

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: NORTH LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject: JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
Date: 7 TH AUGUST 2014	Ref: JS	

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members of the North Local Area Partnership on progress with Community Safety in the locality and the joint work carried out in the area by the Local Community Safety Sub-Group over the last period incorporating March – June 2014.

2. Background

2.1 The Joint Community Safety Report reflects the impact which the Local Area Team and Community Safety Sub-groups are making in the area.

3. Proposals/Considerations

3.1 As a result of a review of how community safety is reported to the Local Area Partnerships and the depth and breadth of related statistics that are readily available it was agreed that the statistical analysis normally appended here would be reported every other cycle. There is attached at appendix 1 an up to date copy of the Community Safety Subgroup Action Plan that is regularly updated by partners using the Sharepoint system.

4. Promoting Positive Outcomes

4.1 On 28th May, representatives from Police Scotland Lanarkshire Division and NHS Lanarkshire spent the day at Cumbernauld College, engaging with students and the local community about keeping safe for the summer. Topics covered were alcohol, drugs, sexual health and personal safety. The aim was to engage with the community and give out advice ahead of the summer break. The event was well received by those who attended and the college have requested that further sessions take place due to the success of the day. In addition, parents of the students have also been in touch since to seek further advice on the matters that were discussed.

4.2 Weekly engagement continues with Cumbernauld Crime Prevention Panel members at their new unit in the Shopping Centre. Police Scotland ensure that the members are kept up to date with all events and crime trends affecting the area. This also provides an opportunity for members of the community to engage with police for advice on any problems that they have.

- 4.3 Close liaison with the six housing associations and Social Work department in Cumbernauld continues, which allows information sharing about issues of anti social behaviour, in order to address them at an early stage, focussing on prevention and education. This includes joint visits by Police and North Lanarkshire council staff to those who engage in such behaviour.
- 4.4 Environmental Scans/Estate Walkabouts are also carried out in Wards 3 & 4 on a quarterly basis. This involves the local community, elected members, fire service and NLC environmental services. All relevant issues that are affecting the local community are addressed in a multi agency approach to ensure that the resident's quality of life is improved. This forum allows the local community to become involved in raising the standards of the local area, in accordance with their needs.
- 4.5 For the year to date SFRS have completed a total of 264 Home Fire Safety Visits within North Local Area Wards (Abronhill, Kildrum and the Village 73, Cumbernauld North 35, Cumbernauld South 96, Kilsyth 23, Strathkelvin 37).
- 4.6 SFRS continues to target all Sheltered Housing complexes within North Lanarkshire to improve awareness of home fire safety. Part of the initiative is focusing on those properties with high numbers of fire alarm actuations; these incidents highlight elderly residents who are at higher risk and appropriate partnership interventions are being sought to support these members of our community.
- 4.7 Over the first quarter of this year (1st April 2014 to 26th June 2014) in North Lanarkshire the SFRS achieved a 4% reduction in accidental dwelling fires recording 48 incidents (2013 – 50) and a 12% reduction in fire casualties recording 15 casualties (2013/14 – 14). Within the North LAP area there was a no reduction in dwelling fires (17 in 2013/14 and 17 in 2014/15) with 100% reduction in fire casualties (8 in 2013/14 and none in 2014/15).
- 4.8 Pupils from St Maurice's, Greenfaulds, Abronhill High, Chryston, Our Lady's and Cumbernauld High Schools attended the Firereach programme during the reporting period. They all completed the course and received their Portfolio of Achievement.
- 4.9 SFRS and VANL are almost complete in the developing a partnership working framework. The two areas of development are firstly the use of volunteers to assist in delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits and other engagement activity and secondly the building of closer working links with the third sector groups supporting older people and youths involved in antisocial behaviour.
- 4.10 Consultation on the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for North Lanarkshire 2014 to 2017 has concluded and is now available to view through the link below. The Plan provides a direction of travel in relation to how the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will deliver its services to the communities in North Lanarkshire over the next three years. The Plan will be supported by an annual Operating Plan which will provide more specific detail and associated targets linked to SOA, Community Plan and Scottish Government expectations.
(<http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/west/local-senior-officers.aspx>)

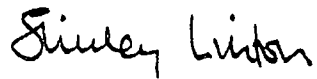
- 4.11 Kickstart programme for S3 has been on-going since May and is targeting a number of issues; the danger of wheelie bin fires is the SFRS message within the production. The schools involved in this are Abronhill, Kilsyth, Chryston, Greenfaulds, St Maurice's, Cumbernauld High, Our Lady's and Glencryan Schools.
- 4.12 Within Ward 3, and the North area priority, discussions are ongoing in tackling the wider concerns relating to stock condition and anti-social and vandalism complaints. This relates to the possible role of other housing owners and how their engagement can be best achieved, and any possible services funded.
- 4.13 A regular review takes place of area, again confirming a drop in fly tipping in the area but some locations remain problematic. The recent joint venture and security mentioned in the previous report has proved successful in the continuing security of a number of abandoned lock-ups, remove the risk of vandalism or possible fire damage. There have been no responses from owners in regard to this action and an extension of this is being considered to the remaining section of Millcroft Road. Action here is also being considered within a wider strategic plan co-ordinated through Housing Development.
- 4.14 Joint action is ongoing between Housing and Police in regard to problems in Abronhill around the Community Centre and surrounding properties. A reduction in reports suggests that anti social activities have reduced.
- 4.15 Multi-agency conferences with Police, Housing, Social Work and Education are ongoing in regard to several young individuals, who have created difficulties in temporary accommodation in several locations across the wards. These reviews have successfully reduced the level of complaints and anti-social problems caused with some individuals moving onto other forms of housing. Police and Housing statistics confirm a reduction in the problems. Housing and Police have again undertaken a number of joint visits in and around Croy, in relation to youth disorder and vandalism to Property. There has been a slight reduction in reports around the area. Police, Housing and Social Work continue to work with one serious problem.
- 4.16 The new Anti-social Night Response Team has proved successful and positively received across communities especially in the active intervention of ongoing activities. This has also been supplemented by proactive management in areas of known hotspots. Within the North this has involved cases and visits to Kilsyth, Croy, Abronhill and Kildrum. The development of information systems and reports to summarise the new procedures and outcomes is ongoing.

5. Corporate Considerations

- 5.1 The Joint Community Safety Report reflects the Partnership's commitment to tackling community safety in all our localities.

6. Recommendation

6.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Partnership note the content of this report.



Shirley Linton
Head of Planning & Regeneration

7th August 2014

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Martin Dickson on (01698) 302832

North Local Area Partnership

Community Safety Sub - Group Action Plan SharePoint Summary

DATE	LOCATION/WARD	ISSUE	ACTIONS	PARTNERS	OUTCOME
04/03/14	Ward 1 Kilsyth	Youth Disorder	Area continues to be monitored and Police have identified offenders Consideration given to temp CCTV Housing movements	Regeneration Services Environmental Services Police Scotland Housing Social Work	Reduction in calls to police re ASB in area noted.
04/04/14	Ward 2 Cumbernauld North	Youth Anti Social Behaviour	Increased Police Patrols Consideration of temp CCTV coverage	Regeneration Services Housing Services Police Scotland Fire Scotland	Reduction in ASB and related issues.
05/05/14	Ward 3 Cumbernauld South Ward 4 Abronhill, Kildrum & Village	Wheelie Bin and Secondary Fires	Increased Police Patrols Fire/Police briefing sessions within all local High Schools	Regeneration Services Housing Services Police Scotland Fire Scotland	Reduction in ASB and related issues.
01/05/14	Ward 5 Strathkelvin	Bogus Callers	Increased Communications across Partnership and Voluntary sectors	Regeneration Services Housing Services Police Scotland	Reduction in incidents Community better aware of dangers.