

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE – 8th November 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 to 30 September 2005/2006.

	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 2005 - Sept 2005	88	6	5	5	24	18	13
April 2006 – Sept 2006	94	27	9	21	30	22	13

- 2.1.3 Crimes of violence show an increase this reporting period. There has been an overall increase in the number of housebreakings within the Irvine Valley area. There has also been an increase in vehicle related crime. Drugs detections for dealing have increased. 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 67%, which is an extremely favourable detection rate.
- 2.1.5 The Ayrshire Division Control Strategy for 2005 – 2006 focuses on Violent Crime, Domestic Violence, Child Protection 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 increased from 89 to 221 within the designated period. This is largely due to the amount of proactive policing within the Irvine Valley area and the 101 detections of street drinking.
- 3.1.3 Vandalism increased from 121 to 169 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. During the school holidays, community officers have been particularly active in Youth Diversion schemes, including inter-village football competitions and a variety of other sports and leisure activities at the Magnum Centre, Newmilns Ski Slope, Gavin Hamilton Sports Centre and elsewhere. A high proportion of youths previously causing concern, have been successfully involved in these diversionary activities, leading to a reduction in the type of incidents normally prevalent at this time.
- 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. There have been 6 Parental Letters of Concern issued in the Gilfoot area of Newmilns and there are Currently 8 ABC's in force, 1 in Darvel and 7 in the Galston area.
- 3.1.6 The Antisocial Behaviour Unit and police coordinators continue to gather information and intelligence with a view to pursuing further Anti Social Behaviour Orders. Restorative Justice Warnings are also on the increase, and all community officers will soon be trained in the use of this procedure, which is shown to have a positive impact on first offenders.

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, particularly at weekends. This continues to be tackled in a number of ways, including extra patrols on these routes and in the known trouble spots. Some

youths from outside the Irvine Valley have been involved, and this is being addressed. The implementation of this action plan has achieved positive results and a number of persons have been reported for disorder offences.

- 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 all been trained in the use of the hand held Falcon Speed Gun. Persons are still caught on a weekly basis, and speed checks will continue in conjunction with other methods of educating motorists on the dangers of this.

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.

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

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