

REPORT

To: COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject: JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
Date: 29 TH JULY 2014	Ref: JS	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members of the Coatbridge 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 The excellent joint working continues to see improvements across Coatbridge in terms of tackling disorder and anti-social behaviour. This has been supplemented with the introduction of the Councils new Antisocial Response team who has provided an improved and dedicated response service across Coatbridge.

Excellent communication between Police Scotland and Housing continues to provide a forum to identify emerging patterns and potential hot spots and this information allows resources to be allocated to respond to these areas with positive results being obtained.

The introduction of the Council's new antisocial model saw improved joint working in terms of tackling out of hour's nuisance and allowed for proactive visits to be carried out in areas identified by both area office staff and the local community. Details of the new antisocial model were also presented to local tenants and residents groups as part of a wider information and awareness programme. This was given a positive reception and Information Packs were supplied to all present.

- 4.2 Within ward 6, Housing Services, in conjunction with Community Learning and Development continue to provide positive activities for a number of local youths, which contribute towards a reduction in youth disorder within the Townhead area. Although there remains a small number on isolated incidents, the tower complexes within ward 6 continue to see a reduction in community safety incidents in comparison with previous years. This is primarily due to the proactive work undertaken by both Housing Services and Police Scotland and the excellent support provided to all agencies and residents by the duty estate officers continues to provide excellent results. This support includes additional initiatives such as monitoring of fob usage, providing additional support and safeguards to elderly and infirm residents across Coatbridge. This is supplemented by additional security patrols undertaken by estate officers throughout the complexes.
- 4.3 Ward 9 within the Langloan area has seen an increase in joint working between Police Scotland and Housing Services to address complaints of noise nuisance and youths congregating in local low rise blocks. Information supplied from local residents has allowed both agencies to address these issues and access to all blocks have been improved with the supply of fobs to Police Scotland. This allows proactive policing of these areas as well as quicker access to the blocks when required. Also within ward 9 the Viewfield Road area has been the subject to increased joint working between Housing Services and Police Scotland to address concerns raised by the local community. As a consequence of the engagement with the local community one family in particular has been identified as being a main participant in antisocial behaviour and is subject to continuing joint working between all community safety partners. Steps taken by Social Work Services have resulted in a successful outcome for one family member and work continues to be ongoing with other family members.
- 4.4 Ward 10 flatted properties at Fintry Court, Striven Court etc. in the Shawhead area continue to present concern and joint working between Housing Services, Police Scotland and Town Centre Activities is continuing to both act as a deterrent and identify those engaging in antisocial behaviour. Plans are currently underway to improve the lighting associated within this area which will enhance CCTV coverage of the area. Further improvements to the blocks are being considered which will contribute towards providing a safe environment for all tenants in which to live.
- 4.5 An excellent example of partnership working took place within schools within Coatbridge, multi agency events were held with themed presentations carried out by Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and also included local businesses such as Tesco who brought along fresh fruit and spoke of the advantages of eating healthily, MacKinnon Mills who brought a number of different tartans along and explained to the children about heritage. Women's Aid were also in attendance and delivered, and finally B&Q, who brought along materials to allow the children to make plaques with their names on them. These sessions help to break down the barriers as well as educating young people on their health and wellbeing.
- 4.6 For the year to date SFRS have completed a total of 97 Home Fire Safety Visits within Coatbridge Locality (Coatbridge North and Glenboig 40, Coatbridge South 26, Coatbridge West 31).

- 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 80% reduction in fire casualties in 2014/15 recording 2 casualties (2013/14 – 10). Within the Coatbridge LAP area there was an 18% reduction in dwelling fires (17 in 2013/14 and 14 in 2014/15).
- 4.8 Pupils from Coatbridge High and St Andrews 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 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.
- 4.11 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>)
- 4.12 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 St Ambrose, Buchanan, Portland, Coatbridge High, Willowbank and St Andrews Schools.

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

Shirley Linton
Head of Planning & Regeneration

29th July 2014

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Michele Battersby on (01698) 302812

Coatbridge Local Area Partnership

Community Safety Sub-Group Action Plan Sharepoint Summary

DATE	LOCATION/WARD	ISSUE	ACTIONS	PARTNERS	OUTCOME
9/1/14	Ward 6 The Basin, Bank Street, Coatbridge	Youths causing annoyance and anti-social behaviour	Area to be patrolled/monitored to identify offenders Proactive Street Work by Community Learning & Development.	Police Scotland Learning & Leisure Regeneration Services	Police charged offenders Positive engagement of young people. Reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour.
26/6/14	Ward 9 Monklands View Crescent, Bargeddie	Hoax 999 calls made to Scottish Fire & Rescue Service	Local investigation and phone kiosk monitored. Input to both Primary Schools on impact of Hoax Calls Article in Local Press reflecting "Hoax Calls Can Kill"	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Regeneration Services	No further calls from this phone kiosk
8/10/13	Ward 10 Shawhead Flats	Anti-Social Behaviour and Criminal Activity	Police put a Joint Action Plan in place. Community Learning & Development continue to offer a range of Youth Work Services	Police Scotland Housing & Social Work Services Learning & Leisure	Increased patrols in area. Persons reported to Procurator Fiscal Increase in stop/search by Police Scotland

22/5/14	Ward 9 Spey Drive	Wheelie bins/tyres set on fire	Continue to monitor area.	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Police Scotland	Individual charged with Breach of the Peace Slight reduction of reported incidents. Patrols undertaken. No further incidents noted. Police Scotland will continue to monitor.
08/10/13	Ward 9 Viewfield Road	Anti-Social Behaviour and Estate Management	Joint visits with Housing Estate Management Team High visibility Policing agreed. Agreement to improve rear court lighting.	Police Scotland Housing & Social Work Services Regeneration Services	Offenders arrested and reported to Procurator Fiscal. Entry Fobs given to Police by Housing. Housing secured funding for lighting. Case conference led by Social Work for specific family. UBN's and warnings issued by ASTF and Police Decrease in incidents noted