

N&RN APB

Community Safety Update 15/06/11

The Northwich & Rural North area generally continues to be a low crime area however we are tackling a few issues that have recently appeared.

Belmont Rd Play Area

The Belmont road play area was improved in March this year, as one of a selected number of sites across CWAC that met central government funding criteria. The upgrading included a more open plan approach to play facilities that would meet the needs of a wider age range of youths.

Since the re-opening of the location in April there has been a series of youth related issues, ranging from alleged sexual activity to littering, noise, alcohol abuse and low level ASB. The modified play area has attracted a large number of youths and families to the location which has led to a gradual increase in the ASB activities and unwelcome attention to a number of local elderly residents living nearby.

Following discussions with partners and residents, a public meeting was held on May 26th at which issues were discussed and a supporting petition submitted. The issues and background to the play area improvements were discussed and the following actions agreed:

- The police and supporting agencies would be given time to identify ring leaders and those youths who were deliberately causing ASB or other incidents.
- The ASB unit would instigate ASB procedures against identified youths.
- Connexions workers would look to provide support workers (where available to do so) to liaise with the youths to encourage appropriate behaviour.
- Target hardening options for the play area would be discussed with those residents living directly adjacent to the play area.
- Arriva to be contacted to discuss associated issues with the nearby bus stop.
- A further residents meeting would be held in one month to discuss progress.

Riversdale Bridge

This is a newly refurbished bridge which provides a link between Hartford and Leftwich areas and has been a success in that residents are using the bridge. However reports are being made of anti-social behaviour near to the bridge with one resident being targeted and more recently a water rescue has been made by two PCSO's.

The Police are patrolling the area more often and speaking to young people. The resident concerned has been given diary sheets so they can record what

is happening and agencies have a better picture of the incidents. Other agencies are also looking other interventions including access control gates for bikes.

A multi-agency impact event is planned for mid-July (14th-16th) in Leftwich and the issue of water safety and youth activities will be addressed.

Predictive analysis

The Community Safety Tasking Group has started to utilise data termed 'seasonal predictive analysis' (see appendix 1) which highlights what crimes are more likely to take place in identified months. Using this data the group will start to plan ahead of crime spikes and put in place early interventions.