

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 4 MAY 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 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 39 which covers Stewarton, Dunlop, Kilmaurs, Lugton, Fenwick and Waterside North.
- 2.1.3 They cover the period from 1 April 2004 to 31 March 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 2003- March 2004	86	34	12	14	67	40
April 2004 – March 2005	122	27	7	20	77	16

- 2.1.4** Through high visibility policing and good work from various departments within the police there has been an overall reduction in the number of housebreaking's within the Northern area. Unfortunately there has been a slight increase in vehicle related crime. There has been a reduction in detection's for drug related offences although it should be born in mind that these are all as a result of proactive work by the police.
- 2.1.5** The detection rate for group 1 – 7 crimes (all crimes and offences) in the Northern area is currently running at 61%, which is an extremely favourable detection rate.
- 2.1.6** 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 rose from 110 to 160 within the designated period. This increase is largely due to the amount of proactive policing within the Northern area.
- 3.1.3** Vandalism rose from 118 to 181 within the designated period. Vandalism is one of the areas most affected by the introduction of the National change in crime figures, as there is now more accurate reporting and recording of vandalism.
- 3.1.5** The focus of police attention in relation to disorder over recent weeks continues to be The Cross and Rigg St Stewarton, Kilmaurs and Fenwick. These areas have been subject to additional patrols and the keys times identified through incident analysis.
- 3.1.6** Targeted patrols are continuing to have a positive effect on disorder which is being complemented by the work done by our Community Officers in all schools, Stewarton Youth club, and the Children's Unit at Kilmaurs. These inputs are designed to encourage Good Citizenship and Positive Behaviour while discouraging disorder, drunkenness, and vandalism.
- 3.1.7** Following a slight increase in vandalism in Nether Robertland and Dalry Rd Stewarton. Community officers have provided additional attention to the area. There have been a number of detection's for these offences and a large number of "parent alert " letters have been sent.

3.1.8 Transco have also assisted in separate inputs at School assemblies at Stewarton Academy in relation to damage to domestic Gas monitor boxes fitted outside homes in the Nether Robertland Area.

4. PRO-ACTIVITY

4.1.1 Regular patrols have been carried out using both the motorcycle and pedal cycles 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 an increase in assaults.

4.1.2 The police continue to focus on under age drinking and positive work has resulted in the license holders co-operating with the police and the community to reduce availability of alcohol to youngsters. This will have a direct impact on disorder and vandalism.

4.1.3 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 Northern Area. Superintendent Weir met with William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and representatives from Leisure Services and Community Services to set up a programme of youth activities through the summer months. The activities include night league football, girl's football and dance classes. The activities were identified were based on a survey of youth issues.

4.1.4 A program of education and enforcement relating to driver behaviour with regards to parking issues will be conducted in Kilmaurs following the recent installation of traffic lights and newly painted road markings/bus bays.

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.