

To: COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject: JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
Date: 13 th JANUARY 2015	Ref: SL/MB	

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 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 (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 Community Safety Subgroup Action Plan that is regularly updated by partners using the Sharepoint system

4. Promoting Positive Outcomes

- 4.1 The Coatbridge Local Area Team is currently piloting a joint initiative within specific Tower blocks in Coatbridge. Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS), Housing and Social Work Services, Regeneration, Mears and Saltire are working together to target Fire Safety Checks within targeted tower blocks. In addition residents are being offered advice, support and assistance from all services in relation to issues they may have. So far two tower blocks have been targeted (Witchwood Court & Jackson Court) and the engagement with local residents has been extremely positive.

The most recent initiative at Jackson Court took place from 20-22 November 2014 and 100 residents were approached and offered a Fire Safety visit. Approximately 45% of residents approached agreed to receive a visit and the team operating within the tower undertook 40 visits to residents. Following a debrief in December the Local Area Team will consider rolling the programme out over the remaining Towers in Coatbridge.

- 4.2 There is currently an initiative in place between North Lanarkshire Council's Night Time Anti-social Team and Police Scotland. On a weekly basis the locality Housing Office will send a list of persistent anti-social residents to the Night Time Hub and joint visits will be carried out to each individual at their home address. The purpose of this is to deter individuals from committing acts of anti-social behaviour and implement early intervention where acts of anti-social behaviour are being committed.
- 4.3 Housing and Social Work Services and Police Scotland continue to meet local Tenants and Resident Associations to discuss anti-social behaviour within the local communities and propose joint actions in resolving any issues.
- 4.4 The main focus in Ward 6 remains the high rise towers which are closely monitored by North Lanarkshire Council Estate Officers and Anti-Social Response Officers. There is now a dedicated Service Delivery Co-ordinator who oversees the management of high rise towers and anti-social behaviour in Coatbridge. In addition a dedicated Housing Officer has also been allocated to the towers.
- 4.5 High Schools in North Lanarkshire have introduced Uniformed & Emergency Services Course in to their curriculum. Lanarkshire Division Police Scotland Officers are in the process of assisting with this and will look at arranging pupil visits to a police station and recruitment presentations.
- 4.6 No Knives Better Lives, a government initiative, has been rolled out at local sports centre's across the area, in conjunction with North Lanarkshire Leisure. Due to the impact knife crime has on young people and the target audience, this is also being considered for presentation by Police Scotland to local schools and community centres.
- 4.7 Police Scotland and North Lanarkshire Council are working together to target Antisocial behaviour. Members of the Anti-Social Behaviour night response team and Police Scotland officers are pro-actively visiting residents on a Friday evening to outline the action that can be taken by both agencies. These residents are identified by Housing and Social Work and Police Scotland through recent incidents or complaints.
- 4.8 The Local Development Programme (LDP) has been pivotal in ensuring that some necessary interventions have been jointly funded through the provision of additional CCTV and environmental improvements. The LDP and NHS Lanarkshire funded the Local Festive Safety Campaign delivering hundreds of information packs at the Town Centre Christmas Light switch-on. These packs provided community safety advice, local activity information and free items such as purse bells to deter potential thefts, alcohol unit measure guides and stop smoking compact mirrors. In addition 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 a taxi rank on Dunbeth Road, adjacent to The Vulcan in an effort to make the journey home safer for people during the festive season.
- 4.9 As a result of effective partnership working between Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Town Centre Activities there have been a total of six confirmed arrests of individuals identified as being involved in deliberate fire setting.

- 4.10 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.
- 4.11 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.
- 4.12 Jackson Court multi-storey flats were targeted as part of a multi-agency initiative to improve home safety for the residents. This was part of a wider Tower Strategy and involved representatives from SFRS, NLC Housing, Scottish Power and Regeneration Services. The three days provided residents with free home fire safety visits, electrical safety checks and general home safety advice.
- 4.13 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.
- 4.14 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.
- 4.15 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
Head of Planning & Regeneration

13th January 2015

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

Local Area Partnership

Coatbridge Community Safety Sub - Sharepoint Summary

DATE	LOCATION/WARD	ISSUE	ACTIONS	PARTNERS	OUTCOME
August 2014	Ward 6 Coatbridge North and Glenboig	Wilful Fire Raising in Tower Block	A coordinated initiative to promote fire safety within the multi storey block at Witchwood Court involving partners:	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Housing & Social Work Services, Regeneration Services Saltire and Mears	Access to 40% of houses achieved which resulted in assistance being given to 32 tenants. Referrals to partner agencies also arranged for 2 tenants. Future initiatives to be arranged. Leaflet and poster for escape or stay put plan to be arranged for the site
24/10/14	Ward 6 Coatbridge North and Glenboig	Weekends and evenings youths are congregating in the site of the demolished school. They are drinking and causing annoyance to local residents particularly those in Hozier street	Proactive Police Patrol in the area to reduce anti-social behaviour. Development of Green Network project at the locality.	Police Scotland Green Network Regeneration Services	Reduction in recorded Anti-social behaviour. Area assessed by Green network and staged programme of improvements being progressed.
20 th /21 st /22 nd Nov 2014	Ward 6 Coatbridge North and Glenboig	Joint Community Safety Initiative to combat wilful fire raising and promote Home Safety.	3 date event organised targeting Jackson North Tower Block.	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Housing & Social Work Services, Regeneration Services Saltire and Mears Scottish Power.	Positive outcomes: 45 Joint Home Fire Safety/Housing/Saltire visits undertaken. Approximately 10 Safer Homes Visits agreed 1 electricity by pass meter

					found and reported 18 Vulnerable addressed recorded Various housing issues recorded
15/11/14	Ward 10 Coatbridge South	Road Traffic Complaint	The meeting outlined their concerns regarding road safety for local residents due to speeding vehicles, volume of vehicles and the size of the vehicles using the road.	Police Scotland Roads & Transportation	Police will carry out monitoring and enforcement in the area. Previous years Road Traffic Accidents to be analysed Consideration for crossing patrols.
Nov/Dec 2014	Ward 6/9/10	Festive Safety Campaign	Robbery Prevention kits provided to businesses Community Safety Awareness bags distributed. Community Safety Calendar developed and piloted in Coatbridge Taxi Marshals operating in Town Centre over the Christmas period.	Regeneration & Environmental Services Police Scotland Scottish Fire & Rescue Services NHS Lanarkshire Housing & Social Work Town Centre Activities	Positive Feedback from local business regarding Robbery Prevention kits. All public give away bags distributed at Switch on. Impact on Taxi Marshal in relation to violence/disorder to be formally analysed.