

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE - 7 SEPTEMBER 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** Reported crime within the Doon Valley area of Cumnock and Doon Valley for the period 1 May 2004 to 31 July 2004 shows a increase from 128 crimes recorded over a similar period last year, to 179.

- 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 7 crimes of violence, up from 6.
- 11 housebreaking crimes, down from 20.
- 5 crimes in relation to motor vehicles, down from 9.
- 27 other crimes of dishonesty, up from 17.
- 67 acts of vandalism, up from 45.
- 71 disorder related offences, up from 41.
- 23 drug offences, up from 5.

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

- Number of Patna juveniles reported for numerous acts of vandalism and wilful fire-raising at the now derelict Carskeoch Caravan Park in Patna.
- Number of Dalmellington and Patna youths reported for street-related disorder in and around Dalmellington town centre. (Part of Dalmellington Town Centre Action Plan).
- 2 Dalmellington males reported for a number of disorder related incidents including a serious assault. 1 male now remanded in custody, awaiting trial and the other released on bail.
- 55 years old Drongan man reported for flying a flag bearing the initials relating to a proscribed organisation.

2.4 In addition a Drugs Search Warrant was executed resulting a 26 years old Dalmellington man being reported for several drug offences. The search was the culmination of several weeks of intelligence gathering and Police surveillance.

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. ACTION PLANS

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

4.2 The Doon Valley featured as part of a divisional day of action named "Operation Response". The area, particularly Dalmellington Town Centre, had been identified as having unacceptable high levels of disorder, vandalism and under-age drinking. High visibility foot patrols were carried out to target persistent offenders and provide public re-assurance.

4.3 "Operation Response" linked in with Dalmellington's Town Centre long term Youth Disorder Action Plan which has resulted in instances of youth disorder being greatly reduced over the last two months.

4.4 Patna is the focus of a long term Action Plan aimed at tackling disorder and 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.

4.5 A joint Police/Council Surgery will be commencing shortly in Patna further enhancing public relations and is another good example of joint partnership working.

5. RECOMMENDATION

5.1 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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