

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK SOUTH LOCAL COMMITTEE – 2 NOVEMBER 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 the area of East Ayrshire Beat 37 which relates to Bellfield, Shortlees, Riccarton and Kirkstyle.

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	114	26	7	13	79	36
April 2005 – August 2005	65	20	6	5	55	38

2.1.3 Through high visibility policing and good work from various departments within the police it 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 the number of housebreakings has dropped considerably. 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 Southern area 68%, which is an extremely 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 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 165 to 99 within the designated period. This decrease is largely due to the amount of proactive policing within the South area.
- 3.1.3 Vandalism fell from 126 to 76 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 Through high visibility policing and good work from various departments within the police there has been an overall reduction in the number of housebreakings within the South area and a decrease in vehicle related crime. The Anti Social Behaviour Unit and Police Anti Social Behaviour Liaison Officer continue to work together to address anti social behaviour issues in the South area.

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 identifies 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 The Targeted areas have included Central Ave in Shortlees where persistent complaints have been made regarding youth disorder, especially in the area surrounding Shortlees Parish Church. This area is very difficult for police officers to approach in uniform and plain clothes, as lookouts are usually posted by the youths involved at the relevant times to warn of police activity. When the warning is given youths are observed dashing in the opposite

direction to evade detection. Alcohol, which is left behind by the youths involved, is thereafter disposed of. This problem which is outwith the view of the CCTV cameras, will continue to be monitored by Community officer Evelyn Brown.

- 4.1.3** Youth Diversion from crime forms a large part of the Community Safety Action Plan and Community Police are still liaising with Leisure Services to maintain a 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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