

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**

**REPORT**

To: NORTH AREA LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP	Subject: JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT	
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
Date: 15th JANUARY 2015	Ref: MD	

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members of the 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 October - December 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 Paragraph 4 provides a description of some of the activity reflecting positive outcomes in the area and Appendix 1 gives an up to date summary of the Community Safety Subgroup Action Plan that is regularly updated by partners using the Sharepoint system

**4. Promoting Positive Outcomes**

- 4.1 Coffee with a copper continues to be a successful initiative which runs on the first Tuesday and last Thursday of the month in local supermarkets. This allows members of the public, to speak with a local officer to discuss any concerns or local issues.
- 4.2 Along with a number of partner agencies, Bogus/ Cold caller information days were arranged in B&Q, Tesco and at Stepps Parish Church. These types of events are crucial in providing advice to elderly/ vulnerable members of our communities who may be "at risk" from people who carry out such crimes.
- 4.3 A litter awareness day was held in conjunction with the Education Department at Cumbernauld Primary school during September.
- 4.4 A number of presentations have been delivered to both pupils and staff in various primary and secondary schools within the Cumbernauld area, including Child Exploitation and Online Protection as well as New Psychoactive substances (NPS or "legal highs").

- 4.5 Joint working between Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service led to a number Firework & Bonfire Safety Inputs to primary and secondary schools throughout the area between 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October, highlighting the dangers of fireworks if handled incorrectly and providing advice to pupils.
- 4.6 As a result of effective partnership working between Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Town Centre Activities there have been a total of two confirmed arrests of individuals identified as being involved in deliberate fire setting.
- 4.7 The SFRS Firereach programme now includes the Dynamic Youth Awards which is being managed by the CLD Youth Worker. This has resulted in over 60 young people being accredited with the Award in the past two months.
- 4.8 Sheltered Housing complexes are the focus of joint discussions between NLC Housing, NLC Design Team and SFRS to try and address the high level of fire alarm actuations resulting in attendance of the fire service over the past eight months. It is anticipated that a solution will be reached in the near future which will reduce the impact on both the residents and SFRS due to the actuations.
- 4.9 Supported through the CSSG an initiative highlighting the dangers and impact of wheelie bin and refuse fires has been launched through a media release. This initiative will target local communities identified through data analysis as having higher numbers of refuse and wheelie bin fire incidents. SFRS, Police Scotland and NLC Housing will deliver safety advice leaflets to residents in the affected areas. In addition where appropriate 2m lengths of chain and padlocks will be issued to residents to be used to secure their bins. This initiative was piloted in the Plains area earlier this year and resulted in an 80% reduction of fires involving wheelie bins and refuse.
- 4.10 As a result of the CSSG multi agency approach to the recent bonfire period there has been a positive reduction of deliberate fire setting incidents over the October/ November period. The uplift service operated through Northline has been central to the overall reduction of bonfire incidents within North Lanarkshire. There was one incident at which fire crews were attacked, this was adjacent to the Pivot Centre in Moodiesburn. CCTV footage was captured and the information passed to Police Scotland to progress the matter. No other attacks were recorded within North Lanarkshire.
- 4.11 The SFRS are working in partnership with Network Rail and British Transport Police to educate our younger residents of the dangers of unauthorised access to the rail network. In addition the SFRS have adapted the Cut It Out delivery programme which targets 6<sup>th</sup> Year pupils to include a hard hitting session focusing on the dangers surrounding level crossings. The partnership will operate for the next twelve months.
- 4.12 The Local Development Programme (LDP) has been pivotal in ensuring that some necessary interventions have been properly funded through the provision of additional CCTV and environmental improvements. The LDP has also part funded the Local Festive Campaign delivering hundreds of information packs at the Town Centre Festive Light switch-ons. These packs provided community safety advice and free items such as purse bells to deter potential thefts; in addition to this Robbery Prevention Packs were provided to local businesses to assist them at their busiest time of the year. These packs proved very popular. This funding also provided Taxi Marshals at the St Mungo's Road Taxi rank in an effort to make the journey home safer for people during the festive season.

4.13 In the lead up to the Festive Campaign, Police Scotland officers have been engaging with a local radio station, Revival FM which is Scotland's first full time community Christian radio station. This liaison will continue as a portal to promote any local initiatives of partnership events. As such, messages have been played promoting the festive work being undertaken by around the partnership, this allows listeners to hear about the campaigns and take steps to keep themselves safe.

4.14 Safer Communities officers have been working with North Lanarkshire Council's education department in recognising the dangers involved in online activities such as social media sites. Child Exploitation and online protection presentations have been delivered within the local high schools and at a recent in-service day, several teachers were also provided additional training, this will allow education staff to deliver the presentation to pupils as well as being able to give practical advice on how to stay safe online.

## **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**

January 2015

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Martin Dickson on (01698) 302

## Local Area Partnership

### Community Safety Sub - Group Action Plan Sharepoint Summary

DATE	LOCATION/WARD	ISSUE	ACTIONS	PARTNERS	OUTCOME
03.10.14	Craignethan Drive, Gartcosh	Vandalism to numerous cars.	Increase Police Patrols. Local community engagement Discussion with TCA	Regeneration  Police Scotland  Town Centre Activities	Arrest made
01.05.14 ongoing	Ward 5 Strathkelvin Bluebell Park, Stepps	Ongoing vandalism and antisocial behaviour in park	Increased Communications across Partnership and Voluntary sectors.  Increased police patrols	Environmental Services  Police Scotland  Town Centre Activities	Reduction in incidents  Community better aware of dangers.
10.10.14	All wards	Fireworks Presentations	A series of multi agency presentations arranged in all local High Schools from October 2- -24th	Scottish Fire & Rescue Police Scotland NLC Trading standards.	Increased engagement and contact with young people.