime, Vandalism and Anti Social behaviour, has had a positive impact on those crimes of greatest concern.

3. OVERVIEW ON ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

- 3.1** Disorder offences, defined by the Scottish Executive as Breach of the Peace, Urinating in Public, Drunk and Incapable and Consumption of Alcohol in a Public Place.
- 3.2** Disorder offences rose from 482 to 520 within the designated period. There have been 63 action plans carried out to tackle disorder in and around off-sales premises in order to try and combat these offences as well as vandalism.
- 3.3** Vandalism has decreased from 542 to 517 within the designated period and continues to be a particular problem in this area. As mentioned above there have 63 action plans tackling disorder which includes vandalism. There is presently a review of all vandalisms being carried out to identify any patterns or key suspects.
- 3.4** There are currently 4 Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and 10 Acceptable behaviour contracts in place within the Committee Area. Local officers work closely with partner agencies including the Housing Department, Neighbourhood Disputes Team, SACRO mediation service as well as Shire Housing to address local concerns at the earliest opportunity by the most effective means.

4. PRO-ACTIVITY

- 4.1** A pro-active approach to youth disorder is adopted each weekend throughout the area, whereby off-sales premises and known hot spots are regularly visited. This strategy produces positive results including the confiscation of alcohol and individuals being reported for street drinking offences. The parents/guardians of juveniles located at hot spots and areas of standing complaint are notified of this through the parental alert letter process and during the months of November and December some 70 letters were sent out to parents regarding minor disorder complaints.
- 4.2** **Cumnock** – The town centre of Cumnock remains a focal point for patrols at weekends, in an attempt to reduce disorder and anti-social behaviour. Broomfield Park continues to be an area where local youth congregate and regular visits by officers have resulted in the confiscation of alcohol and several persons being reported for street drinking. Although complaints have receded in recent weeks, Keir Hardie Hill/Barrhill Road is still recorded as a hot spot, resulting in close monitoring from patrol and community officers.
- 4.3** **Cumnock Landward** – Craigens Road in Netherthird and Logan Avenue, Logan receive additional patrols, particularly at weekends. These locations continue to be a gathering spot for local youth. The installation of the Rapid Deployment CCTV system within a commercial property in Craigens Road, has resulted in a significant reduction in reported disorder at the location. Several motorists were cautioned after a series of speed checks were undertaken in Lugar.

- 4.4 Auchinleck/Ochiltree** – A highly successful initiative in Well Road, involving the Mobile Police Office, patrol and community officers produced many favourable comments from local residents. In addition numerous persons were reported for various disorder offences involving street drinking and breach of the peace.
Additional weekend patrols in Ochiltree have had a positive effect in dispersing youth from assembling in Main Street, although the vicinity of the Primary School remains a standing complaint.
- 4.5 Mauchline** – A high level of attention has been paid to Beechgrove Park and surrounding area in an effort to combat reports of youth disorder and street drinking. Alcohol has been seized on a number of occasions, with local off sales being visited regularly in an attempt to disrupt the supply of alcohol to under age persons. High visibility patrols continue to monitor the area of Earl Grey Street at weekends.
- 4.6 Catrine** – Action plans have focussed on the housing scheme within Catrine, to address instances of disorder. Community officers and housing officials have liaised closely, resulting in a letter drop in Shawlands Street, Sommerville Street and Sorn Street, encouraging residents to report all incidents of anti-social behaviour. Consideration is currently being given to commencing ASBO procedure against certain offenders. Several motorists have been noted for a contravention of parking offences in St Germain Street.
- 4.7 Muirkirk** – Additional attention has been given recently to the area around the shops in Pagan Walk after reports of street drinking and low level disorder. There has been a general improvement to the immediate vicinity. Regular visits to the adjacent off-sales premises are frequently undertaken with support and guidance being supplied to the staff.
- 4.8 New Cumnock** – An action plan geared towards a particular problem within the housing scheme had the desired effect when 2 juveniles were reported for acts of vandalism and another noted for causing general annoyance by driving a motor bike off road. This has reduced the amount of complaints throughout the area. Several fixed penalty tickets were issued to motorists for various offences within the village.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1** It is recommended that the Committee:-
- (i) identify any local problems which may be addressed by local officers;
and
 - (ii) otherwise note the content of this report.

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EW/SR

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

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