

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK CENTRAL LOCAL COMMITTEE – 15 March 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 31, 32, 33, 34 and 38 which relate to Kilmarnock Town Centre, Bonnyton, Piersland, Grange, Bentinck, Howard, Gargieston, Crosshouse, Knockintiber and Gatehead.

- 2.1.2 They cover the period from 1 April 2005 to 31 January 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 and Supply
April 2004 - Jan 2005	322	49	4	66	168	119
April 2005 - Jan 2006	268	46	11	37	100	132

- 2.1.3 There has been a significant reduction in violent crime this reporting period. Housebreakings have also shown a marginal decrease in domestic HB's whilst there is a marked decrease in HB's to schools and commercial premises. Vehicle related crime has shown a considerable decrease. Pro activity in tackling misuse of drugs has resulted in continued success in detecting drug related crimes.

- 2.1.4 The detection rate for group 1 – 7 crimes (all crimes and offences) in the Central area is currently running at 68%, which is an extremely favourable detection rate.
- 2.1.5 The Ayrshire Division Control Strategy for 2005 – 2006 focus' on Violent Crime, Acquisitive Crime, Vandalism and Anti Social behaviour. Efforts over the 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 664 to 530 within the designated period. This decrease is largely due to an increased police presence within the Central area.
- 3.1.3 Vandalism has dropped from 295 to 255 within the designated period.
- 3.1.4 There are currently 2 Anti-Social Behaviour Orders in place within the Central Area (Bonnyton and Kilmarnock Town Centre). Local officers work closely with partner agencies including the Housing Department, Neighbourhood Disputes Team, SACRO mediation service as well as Atrium Homes to address local concerns at the earliest opportunity by the most effective means.

4. AREAS REQUIRING POLICE ATTENTION

- 4.1.1 **Gargieston** – A number of complaints had been received from residents regarding antisocial behaviour by youths in the Dundonald Road and Gargieston Primary area. This problem is not new and seems to feature at various periods throughout the year. Many of the youths involved reside in the Gargieston area with the other youths coming from Crosshouse, Springside and areas throughout Kilmarnock. The local community police officer PC Fergus Grant has worked well with residents and other agencies culminating in a police operation during 20/21 January 2006. A number off arrests were made, juveniles taken home and parent alert letters issued. Disorder in the area has alleviated but will no doubt return, therefore police attention will continue.
- 4.1.2 **New Mill Road** – Complaints have also been received regarding youth disorder and street drinking by youths in the New Mill Rd / Scott Ellis playing field area. This area is targeted weekly on Friday and Saturday evenings when the problem arises. Significant results have been achieved in relation the persons charged with Breach of the Peace, Misuse of Drugs offences, street drinking and possession of an imitation firearm. This issue remains a

problem as the youths involved have the belief that in the darkness of Scott Ellis playing fields they are out of sight and not causing a problem. It is when they appear from the darkness, some of them drunk and disorderly that the problems occur. The area will be afforded police attention to deal with the issue.

4.1.3 St Andrew's church – Reports have been made to the police from local residents and the Antisocial Behaviour unit regarding youths gathering near to the cemetery area drinking alcohol and causing general annoyance. This problem occurs mainly on Friday evenings and was given police attention on 17 February 2006. About 2030 hours that evening about 15 youths were observed in the area many of them drinking. Action was taken and the area will be given continued police attention at the appropriate times.

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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