

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK CENTRAL LOCAL COMMITTEE -25 OCTOBER 2005 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, Bonny ton, Piersland, Grange, Bentinck, Howard, Gargieston, Crosshouse, Knockentiber and Gatehead.

- 2.1.2 They cover the period from 1 April 2005 to 31 August 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- August 2004	170	29	3	33	113	67
April 2005- August 2005	119	21	5	21	55	62

- 2.1.3** High visibility policing and good work from various departments within the police has resulted in a reduction in overall crime and particularly pleasing is the dramatic reduction in crimes of violence. It is also pleasing to see an overall reduction in the number of housebreakings to dwelling houses and commercial premises although there is a slight increase in the number of garden sheds broken into. Targeting those responsible for vehicle crime has resulted in a substantial decrease in vehicle related crime.
- 2.1.4** The detection rate for group 1 - 7 crimes (all crimes and offences) in the Kilmarnock Central Committee area is still on the increase 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, 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 are 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 323 to 219 within the designated period. This decrease is largely due to the amount of proactive policing within the Central area and there are no disorder hotspots identified within the area at this time.
- 3.1.3** Vandalism dropped dramatically from 147 to 108 crimes within the designated period.
- 3.1.4** Targeted patrols are continuing to have a positive effect which 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** The Anti Social Behaviour Unit and Police Anti Social Behaviour Liaison Officer are presently working towards several complaints from businesses and residents in the Central area. An Interim Anti Social Behaviour Order relating to serious neighbour complaints has been granted at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court relating to one individual. There is presently one acceptable behaviour contract (aggressive begging) and one unacceptable behaviour notice (neighbour nuisance) in force.

4. PRO-ACTIVITY

- 4.1.1** Regular patrols on foot, by vehicle and pedal cycle have been carried out in the area allowing greater visibility throughout the area. Additional resources through overtime patrols by community constables, shift personnel and special constables have targeted any identified hotspots in response to community concerns relating to youths congregating and general disorder and these have resulted in areas quietening down effectively.
- 4.1.2** Targeted patrols have taken place in Samson Ave, Linfern Ave, Piersland Park in Kilmarnock with community officers Lynne Burns and Ian Hilderley taking ownership of the disorder problems, whilst in Kilmarnock Road and Playingfield Road in Crosshouse community officer Peter Brown has taken ownership of the disorder issues. Incidents of disorder have dramatically reduced in the Samson Ave, Linfern Ave and Piersland Park and police attention will continue. Disorder problems in Kilmarnock Road and Playingfield Road in Crosshouse have decreased but continued attention will be required.
- 4.1.3** Between 15 and 19 September 2005, M & D's travelling funfair visited Kilmarnock at the Scott Ellis playing fields. Community police officers from East Ayrshire sub division policed this event each evening between 1800 and 2200 hours. M & D's paid for the police resources within the site during these times and further resources were on patrol duty outwith the site and in the surrounding streets. The event passed without any incidents of note. 7 persons were detected outwith the site for minor offences and only one telephone call was received from a resident of Samson Ave relating to youth disorder, which was swiftly dealt with.
- 4.1.4** Litter continues to be a problem in the central area, especially outside high schools and licensed premises. In response to this a joint initiative by the Neighbourhood Services Department of East Ayrshire Council and community police officers has been arranged for Wednesday 12 October 2005 to target this problem outside Grange Academy and within King St Kilmarnock during lunch time hours.
- 4.1.5** Youth Diversion from crime forms a large part of the Community Safety Action Plan and considerable work has been done over the last months by Community Planning Partners to provide opportunities in the Central Area. A new summer initiative named street sport express was launched by Leisure Development Services has had a considerable impact in all areas of East Ayrshire. The idea is a simple one, fill a vehicle with trained workers and leisure equipment, advertise where you will be and turn up for a game of whatever suits. This will be continued through the summer months and Community Police are liaising with Leisure Services to maintain a related programme of diversion to capture the interest of young people through the winter months.

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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