

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE - 5 NOVEMBER 2001

STRATHCLYDE POLICE SPOTLIGHT REPORT

Report by the Chief Inspector

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To advise the Local Committee of crime trends within their area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** Agreement was reached between the Council and the local Police Commanders to provide information on crime matters affecting local communities.

3. SPOTLIGHT - SAFER STREETS - 1 OCTOBER 2001 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2001

- 3.1** The latest Force-wide initiative under the Spotlight banner re-visits the issue of violent crime and will also focus on youth disorder.

- 3.2** During the two months there will be four Activity Days:

Friday 5 October - offensive weapons/youth crime;

Friday 26 October - hot spots;

Saturday 10 November - licensed premises; and

Friday 30 November - offensive weapons/standing complaints.

- 3.3** The aims of the initiative are three-fold:-

- (a) to reduce violent crime;
- (b) to reduce the fear of crime; and
- (c) to challenge violence wherever it occurs.

- 3.4** On Friday 5 October 2001, there were high profile patrols in all communities between 1800 and 0200 hours as part of an Action Plan targeting violence and youth disorder throughout the Cumnock and Doon Valley area. This resulted in 102 persons being searched (95 males and 7 females). Three knives were recovered. There were 16 visits to licensed premises and 12 visits to standing complaints. Officers also attended 42 other incidents during that time period.

- 3.5** There were only 2 reported crimes of violence - a culpable and reckless conduct in Cumnock and a domestic assault in Dalmellington.

- 3.6** A verbal update will be given at the meeting with regard to the second Day of Activity on 26 October 2001.

4. CRIME TRENDS

4.1 The half-yearly crime figures show an increase of 4.1% in the Doon Valley Local Committee geographical area, from 316 crimes to 329:-

- Housebreakings and attempts thereat are down 25.8%, from 58 to 43;
- Vehicle crime is down 43.3%, from 30 to 17;
- Other dishonesties are down 11.8%, from 59 to 52;
- Crimes of violence are down 11%, from 100 to 89.
- Crimes of vandalism are up 100%, from 77 to 154.

5. PRO-ACTIVITY

5.1 During the first six months of the year, Officers based in the Cumnock and Doon Valley Area searched 488 persons for drugs and 2,070 persons for offensive weapons. 910 visits to licensed premises were also carried out.

5.2 Over the same time period, Officers dealt with 650 offences, of which 393 were disorder related. This is a 17.3% increase compared to last year, when there were 335 disorder related incidents for the same period.

5.3 The detection rate throughout the Cumnock and Doon Valley Area is 41.8%.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 The Local Committee are asked to note the report.

Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight
Strathclyde Police

23 October 2001

HMCK/SR

Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight, Strathclyde Police Office, Ayr Road, Cumnock, on telephone number (01290) 420755.

AGENDA