

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 26th October 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 39, which covers Stewarton, Dunlop, Kilmaurs, Lugton, Fenwick and Waterside North.

They cover the period from 1 April 2005 to 31 August 2006.

| | Crimes of Violence | House breaking to homes | House breaking to garages and sheds | House breaking to Commercial premises, Schools etc. | Vehicle crime | Drugs | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|------------|--------|
| | | | | | | Possession | Supply |
| April 2005-Aug 2005 | 60 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 24 | 2 | 5 |
| April 2006 – Aug 2006 | 57 | 11 | 4 | 7 | 16 | 11 | 0 |

- 2.1.2 Through high visibility policing and good work from various departments within the police, the difference in the violent crime figures is negligible with a decrease. Housebreakings are down, with the exception of commercial properties which show an increase. Vehicle related crime shows a decrease on last year's figures. Drug related crimes are up this reporting period this reflects the amount of good proactive work done.

- 2.1.3 The detection rate for group 1 – 7 crimes (all crimes and offences) in the Northern area is currently running at 65%, which is an extremely favourable detection rate.

2.1.4 The Ayrshire Division Control Strategy for 2005 – 2006 focus's 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 decreased slightly from 66 to 62 within the designated period, the majority of which were Breach of the Peace offences.

3.1.3 Vandalism has increased from 61 to 73 within the designated period.

3.1.4 There are currently no Anti-Social Behaviour Orders in place within the Northern Area. One ABC (Antisocial Behaviour Contract) has been issued in the Northern area last month. 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. PRO ACTIVITY

4.1.1 In response to the recent thefts of quad bikes and related break-ins at farms in recent weeks, an intelligence-based operation has been set up in the area. There is also an ongoing "Farmwatch" scheme, run in conjunction with the NFU, which has been advertised in local media, and through which crime prevention packs have been distributed.

4.1.2 A warrants initiative begun in February leading to a number of arrests, and substantial sums in outstanding fines have been recovered.

4.1.3 Action has been taken by officers in uniform and plain clothes, to target illegal use of "mini motos" in Strandhead Park and Lainshaw woods. This seems to have had a preventative effect, although persons have also been warned / reported.

4.1.4 The marked bag scheme in relation to offsales premises continues to provide intelligence on where youths obtain alcohol. This allows Police and licensees to improve strategies in preventing access to alcohol by underagers.

4.1.5 On Friday 22 September Stewarton hosted "In Town without my car" day. This was an attempt to highlight the alternatives and benefits of not driving in town. In an attempt to promote this idea the Local Sergeant and Community Constables carried out a 4 day Action Plan identifying illegal and inconsiderate parking within the Town. This involved educating the public and enforcing legislation. Over the period in excess of 100 people were warned and 69 Fixed Penalty Tickets were issued. A disqualified driver and several others displaying out of date excise licenses were also reported to the P.F. As

a result of this many favourable comments were received from the Public and local bus companies.

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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9 October 2006

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

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