

STRATHCLYDE POLICE**CRIME REPORT FOR AIRDRIE**

PERIOD: 1ST December 2007 – 31 January 2008

Reported Crimes / Offences for the period	950
Detected for same period	445
% Detected	47%

This is the first report to be compiled in relation to each multi Ward area.

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY

Over this period there have been a total of 3890 police incidents recorded for Airdrie area.

Disorder**Safer North Lanarkshire**

Additional high visibility patrols are being used in areas where there is an incidence of violence and disorder. This is in relation to the Safer North Lanarkshire Campaign which runs until 31 March 2008.

In support of this campaign officers from the Mounted Branch of Strathclyde Police attended and patrolled various areas in the town.

Youths congregating in large groups are attracting police attention and are being disrupted in relation to 'gang fights'. The term 'gang fight' is used however it is usually a stand off between each faction and only occasionally do they actually come together for the purpose of fighting.

These meetings are being organised via social sites on the internet and also using mobile phones. Members of the public have responded to police requests for information in relation to these meetings.

During the period 443 incidents were reported to the police of youths causing annoyance across the Airdrie area.

The main hotspot areas within each of the Wards are as follows:

Airdrie North

- Thrashbush
- Drumgelloch bordering with Rawyards
- Plains
- Broompark Crescent

Airdrie Central

- Rawyards bordering with Drumgelloch
- Airdrie Leisure Centre
- Gartlea bordering with Cairnhill

Airdrie South

- Cairnhill bordering with Gartlea
- Timmons Terrace Chapelhall

- Meadow path Chapelhall

Extra high visibility patrols have been put to each of these areas and several youths have been reported for their part in incidents of disorder. During these patrols officers will record details of youths congregating in large numbers and Parent Alert letters will be sent out. The purpose of the letter is to inform parents of their Childs' whereabouts and that the police are patrolling the area in relation to youths congregating and causing annoyance and engaging in 'gang fights'. These patrols will continue.

In conjunction with the Street Wardens areas suffering from graffiti have been photographed and local Community Officers will use available intelligence in an effort to identify owners of the 'tags' used. This initiative proved successful in Plains.

Two male persons have been arrested for separate crimes of 'sneak in' thefts to dwelling houses. Each has received a custodial sentence. Members of the public should ensure that there house is properly secured at all times of the day thus helping to prevent this type of crime.

**Airdrie North
Ward 7**

PC's McKeever, Reilly, Howley, Lodhi, Mitchell and Cormack

On Going Police Issues:

There were a total of 299 crimes and 1320 incidents recorded over the period of 1st December 2007 to 31st January 2008.

Crimes in relation to Vandalism Breach of the Peace account for 94 of the reported crimes. Extra patrols have been put to the area to address community concerns regarding youths causing annoyance and vandalism.

The majority of detected drug offences continue to relate to possession of amounts used for personal use which illustrates the proactive policing approach to this offence.

The Community Officers collected photographs of graffiti in the Plains area and using available intelligence interviewed four youths. As a result a report was sent to the reporter.

Emerging Trends:

In common with other Wards, groups of youths are congregating in areas, not necessarily for the purpose of fighting but the size of the group is perceived to be troublesome by reporters. The Parent Alert Letter scheme is used in circumstances such as this.

Groups of youths have been gathering in the Drumgelloch, Kenilworth and Hillrigg area for the purpose of fighting with groups from the Rawyards area.

Youths are responsible for throwing stones / eggs at passing vehicles on Thrushbush Road and Stirling Road. Additional high visibility patrols have been put to the area to address this emerging trend.

Youths are gathering in the area of Bruce Court and it is suspected that they are local to the area of Clarkston. More intelligence in relation to these youths is being gathered.

On Going Initiatives:

Partnership working is ongoing to help address the problems in the areas mentioned above. Additional high visibility patrols are in the area with a view to disrupting pre-determined fights organised via the internet.

The complaints in relation to Broompark Crescent have reduced but patrols will continue to monitor the behaviour of youths in the area.

Incidents of Note / Noteworthy Arrests:

In total 299 crime reports have been raised with 132 detections. The majority of detections are due to pro active policing. Two serious assaults occurred and persons have been reported for each. A garden shed in Greengairs was wilfully set on fire causing extensive damage. Enquiries are continuing.

Airdrie Central

Ward 8

PC's Bryceland, Scott, Chalmers, Sangster, Currie and McCalman

On Going Police Issues

There were a total of 432 crimes and 1703 incidents recorded over the period of 1st December 2007 to 31st January 2008.

Acts of disorder including vandalism and breach of the peace account for 145 of the reported crimes in this area.

Mitchell Street Children's House causes concern in relation to young people going missing and assaulting members of staff. However PC's Bryceland and Scott are supporting care staff and speak with the young people associated to the house. Senior officers have been discussing the issue and Partners are aware of the problems being experienced by staff and the police. They are working to find a remedy.

A male person was arrested for sneak in thefts in the Cherry bank Walk area and after court proceedings given a prison sentence.

The provision of an 'all ball court' in the Whinhall area will hopefully be in place over the next two months.

Stirling Street, between Bank Street and Wellwynd has been identified as a Safe Zone in terms of the Safer North Lanarkshire Campaign. The area will be patrolled by officers in high visibility uniform to deter acts of violence and disorder as pubs and night clubs empty.

A second person was arrested for sneak in type thefts to dwelling houses near to the town centre. He too received a custodial sentence.

Incidents of disorder at the Airdrie Leisure centre were discussed by partners and more police patrols were put to the area. The assistance of the centre staff was requested in identifying youths causing annoyance. This was done with the use of the CCTV system in the centre which is to be improved. Reports of disorder to the centre have reduced.

Youths from the Rawyards area are congregating on Motherwell Street near to the Drumgelloch area for the purpose of a gang fight. Police are responding by additional high visibility patrols. In common with other areas the Parent Alert letter is being used to good effect.

Similarly youths are gathering in the Cairnhill area for the purpose of a gang fight. Information suggests that youths are coming from other areas in Airdrie to engage in this disorder. Parent Alert Letters have been used in this instance and youths have also been reported.

It has previously been reported that youths would congregate in the area of Craigneuk Park, Carlisle Road and Gartlea area for the purpose of a gang fight. A CCTV camera was put in place. There have been no reports of disorder since. Indeed the camera was used to gather evidence in relation to a serious incident that occurred in the bordering Airdrie South Ward.

Emerging Trends

Bus windows were being broken predominantly in the area of Target Road and Hillfoot Road. To help address this, police in conjunction with staff from first bus carried out extra patrols. From information received from the public persons will be reported for several of the incidents which can only be described as dangerous and reckless.

On going initiatives

Areas affected by vandalism were notified to NLC Graffiti Team. The Community officers have been active in identifying persons responsible for acts of vandalism and where there is enough evidence they are being reported.

An initiative is being introduced into the Rawyards area where householders will be supplied with a lightweight chain and padlock. This is to be used to chain the three bins together making it more difficult for a single bin to be taken and burnt. The effectiveness of this will be monitored.

Incidents of Note / Noteworthy Arrests.

In total 126 crime reports have been raised with 67 detections. The majority of detections were for simple assaults, Breach of the Peace and Street Drinking.

Airdrie South Ward 11

On Going Police Issues

There were a total of 219 crimes and 912 incidents recorded over the period of 1st December 2007 – 31st January 2008.

In common with other areas, acts of disorder including vandalism, breach of the peace and simple assaults account for 83 of crimes reported across this area.

Howletnest Road, Sycamore Drive and Willow Drive are hotspot areas in relation to detected drug offences and a variety of acts of disorder. The residents of this Ward should continue to provide information, in confidence.

There has been an increase in the number of incidents reported in relation to Torrance Avenue Children's House. The incidents refer to young persons going missing, causing damage to the house and assaulting staff members. Community Officers PC's Beveridge and McMahon visit the house on a regular basis and interact with the young persons. Not all will effectively engage with the officers. Senior officers are discussing the issues associated to the house with senior partnership members.

Bus windows were being broken predominantly in the area of Minch Way. To help address this, police in conjunction with staff from first bus carried out extra patrols. This practice is dangerous and reckless and it will be a priority to identify those prepared to engage in such activity.

Emerging Trends

Timmons Terrace and Meadow Path in Chapelhall are attracting groups of youths congregating and causing annoyance. Additional resources will be put to this area to dissuade this behaviour.

On going initiatives

Extra patrols including plain clothes officers have been arranged to address the emerging trend in relation to Bus windows being smashed. Any persons detected will be reported.

Incidents of Note / Noteworthy Arrests.

In total 219 crime reports have been raised with 113 detections. The majority of detections are due to *pro active* policing in relation to disorder. A serious incident occurred in the Craigneuk Park/ Carlisle Road area and evidence was gleaned from nearby CCTV that was installed to disrupt youths gathering for gang fights.