

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE – 13 SEPTEMBER 2005 SAFER STREETS STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

Report by Superintendent Elizabeth Weir
Sub Divisional Officer
East Ayrshire

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1.1 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 to the area of East Ayrshire Beat 35 Northwest Kilmarnock which relates to Onthank, Altonhill, Wardneuk, Longpark and Knockinlaw, also Beat 36 New Farm Loch and The Dean.

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

Beat 35 Northwest Kilmarnock

	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- July 2004	100	41	13	21	110	40
April 2005- July 2005	80	36	11	10	54	58

Beat 36 New Farm Loch

	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- July 2004	116	14	2	5	43	47
April 2005 – July 2005	52	9	4	5	24	46

2.1.3 Through 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. 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 North area is currently running at 62%, which is a favourable detection rate.

2.1.5 The Ayrshire Division Control Strategy for 2005 – 2006 focus's 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 288 to 226 within the designated period. This decrease is largely due to the amount of proactive policing within the North area.

3.1.3 Vandalism fell from 252 to 240 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 Seven notices of intended eviction have been issued to those families whose children are causing the greatest concern in the Northwest area. These notices allow a 6 month period for the children's behaviour to improve or they risk being evicted.

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 the hotspots in response to community concerns relating to youths congregating and general disorder and these have resulted in areas quieting down.

4.1.2 As you are no doubt aware, there is an increasing public concern over anti social behaviour and in particular the problems, which are caused by under-age and excessive consumption of alcohol. East Ayrshire Licensing board, East Ayrshire council, Strathclyde Police and other Community Planning partners are committed to addressing this problem and minimising the impact on the communities within East Ayrshire. It is recognised that many licence holders are being pro-active in this area and operating in a responsible manner. It can therefore be seen that a number of parties are already working in partnership. At the meeting of the East Ayrshire Licensing board in March 2005 it was decided that a further step forward would be for all Off-Sales licence holders to sign up to a voluntary code of conduct. Community Police and Trading standards officers have visited each off-sales premises and premises are now participating in the scheme almost without exception. The code covers issues such as: - no proof/no sale, proof of age, staff training, record keeping, irresponsible promotions and best practice.

4.1.3 The Road Safety Action Plan is now up and running with the aim of influencing driver behaviour, reducing the number of road traffic accidents/fatalities/injuries and to allay fears of the community regarding speeding drivers. All community police officers are now trained in the use of hand held speed detectors and have already been out using these devices in the recognised areas in East Ayrshire where speeding is reported by various community groups or individuals.

4.1.4 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 Kilmarnock North 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 considered 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.

- 4.1.5** An 8 week programme is commencing on 26 August 2005 at the Northwest youth centre, offering a wide range of activities to 10 – 16 year olds, including football, table tennis, pool, music and IT. K.F.C, E.A.C, Tesco and other agencies are providing funding to this project which will attract young people and divert them away from anti social behaviour.

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
Strathclyde Police
Kilmarnock Police Office
10 St Marnock Street
Kilmarnock
KA1 1TJ

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

Implementation Officer – [mail to:Donald.McIntosh@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Donald.McIntosh@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)
Sgt McIntosh can be contacted at Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock,
Tel 01563 576512.

29 August 2005