

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - 9 SEPTEMBER 2004

STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

Report by the Chief Inspector

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To advise the Local Committee of crime trends and Police activity within their area.

2. CRIME TRENDS

- 2.1** Reported crime within the Cumnock Area Local Committee area for the period 1 May 2004 to 31 July 2004 shows an increase, from 422 crimes recorded over a similar period last year, to 622.

- 2.2** This notable increase can be attributed to the introduction of the Scottish Crime Recording Standard on 1 April 2004. This enables Police Forces throughout Scotland to maintain a standardised and more accurate crime recording system.

- There have been 31 crimes of violence, up from 11.
- 82 housebreaking crimes, up from 62.
- 34 crimes in relation to motor vehicles, down from 48.
- 158 other crimes of dishonesty, up from 62.
- 200 acts of vandalism, up from 103.
- 135 disorder related offences, up from 73.
- 40 drugs offences, down from 71.

- 2.3** In relation to the foregoing, the following notable detections have been made within the same period.

- A 30 years old Cumnock man has been reported along with a 20 years old female for a number of housebreakings in Cumnock.
- A 33 years old Auchinleck man has been reported for a number of sneak-in thefts in Cumnock and Auchinleck.
- 2 Cumnock youths have been reported for a high value wilful fire-raising to a local authority dwellinghouse in Cumnock.
- A 23 years old Mauchline man has been reported for a theft of electrical tools in Mauchline.
- A 27 years old Auchinleck man has been reported for the robbery of a handbag from an elderly female in Auchinleck. Police were greatly assisted by members of the public in arresting this man immediately after the commission of this crime.

2.4 In addition, a number of drug search warrants have been executed with some notable results listed as follows:-

- 34 years old Cumnock man reported for various drug offences including dealing from two addresses in Cumnock. Valium, heroin and a substantial amount of cash recovered.
- 35 years old Cumnock man reported for drug offences from his local authority dwellinghouse in Cumnock. Heroin recovered.
- A Logan man also received a six years prison sentence at the High Court for being involved in the manufacturing and supply of controlled drugs. The Scottish Drug Enforcement Agency, assisted by the intelligence obtained through local officers led this operation.

3. PRO-ACTIVITY

3.1 For the period 1 May 2004 to 31 July 2004, Officers based in the Cumnock and Doon Valley area have reported 26 persons for the offence of drinking in public, searched 70 persons for drugs, carried out 457 weapon searches (with 13 offensive weapons recovered), carried out 368 visits to licensed premises, all aimed at reducing violence and disorder within the community.

3.2 In addition, 17 areas of local concern have been designated as standing complaints and these have been visited on 672 occasions. 51 juvenile contact cards have also been submitted.

4. ABSTRACTIONS

4.1 During July, several Officers from the Cumnock and Doon Valley section were abstracted to assist with the policing of the Open Golf Championship at Troon.

5. ACTION PLANS

5.1 Any areas causing concern are quickly identified at weekly Tasking and Co-ordinating Meetings and these form the direction for resource management along with educational and enforcement initiatives.

5.2 The most recent areas of concern were in Mauchline and Cumnock relating to youth and gang disorder. This was tackled by direction of available resources, identifying offenders, resulting in some arrests along with child and parent counselling, all before the problems were able to manifest and escalate and consequently leading to safer communities.

6. ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ORDERS

6.1 Currently 3 ASBO's in existence, 2 in Cumnock and 1 in Catrine. Others at the application stage and Police are providing the local council with information to support these applications.

7. RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The Local Committee are asked to note the report.

Chief Inspector Robert Brown
Strathclyde Police

20 August 2004

RB/SR

Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Chief Inspector Robert Brown, Strathclyde Police Office, Ayr Road, Cumnock, on telephone number (01290) 306600.

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