

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE - 2 NOVEMBER 2004**

#### **STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT**

##### **Report by Chief Inspector Brown**

#### **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.
- 2.2** The period covered is 1 August 2004 to 30 September 2004 and are compared to figures for the corresponding period in 2003. Figures shown in brackets are crimes detected at the time of completing report.
- 2.3** A notable increase in some crimes, in particular vandalism, can mainly be attributed to the introduction of the Scottish Crime Recording Standard on 1 April 2004. Minor crimes not previously reported are now being recorded to reflect a truer picture. This enables Police Forces throughout Scotland to maintain a standardised and more accurate crime recording system.
- 2.4** It should also be noted that certain lines of enquiry are still ongoing into some undetected crimes, particularly those recorded in August, with a likelihood of detection after further enquiry. (Suspects to be traced, awaiting Forensic results etc.).

#### **3. DALMELLINGTON AND PATNA**

- There have been 3 (3) crimes of violence, up from 2.
- 3 (0) housebreaking crimes, no change.
- 2 (0) crimes in relation to motor vehicles, down from 4.
- 7 (2) crimes of other dishonesty, up from 4.
- 20 (5) acts of vandalism, up from 16.
- 1 (1) drug offence, no change.
- 57 (45) disorder related offences, up from 17.

#### **4. DRONGAN, DALRYMPLE AND RANKINSTON**

- There have been no crimes of violence, down from 1.
- 2 (0) housebreaking crimes, down from 3.
- 2 (1) crimes in relation to motor vehicles, down from 7.

- 8 (3) crimes of other dishonesty, up from 4.
- 13 (3) acts of vandalism, up from 6.
- 0 drug offences, no change.
- 17 (14) disorder related offences, up from 13.

**4.1** In relation to the foregoing, the following notable detections have been made within the same period:

- 30 years old Dalmellington male arrested in connection with a serious assault and during enquiry information was established which resulted in the recovery of a handgun.
- 43 years old Patna male reported for a number of sexual offences.

## **5. PRO-ACTIVITY**

**5.1** For the period 1 August 2004 to 30 September 2004, Officers based in the Doon Valley area have reported 2 persons for the offence of drinking in public, searched 8 persons for drugs, carried out 23 weapon searches (with 1 offensive weapon recovered), carried out 39 visits to licensed premises, all aimed at reducing violence and maintaining order within the community.

**5.2** In addition, 3 areas of local concern have been designated as Standing Complaints and these have been visited on 48 occasions. (Barbieston Terrace, Dalrymple, Townhead, Dalmellington and Bellsbank Primary School).

**5.3** 13 Juvenile Contact Cards have also been submitted.

## **6. DISORDER OVERVIEW**

**6.1** After several trouble-free weeks, Dalmellington town centre once again experienced youth disorder. This was identified early, with action plans implemented immediately to combat the problem, resulting in several arrests. High profile uniform foot patrols have since been carried out in and around Dalmellington town centre to provide public re-assurance and to target and deal with the main offenders. Over recent weeks a noticeable reduction in youth disorder is now apparent.

**6.2** As mentioned in the last Area Committee Report, Patna is the focus of a long term Action Plan aimed at tackling disorder in certain individuals linked to drug-related crime. Since the start of the Patna Action Plan, positive feedback has been received from all sections of the community. This Action Plan is continuing in the form of high visibility uniform foot patrol, including support from mounted branch and dog section Officers.

**6.3** Public feedback continues to be positive and a recent local newspaper article (Ayrshire Post) highlighted the aims of the Action Plan and carried a photograph of Mounted Branch Officers visiting Patna Primary School. The following day, after this article was published, information was passed to the Police leading to the recovery of a firearm.

**6.4** Local Community Officers are also carrying out high visibility foot and cycle patrols in Dalrymple and Drongan, aimed at reducing disorder and providing public re-assurance.

## **7. PARENT ALERT SCHEME**

**7.1** 26 parent alert letters have been sent out over the period where juveniles have been found in or near to locations where disorder is a concern to the local community. The circumstances, although not amounting to criminal activity, are highlighted to parents/guardians seeking support in respect of future conduct and child welfare.

**7.2** 98 Juvenile Contact Cards have also been submitted.

Chief Inspector Robert Brown  
Strathclyde Police

22 October 2004  
RB/SM

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.

**Implementation Officer: Chief Inspector Robert Brown.**