

## EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

### IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE – 24th May 2006 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

- 2.1.1 The following crime statistics relate the area of East Ayrshire Beat 40 which relates to Hurlford, Crookedholm, Moscow, Galston, Newmilns, Darvel and Preistland.

- 2.1.2 They cover the period from 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2005.

	Crimes of Violence	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Drugs	
						Possession	Supply
April 2004-Mar 2004	192	24	9	25	48	21	67
April 2005 – Mar 2005	165	15	12	21	47	32	49

- 2.1.3 Through high visibility policing and good work from various departments within the police there has been an overall reduction in the number of housebreakings within the Irvine Valley area. There has been a slight decrease in vehicle related crime. Drugs detections for dealing have decreased this reporting period, however these detections are as a direct result of proactive work by the police.

- 2.1.4 The detection rate for group 1 – 7 crimes (all crimes and offences) in the Irvine Valley area is currently running at 63%, which is an extremely favourable detection rate.
- 2.1.5 The Ayrshire Division Control Strategy for 2005 – 2006 focuses on Violent Crime, Acquisitive Crime, Vandalism and Anti Social behaviour. Efforts over the next year will impact positively on the above figures.

### **3. OVERVIEW ON ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

- 3.1.1 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.
- 3.1.2 Disorder offences fell from 231 to 227 within the designated period. This decrease, although slight, is largely due to the amount of proactive policing within the Irvine Valley area.
- 3.1.3 Vandalism increased slightly from 250 to 266 within the designated period.
- 3.1.4 Targeted patrols are continuing to have a positive effect that is being complemented by the work carried out by out community officers in all schools, youth clubs and organisations. These inputs are designed to encourage Good Citizenship and Positive Behaviour, while discouraging disorder, drunkenness and vandalism.
- 3.1.5 Partnership working is producing results on a number of fronts, and recent collaboration on Acceptable Behaviour Contracts is having a positive impact throughout the valley.
- 3.1.6 The Antisocial Behaviour Unit and police coordinator have been working at a pace gathering information and intelligence. They are presently pursuing Anti Social Behaviour Orders.

### **4 PROACTIVITY**

- 4.1.1 Over the last few weeks there has been a spate of vandalisms to the public service buses travelling through Newmilns and Darvel in the late hours at the weekends, whereby youth are throwing missiles at the moving vehicles. As this is viewed to be continuous attacks which may compromise the safety of the drivers and passengers alike, Stagecoach Western has withdrawn this service meantime. The local community police officers have discussed this matter with their supervisor, Sgt McInnes, and believe that the correct way to address this issue is by means of tackling the problem through a dedicated action plan. It is the intention to utilise plain clothed officers on this bus service in order to identify hotspots, and groups of individuals at these hotspots, with the view of identifying and reporting offenders and the prevention of these incidents occurring in the first instance. It is the intention

that this should be an action plan spread over a number of weeks, which will aid the safety of persons traveling on this bus route and reduce the damage occurring to the actual buses.

- 4.1.2** Speeding has also been viewed as a problem in the Irvine Valley, however motorists should now be aware that the local community police officers have recently been trained in the use of the hand held Falcon Speed Gun. Each town in the Irvine Valley has specific areas which need to be addressed in relation to speeding, and with the local officers now being able to fully monitor this problem by means of reporting offenders motorists would be best advised to keep to the speed limit.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1.1** 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.

Superintendent Elizabeth Weir  
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### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Nil.**

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