

Hoole

Overall reported crime levels within Hoole are below the anticipated levels, and incidents of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) remain low.

Anti-social behaviour

Reported incidents of ASB show a significant reduction with 25 incidents reported against an expectation of 43 incidents a reduction of 42%. There has also been a significant reduction in Alcohol related ASB with only 3 reported incidents against a target level of 11.

The area of the Narrows park is to be monitored as the weather improves to prevent ASB.

Allotment holders have complained of damage and drinking, local PSCO Keith Bartlett has visited the area in the evenings and the incidents have reduced.

Crime levels for this financial year

Total crime for the financial year to date is 10% below target.

Burglary dwelling is equal to expectation with 3 reported incidents for the period.

Vehicle crime shows a reduction of 60%.

Pedal cycle theft is slightly increased with 4 reported against a target of 2.

Shoplifting shows a slight increase with 10 offences against an anticipated level of 8.

Specific Issues

Unfortunately on 7th April 2010 four vehicles were damaged on one night in Faulkner Street. This is an ongoing area of concern for us. As a result patrols were increased in the area and there have been no repeats of this behaviour. As before these incidents are sporadic without viable lines of enquiry, making them all the more problematic to prevent and detect.

I would also draw your attention to the problem of theft of pedal cycles from rear yards overnight and the burglary of sheds or garages to steal high value mountain bikes (again overnight). These offences are a high priority for me and the team. The area has had an increase in high visibility and plain clothes police patrols. As a result of intelligence led policing and forensic work two males were arrested on 11th April 2010 in respect of these offences. On 10th and 11th May 2010 we executed five search warrants at addresses in Chester. We recovered a stolen bike and drugs arresting two males. Two further males from the Chester area have been charged with burglary and two more are on police bail awaiting forensic evidence. Since the positive action there has been no further burglaries in the area.

Shoplifting had fallen to very low levels, but there was a spike in the last few weeks, positive action was taken against the offenders. As a direct result this type of crime has substantially reduced again.

We have executed search warrants for Drugs at four addresses in the Hoole area. We seized a quantity of drugs, weapons and a dangerous breed of dog. Further warrants will be executed soon. Our intention is to send a clear anti drugs message; to deter people visiting the area to use drugs and thereby reduce the drug related crime.

Newton

Anti-social behaviour

Reported incidents of Antisocial Behaviour are showing a welcome reduction with 25 reported incidents in the year to date, the target level is 33. Alcohol related antisocial behaviour has shown a similar downward trend with 25% below target.

ASB has been an issue around the areas of Limewood Fields and Kingsway shops. We have provided a highly visible presence in the area as have the Community Wardens. Alcohol has been seized and local officers have engaged with the youths. As a result ASB and damage have substantially reduced.

Officers are currently liaising with partnerships agencies to arrange and deliver Diversionary activities for young people during the summer.

Crime levels for this financial year

Crime for the Newton area is below the guide levels with a reduction of 6% for the financial year to date.

Burglary Dwelling is 58% down

Vehicle crime is at 75% of guide levels.

Pedal cycle theft is half of guide levels.

Shoplifting is also below Guide levels.

Specific Issues

Newton and Kingsway share the problem of theft of pedal cycle and shed/garage burglaries overnight. Our approach (as discussed above in the Hoole section) has led to arrests and the recovery of stolen property following a number of successful search warrants.

The other problem has been associated with two of the residents of the Clear Springs Bail Hostel in West Street, Chester. Two males resident at this address were arrested for burglary at nearby addresses. They were bailed pending forensic evidence, and were suspected of Criminal damage and ASB at nearby addresses. I have successfully worked in conjunction with the management team for the premises resulting in both being removed from the premises and they are now housed outside of the area.

Upton

Anti-social behaviour

Anti Social Behaviour is slightly above Guide levels with 59 reported incidents against a guide of 55 for the financial year to date, but in recent weeks incidents have fallen well below guide levels.

Crime levels for this financial year

For The financial Year to date Total Crime is 28% below guide levels.
Burglary Dwelling has fallen with only 1 crime reported against a guide of 7.
Burglary of buildings other than a dwelling is 60% below Guide levels
Vehicle Crime shows a significant increase with 11 offences against a guide of 5.
Pedal Cycle theft is 50% of Guide level for the financial year to date.
Shoplifting in this area is above guide levels for this year to date

Specific Issues

The increase in vehicle crime is attributable to a single incident where a number of cars parked at The Countess of Chester Hospital were attacked and the catalytic converters stolen. As a result of increased police patrols and some excellent police work by local PSCO Matt Browell a male was arrested in possession of catalytic convertors. He is currently being investigated by CID officers. This incident was one of a series of such incidents across the Chester area targeting long stay car parks, since his arrest we have had no such incidents reported.

Burglary dwelling to steal vehicle (and the keys) has been identified as a problem across the force area. Upton suffered a number of this type of offence, together with normal Burglary dwellings. We suspect these offences have been committed by persons travelling into the area. Cheshire Police set up a force wide operation providing high visibility and plain clothes patrols aimed at stop checking persons in those effected areas. ANPR and Air Support were also utilised. As a result of the operation travelling criminals from Merseyside and Wigan areas were arrested.

Finally I would like to mention an emerging problem across all areas; the theft of Copper for sale as scrap. Scrap prices have increased during the credit crunch leading to an increase of theft of metals for trading in for scrap value. Lead on Church roofs and copper piping on plumbers' vehicles have been targeted, as well as metal stored in rear gardens stolen.

Unfortunately I am unable to attend this forum meeting, but I look forward to meeting you in the future. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in anyway.

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Chester Outer NPT