

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK CENTRAL LOCAL COMMITTEE – 15 MARCH 2005 SAFER STREETS STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

Report by Superintendent Elizabeth Weir Operations Commander 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 Due to a National change in the method by which crimes were recorded in April 2004 there has been a dramatic increase on crime figures throughout Strathclyde Police area.
- 2.1.2 The following crime statistics relate the area of East Ayrshire Beat 31, 32, 33, 34 and 38 which relate to Kilmarnock Town Centre, Bonnyton, Piersland, Grange, Bentick, Howard, Gargieston, Crosshouse, Knockintiber and Gatehead.
- 2.1.3 They cover the period from 1 April 2004 to 31 January 2005.

	House breaking to homes	House breaking to garages and sheds	House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc.	Vehicle crime	Vandalism	Drugs possession
April 2003- Jan 2004	46	36	55	269	143	96
April 2004 – Jan 2005	46	13	57	178	296	91

Drug 'supplying offences' reported to the Procurator Fiscal rose from 12 to 28.

3. DISORDER OVERVIEW

- 3.1.1** Disorder offences, defined by the Scottish Effective as Breach of the Peace, Urinating in Public, Drunk and Incapable and Consumption of Alcohol in a Public Place.
- 3.1.2** Disorder offences rose from 587 to 659 over the specified period.
- 3.1.3** The detection rate for group 1 – 7 crimes (all crimes and offences) in the Kilmarnock Central area is currently running at 69%.
- 3.1.3** The Police, due to numerous complaints regarding antisocial behaviour by youths have targeted the Gargieston area. Officers working in plain clothes and uniform had formulated an action plan to deter this behaviour and detect offenders. Several youths were detected and many parents visited to be informed of what their child was up to. The main protagonist resides in Gargieston and youths were attracted to the area from Shortlees, Bellfield and Crosshouse with the connection being their attendance at Grange Academy. The problem is now under control and will continue to be monitored.
- 3.1.4** In dealing with this problem by giving an area regular attention sometimes the police find that they also displace the issue to another area and we are finding this to be true with an upsurge in youth disorder in Crosshouse. The problem in Crosshouse will be dealt with using the same methods that were successful in Gargieston.
- 3.1.5** The area around, Samson Avenue and Piersland Park have also been highlighted as areas in need of police attention. Persons have been detected and juveniles returned home with the Community Police officer, Ian Hilderley active in this role. Again this problem will continue to be monitored. The Howard Park and McDonalds restaurant will also be monitored.

4. PRO-ACTIVITY

4.1.1 Town Centre

Officers continue to proactively target Drunken behaviour, shoplifting and truancy, liaising closely with the antisocial behaviour co-ordinator in this regard.

4.1.2 Good Work

Unrelenting work by the Crosshouse community police officer, Peter Brown has led to a member of staff at Crosshouse hospital being charged with seven separate thefts from members of staff.

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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