

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE - 11 SEPTEMBER 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. "KNOW THE SCORE" CAMPAIGN

- 3.1 The above national drugs campaign commenced on 1 April 2001. Since then, there have been numerous houses throughout the Cumnock and Doon Valley area searched for drugs, with varying degrees of success.

The most notable being:-

- (i) On 15 June, drugs with a street value in excess of £22,000.00 were recovered from a house in Ashmark Avenue, New Cumnock. One local male has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for 11 drugs related charges;
- (ii) On 26 July, Cannabis with a value of £1,100.00 was seized from a house in Car Road, Cumnock. One Cumnock male is being reported for 3 drugs related charges; and
- (iii) On 5 July, a large-scale operation involving 30 Police Officers in plain clothes and uniform simultaneously raided 3 houses in Barbieston Terrace, Dalrymple. A quantity of Cannabis and a firearm were recovered, resulting in 3 males and 1 female being reported for 6 drugs related charges and 3 firearm related offences.

4. CRIME TRENDS

- 4.1 Over the first 4 months of the new financial year, crime in the Cumnock Area Local Committee geographical area fell by 35.8% from 890 crimes to 655.

Housebreaking are down 24%, from 41 to 31;
Vehicle crime is down from 118% from 24 to 11;
Crimes of dishonesty are down 2% from 36 to 35; and
Crimes of violence are down 16% from 65 to 56.

The major concern, as it is throughout the whole of the Cumnock and Doon Valley area, is vandalism, with an increase of 134% in the Doon Valley area alone. This equates to an increase of 62 vandalisms, from 46 to 108.

5. PRO-ACTIVITY

5.1 In the first 4 months of this financial year, Officers based in the Cumnock and Doon Valley area searched 336 persons for drugs and 1,464 persons for offensive weapons. 588 visits to licensed premises were also carried out.

Over the same time period, those Officers dealt with 465 offences, of which 280 were disorder related. This is a 19.6% increase on the same period last year, when there were 234 disorder related incidents.

The detection rate throughout the whole of the Cumnock and Doon Valley area is 42.2%.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 The Committee are asked to note the contents of the report.

Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight
Strathclyde Police

21 August 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