

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE – 25 JANUARY 2005

STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

Report by Chief Inspector Robertson

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 The following crime statistics relate to the towns and villages within the Doon Valley area of Cumnock and Doon Valley.

They cover the period from 1 October 2004 to 31 December 2004.

2.1.1 Dalmellington and Patna

- There have been 9 crimes of violence.
- 6 housebreaking crimes.
- 3 crimes in relation to motor vehicles.
- 21 crimes of other dishonesty.
- 15 acts of vandalism.
- 7 drug offences.
- 50 disorder related offences.

2.1.2 Drongan, Dalrymple and Rankinston

- There was one crime of violence.
- 2 housebreaking crimes.
- 2 crimes in relation to motor vehicles.
- 5 crimes of other dishonesty.
- 29 acts of violence.
- 3 drug offences.
- 24 disorder related offences.

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

- 16-year-old Dalmellington male arrested for a number of dishonesties.
- 40-year-old Bellsbank male arrested after a knife incident.
- Patna male arrested after a domestic incident that resulted in full-scale negotiations.
- Dalrymple youth reported for vandalisms in the village.
- Drongan juvenile reported for causing damage to school buses.

3. PRO-ACTIVITY

- 3.1** For the period 1 October 2004 to 31 December 2004, Officers based in the Doon Valley area have reported 5 persons for the offence of drinking in public, searched 4 persons for drugs, carried out 127 weapon searches (with one offensive weapon recovered), carried out 42 visits to licensed premises, all aimed at reducing violence and maintaining order within the community.
- 3.2** In addition, 4 areas of local concern have been designated as Standing Complaints and these have been visited on 124 occasions. (Barbieston Terrace, Dalrymple; Townhead, Dalmellington; Shops at Merrick Drive, Bellsbank; and Bellsbank Primary School).
- 3.3** 10 Juvenile Contact Cards have also been submitted.

4. DISORDER OVERVIEW

- 4.1** Underage drinking leading to anti-social behaviour continues to be the most prevalent of disorder, particularly at weekends.
- 4.2** Bellsbank experienced an increase in disorder related incidents and during one week alone 3 separate knife incidents occurred. Fortunately nobody was injured and all of the offenders were arrested. As a result Action plans were implemented forthwith and additional Police officers brought in. This greatly reduced disorder and provided public reassurance.
- 4.3** 2 separate serious assaults occurred on the same weekend in Dalmellington. One male has been reported in relation to one and enquiries are continuing into the other. These crimes generated some public criticism and in some quarters lack of Police coverage and unfortunately the prevention of these crimes would have been most unlikely due to the circumstances in which they occurred.
- 4.4** A forcewide initiative "Safer Scotland" ran during this period aimed at vandalism, weapons and under age drinking and some notable results were achieved throughout the force area. Part of the initiative involved an increase in visits to Off Sales to enrol the support of staff in disrupting the sale/supply to underagers. A continuation of targeting underage drinking and related anti-social behaviour will continue in the New Year.
- 4.5** Locally and throughout December high visibility uniformed patrols allied with a CID/Plain clothes initiative targeted active criminals and achieved positive results. This allowed for a greater pro-active approach in the prevention and investigation of crime and disorder.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1** The Local Committee are asked to note the report.

Chief Inspector Dougie Robertson
Strathclyde Police

6 January 2005
LC/KM

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

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