

**COATBRIDGE AREA
PARTNERSHIP**

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

POLICE REPORT



**STRATHCLYDE
POLICE**

Working Together - Building Safer Communities

**13 th November 2007
To
12 February 2008**

Introduction

This report gives a brief snapshot of the work being currently undertaken throughout the Sub Division, followed by a brief indication of some statistical information pertinent to each ward. As always, there is a strong emphasis on partnership working and we are fortunate that we enjoy very good relationships with or local partners.

As some of your local community officers have changed, a list of all community officers within the Coatbridge area is reproduced below for your information. They can be contacted on 01236 502039

AREA	OFFICER
AREA INSPECTOR	INSP. JULIE MacCONNELL
COMMUNITY POLICE SERGEANT	SGT. ALAN CROSS
TOWN CENTRE	PC JOE KERR
	PC ANDREW MACLAUHLAN
LANGLOAN	PC ANDREW DUNCAN
WHIFFLET	PC ROBERT PARK
BLAIRPARK, DRUMPELLIER	PC KERRY MACKENZIE
TOWNHEAD	PC DAVE FOSTER
GREENHILL	PC SHAD SCOTT
DUNBETH, CLIFTONVILLE	PC PHIL ROSE
CARNBROE, SIKESIDE, GREENEND	PC DEREK BOLTON PC NIAL FAULDS
SHAWHEAD	PC ROBERT PARK
OLD MONKLAND, KIRKSHAWS	PC RUTH MCALISTER
KIRKWOOD	PC GORDON CHRISTIE
GLENBOIG	PC SHAD SCOTT
BARGEDDIE	PC ANDREW DUNCAN
CAMPUS OFFICERS	PC STEVE CUTHBERT PC ROB BECKWITH

The following information in relation to Safer Scotland and the Divisional Control Strategy are key areas which impact on us at a local level, and drive the business of the Division. The ongoing initiatives and partnership working once again give an indication of the breadth of work your local police service have either driven or taken an active part.

Safer Scotland

The Safer Scotland Anti-Violence Campaign is supported by the Scottish Executive and delivered nationally by the Association of Chief Police Officers (Scotland). The aim of the campaign is to build appropriate alliances to respond to the respective levels of violence in the country. The campaign's main theme is to find sustainable, innovative solutions to our violence problem through a series of targeted and locally focused campaigns.

The campaign is continuing to focus on youth alcohol consumption and associated acts of disorder/anti-social behaviour. For the period covered by this report the following results have been achieved for 'NA' Sub Division, which covers Coatbridge.

- 955 stop searches
- 306 visits to off sales
- 538 visits to other licensed premises
- 111.07 litres of alcohol seized from adults
- 146.2 litres of alcohol seized from juveniles
- 15 under 18's reported for street drinking
- 49 over 18's reported for street drinking
- 91 fixed penalties issued for various offences

Divisional Control Strategy

The Sub division will continue to deliver the Divisional Control Strategy in relation to local crime, community safety and anti-social behaviour priorities and will seek to involve partners and the local community to positively impact on community concerns.

The priorities identified in the Control Strategy are:

- Disorder and Anti Social Behaviour
- Child Protection
- Violence
- Terrorism
- Drug
- Serious and Organised Crime Groups

Violence Reduction Strategy

The Safer Scotland Campaign will be underpinned by the Divisional Violence Reduction Strategy that will set out what the Division's intentions are and how it intends to achieve a reduction in the number of victims of violent crime. This involves the co ordination of police resources by way of action plans which focus police attention in areas of disorder and alcohol related offences. This Initiative will run until 31 March 2008.

As part of the Violent Crime Reduction Strategy specific areas/hotspots for violent crime and weapon carriers were highlighted. The Electronic Wands which detect weapons continue to be used in the Coatbridge area. Local officers supported by our Special Constabulary conducted searches at licensed premises as part of our weekend action plan. This type of activity continues every weekend. The wands have proved an important tool in the detection of bladed weapons, providing public reassurance and also act as a deterrent in the Town Centre area for those who might have thought about carrying one.

Sub Divisional Action Plan

Every weekend an Action Plan is instigated that seeks to address areas of disorder throughout the Sub Division. Officers patrol in high visibility uniform and are specifically deployed based on local intelligence and recent incidents.

Any people who are considered to be involved in disorder, whether it be drinking in the street or breaching the peace will be charged accordingly. If, on arrival of the police there is no obvious disorder then they may be searched if appropriate, moved on or other action taken. However, without public support in terms of providing statements there is often not enough evidence to charge.

The Action Plans are backed up by intelligence-led information, aimed at identifying and targeting specific offenders whether it is in relation to disorder, controlled drugs or other areas of criminality.

Ongoing Initiatives and Partnership Working

Anti-Social Behaviour

Joint working opportunities with the police, housing providers and NLC Anti-Social Task Force will be realised in an effort to tackle recurring anti-social behaviour problems. This includes sharing of information, joint visits to problem areas and instigating effective enforcement techniques. Since the last report there have been a large number of disclosures made to the Anti Social Task Force which may result in warnings, anti social behaviour orders or ultimately evictions.

Community Councils

Community Police Officers maintain regular contact with Community Councils. Each CP officer attends the relevant Community Council meetings and feeds back concerns to Sub Divisional Management for appropriate tasking and co-ordinating of resources.

Coatbridge Young Offenders Forum

The Coatbridge Young Offenders Forum has been running for over one year, it involves key partners such as the Police, SCRA, Social Work Youth Justice, CLAD and others who can impact on persistent young offenders in terms of altering their behavioural trend. Individuals have been identified and will be subject to focussed discussion and action by the group. A small, but particularly active group of Offending Juveniles, particularly from the Sikeside/Greenend area are currently being targeted.

The TFI Project – Thank FUN Its Friday

This project is now being taken to the local Communities on Friday evenings. A mobile football park along with the Community partnership vehicle, is being taken to local areas of historic disorder,(initially Greenend, Sikeside,) and the local youths will be encouraged to take part in football games, rather than engage in disorder related activities. If successful the project is intended to continue indefinitely, the target areas changing every week to incorporate all areas.

Careers Scotland Employment Initiative

Strathclyde Police in partnership with Careers Scotland are offering young offenders the chance to enter a programme of training for work/further education/employment in an effort to deter repeat offending. The TFI project will also be used as a forum to publicise Careers Scotland.

Warrants Initiative

Warrants Initiatives were staged within the Coatbridge and Airdrie areas involving Coatbridge Community Police, Community Safety and Plain Clothes Officers along with partner agencies. This Initiative involved the enforcement of several priority Warrants in line with the Divisional Control Strategy. During December and January there were 182 apprehension warrants executed.

Road Traffic Initiative

The hand-held speed cameras have continued to be used throughout the Sub-Division. This type of activity is geared towards making the roads in the Coatbridge area a safer place to be for both motorists and pedestrians. The devices continue to be used to target accident 'hotspots' and any areas identified by our partners. The use of these devices also provides public reassurance to all road users.

"Get Yer Skates On"

This very successful Initiative aimed at tackling territorialism called 'Get yer skates on' was launched last year at the Time Capsule at Coatbridge. The Initiative involves free ice-skating and tuition, with an ice disco being held in the final week. These facilities intend to bring together youth adults from the Coatbridge area who may not normally mix in the same circles – due to territorial issues – and hopefully give them a chance to forge strong relationships. This was re-launched on February 8 with over 250 young people attending.

Secondary School, KNIFE Consequences PROJECT.

Knife crime is a media sensitive offence that can blight the lives of all who reside within the Monklands area. A knife culture exists amongst some young people, youths will foolishly carry a knife for many reasons, some to impress others, or to intimidate them; however some will carry a knife simply to cause injury.

This initiative aims to reduce the carrying and use of offensive weapons, by highlighting the consequences (both criminal and physical) that may result through this senseless and very anti social activity.

The initiative involves schools within the Coatbridge and Airdrie area and involves Community Safety/Community Police Officers visiting these educational establishments during lunchtime. They will personally deliver interactive presentations regarding the dangers of offensive weapons and the knife demonstration boards will be utilised during these face-to-face pupil talks. The assistance of the media is also being sought and this event is designed to fully integrate with the Safer North Lanarkshire campaign and dovetails with the current Force and Divisional Control strategy of Violence, Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour.

Drugs Awareness Programme – Coatbridge College

A successful drugs awareness pilot was carried out in Nov/Dec 2007 within the college Beauty dept. This involves various presentations to students within the College. As a result the pilot, the programme has been carried into 2008, the first programme starting in February will be provided to staff and students within the Dental dept.

WARD 6 - COATBRIDGE NORTH AND GLENBOIG

Cllr Anthony Clarke, Cllr Martin McWilliams, Cllr William Shields, Cllr John Wilson

Cliftonville, Drumpellier, Townhead, Gartsherrie, Glenboig, Town Centre, Blairhill, Dunbeth.

There were a total of 2436 incidents over the period, which covered a wide variety of issues. Of these incidents 505 resulted in a crime report being submitted of which 287 were detected.

Over this period there were a total of 8 serious assaults, 7 Domestic Housebreakings, 84 acts of vandalism and 17 persons reported for street drinking.

Incidents of note

There were no incidents of note during this period.

WARD 9 - COATBRIDGE WEST

Cllr James Smith, Cllr Tomas McGuinness, Cllr Paul Welsh

Bargeddie, Kirkwood, Old Monkland, Dundyvan, Langloan.

There were a total of 1722 incidents over the period covering a variety of issues. Of these incidents 318 resulted in crime reports being submitted of which 144 were detected.

Over this period there were a total of 78 acts of vandalism, 5 domestic housebreakings and 8 persons reported for street drinking and 5 serious assaults.

Incidents of note

A male staff member at the Time Capsule was charged with Breach of the Peace for viewing a female changing in a cubicle via a hole in the partition.

WARD 10 - COATBRIDGE SOUTH

Cllr James Brooks, Cllr Ian Ferrie, Cllr John Higgins

Carnbroe, Shawhead, Kirkshaws, Whifflet, Greenend, Sikeside.

There were a total of 1920 incidents reported to the police over the period. Of these incidents, a total of 430 resulted in crime reports being submitted of which 192 were detected.

Over this period there were a total of 5 serious assaults, 5 Domestic Housebreakings, 105 acts of vandalism and 13 persons were reported for street drinking.

Incidents of note

The increase in vandalisms has been addressed by pro-active policing and resulted in 9 young persons being reported to the reporter.

A large fire occurred at the tyre recycling plant on the site of the old Shanks & McEwan factory resulting in widespread disruption for 2/3days.

A fatal road accident occurred in Whifflet St on 11/02/08 whereby a 72yr old female died as a result of walking into the path of a motor vehicle.