

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject: JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
Date: 15 th JANUARY 2015	Ref: SL/MC	

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 (CSSG) 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 (LAT) and CSSG 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 CSSG Action Plan that is regularly updated by partners using the Sharepoint system

4. Promoting Positive Outcomes

4.1 The Anti Social Response Team was launched in April 2014. There were 339 complaints received for the Bellshill and Viewpark Locality during June 2014 to August 2014. This has reduced for the period September-November with 151 complaints being received. Some issues raised through the work of the team are addressed by partnership working through the CSSG. Housing Services night time team continue to assist in tackling anti social behaviour (ASB) with out of hours visits, often jointly with Police Scotland. This is proving to be a successful approach resulting in the provision of a robust ASB Service to Bellshill and District's tenants and residents.

4.2 Housing Services and Police Scotland continue to work in partnership to achieve positive outcomes for our service users. The Service Delivery Co-ordinator (Housing Support) attends the weekly meeting with the Area Inspector and Service Delivery Co-ordinator (Anti Social Behaviour) to discuss ongoing incidents and to share relevant information. Other partners e.g., Regeneration Services, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFR), Community Learning and Development (CL&D) and NHS are also involved in delivering positive outcomes for service users through information sharing and appropriate joint actions.

- 4.3 Representatives from SFR have met with partners to ensure that referrals for Home Fire Safety Visits are promoted and made in the appropriate manner. This issue is also a regular item for discussion at the LAT to ensure that partners are progressing this matter.
- 4.4 The Friday Night Projects, in Birkenshaw and Holytown continue to attract large numbers of young people. The projects take place in areas identified as having the need for diversionary activities on a Friday evening. The initiative is open to all young people 9-21 years and uses a partnership approach to working with young people. Police Scotland made presentations to the project in relation to knife and weapon carrying.
- 4.5 A joint visit with the Regeneration Manager, Service Delivery Co-ordinator, Police Scotland, Environmental services and Health & Safety to the Old Mine Nature Park was carried out in October to address the community safety issues at this site and this has resulted in joint work to secure the site being planned.
- 4.6 Tenant Led Inspection were carried out at with community groups across the area during the reporting period which involved representatives from Housing Services, Property Services, Land Management Services, Regeneration Services and Police Scotland. Various actions were noted and acted upon accordingly.
- 4.7 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 Glebe St Taxi rank in an effort to make the journey home safer for people during the festive season.
- 4.8 Many partners participated each week during the 10 week "Street Soccer" event run from 15th September which attracted many youths from the "Jewel Scheme" area who integrated well with all partners. During this time. Community safety and community police officers took part in an annual football challenge match against the service users of the Blue Triangle in Viewpark which the Police won comfortably.
- 4.9 During September, a few presentations were made by Community Police officers to junior members of the local Mosque where subjects such as Bullying/Cyber bullying were discussed
- 4.10 Arrangements were made through in conjunction with SFR to have community police officers assist with their annual Firework Campaign which was presented to all schools in the Bellshill area.
- 4.11 In November, several talks were organised at to raise awareness of "Bogus Callers" to elderly groups through C L & D as well as personal safety information passed to groups including "young mums".

- 4.12 Also in November, Bellshill Community safety and the area Inspector took part in the annual Youth conference within the Bellshill YMCA. 3 X 30 minute presentations on Drugs misuse were delivered by the Community Safety officer following this, partners participated in a question and answer session
- 4.13 The project funded through LDP to address issues of wilful fire raising has started well. This has resulted in groups attending a day at the Firereach project at Coatbridge Fire Station and groups found this experience very helpful and certainly made them feel stronger about the project they were undertaking. The Bellshill Academy group helped co deliver a firework safety talk to year 2nd and 3rd year pupils, just before bonfire night, and also helped deliver a fire safety workshop at the annual Bellshill Youth Conference, both were well received. Filming has started on the film being made by the Bellshill Youth Forum, and the groups are holding further meetings to help scope out the project and timescales.
- 4.14 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 three confirmed arrests of individuals identified as being involved in deliberate fire setting.
- 4.15 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.
- 4.16 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. This matter has been progressed through CSSGs
- 4.17 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 funded through the LDP. This initiative was piloted in the Plains area earlier this year and resulted in an 80% reduction of fires involving wheelie bins and refuse.
- 4.18 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.
- 4.19 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 6th Year pupils to include a hard hitting session focusing on the dangers surrounding level crossings. The partnership will operate for the next twelve months.

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

15 January 2015

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact
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Local Area Partnership

Community Safety Sub - Group Action Plan Sharepoint Summary

DATE	LOCATION/WARD	ISSUE	ACTIONS	PARTNERS	OUTCOME
06/11/2014	Clyde Drive Area – Ward 15	Issue of Fire Hazard at Bin Areas	Joint work undertaken through CSSG	Police Housing Regeneration SFR	Environmental Improvements to be carried out through LDP and situation monitored
2/12/2014	Viewpark Gardens – Ward 13	Issue with vandalism at site	Joint working undertaken through CSSG and funding allocated	Police Housing Regeneration Land Management	Area continues to be closely monitored by Police and additional security measures will be installed.
2/12/2014	New Brandon Park – Ward 14	Issue with anti social behaviour and vandalism in area	Joint work undertaken through CSSG. Additional patrols carried out by police.	Police Housing Regeneration Land Management	Increase in patrols has resulted in a reduction in complaints to partners
2/12/2014	Babylon Drive Area – Ward 14	Derelict Building – youth disorder at site and vandalism	Approach made to NLC colleagues re the demolition of the site to address issues	Police Regeneration SFR	Demolition of building almost complete which has resulted in a clear reduction of ASB in area
3/11/2014	Regency Car Park at Scotmid – Ward 13	Problems with Joy riding and noise disturbance from cars in area	Joint work undertaken through CSSG and additional police resources deployed	Police Regeneration	Increased patrols have resulted in real reduction in problems being experienced

17/11/14	Grassed Area within Cardinal Newman HS – Ward 14	Youths congregating in area causing disturbance	Partners undertaking joint work in the area	Police Regeneration Housing SFR	Joint working including increased patrols and site visits have resulted in reduction in complaints
25/11/14	Rosevale Cres Bellshill – Ward 15	Youths congregating in area. Alcohol related issues	Partners working together to address ASB	Police Regeneration Housing	Housing dealing with issues and Police increasing patrols. This has resulted in reduction in complaints
7/11/2014	Leven Terrace Area	Issues of ASB and alcohol related issues in area	Police have acted on several complaints received	Police Regeneration Housing	Addition high visibility resources deployed resulting in decrease in complaints received