

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 05 SEPTEMBER 2001

OPERATION SPOTLIGHT

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the nature and results of “Spotlight” operations, localised crime figures and ongoing initiatives over the preceding period, and to advise of forthcoming initiatives.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members previously agreed to make “Spotlight” a standing item on the Committee’s agenda. To improve the local interest of this report, several topical areas of specific local interest will now be included.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 **Crime Trends** (all figures relate to the Local Committee area)

3.1.1

	Housebreaking	Vehicle Crime	Drugs
April 2000 – July 2000	25	15	17
April 2001 – July 2001	32	29	13

- 3.1.2 The increase in vehicle related crime refers to vehicle left unattended within the town centre. Owners are being reminded not to leave valuable in view and to use security devices whenever possible. During the period compared the number of persons charged with ‘supplying offences’ has decreased from 10 to 4.

3.2 Pro Active Initiative

- 3.2.1 Various awareness raising inputs and initiatives have been held throughout the 'Know the Score' Initiative within East Ayrshire.
- 3.2.2 A vandalism seminar was held during July and invited guests from all three Ayrshire Authorities attended. Discussion centred around the cost and effects of vandalism to communities and the Authorities.
- 3.2.3 A Community Safety Forum open day was held during August at Council Headquarters
- 3.2.4 Schoolwatch Summer 2001 took place throughout East Ayrshire the results of which are shown below for the local area committee area:

There were a total of 20 reported incidents at schools within the northern half of East Ayrshire over the holidays.

Nerher Robertland Primary School accounted for 5 of these with 1 housebreaking and 4 vandalism and Lainshaw Primary reported 1 incident of vandalism.

3.2.5 As of 3 September 2001 I will be taking up a new role as Section Sergeant at Galston Police Office. My replacement will be Sergeant James Richmond. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all members of the Committee with whom I have had the pleasure to work with over the last 3 years for their assistance and information.

4. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 "Spotlight" operations are designed to combat local concerns and problems. The involvement of Members and the local community is essential to the success of the "Spotlight" philosophy.

5.2 Sergeant Hugh Mitchell, Police Liaison Officer, can be contacted at 01563 576512 if you wish to discuss any matter with him.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 It is recommended that Committee: -

- i) identify any local problems which may be addressed by a "Spotlight" operation; and
- ii) otherwise note the content of this report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services
17 August 2001
WS/HM/JS

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

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AGENDA