



Tackling Crime

**Ards Area
C District**

District Policing Partnership

9 Month Report

Figures extracted [14 January 2010]



Area Commander's Introduction

Policing is not an exact science and is affected by the pervading social environment in which it finds itself. That is particularly true this year as we focus on building on the significant reductions in crime and anti-social behavior experienced during 08/09. The current financial and economic situation affecting all members of our community is impacting on local crime.

Burglary and other dishonesty related crime have increased as has local violent crime. The violent crime increases have specifically related to an increase in local domestic violence crimes although the overall number of domestic incidents has actually reduced. This could be an indicator of victim confidence in police service delivery but this area will be subject to specific focus throughout the rest of the year.

The local control strategies relating to burglary and criminal damage are having an impact as we have seen improvement in the 2nd quarter of the year after a difficult 1st quarter.

On a positive note an increase in local crime has been accompanied by an increase in local clearance rates and such enforcement activity continues to be our priority as we endeavour to have a positive impact on local community confidence. Police are working harder in enforcement and preventative strategies to deliver for our local community and we will continue to do so. Policing with the Community with a Neighbourhood and citizen focus continues to underpin Service Delivery in the Area. Neighbourhood Teams continue to review all aspects of policing in their respective Areas with a view to identifying long term sustainable solutions. Police Officers at all levels are encouraged to work in partnership and we are continue to receive significant support from Ards District Policing Partnership, Ards Borough Council and other statutory and voluntary agencies in respect of joint initiatives. An outline of current initiatives are set out in Section One.

Philip Knox
Area Commander
Ards Area



Section 1) Policing with the Community

Review of Policing with the Community activities within the [Name] Area

Neighbourhood Policing Implementation Update

Consultation completed, geography agreed and finalised, engagement policy planning ongoing.

A review of police resources and allocation of officers to beat areas has taken place. A full review of District and Service resources is ongoing with the aim of redeployments to the front end of the organisation. C District have undertaken this review in each Area and across the District.

Ards has rationalised Neighbourhood Commanders from 3 to 2. Comber and Peninsula Neighbourhoods are now the responsibility of one Inspector (Macauley).

Significant engagement and consultation took place in public and behind the scenes to prepare the groundwork required to implement PACT compliant processes in each Neighbourhood.

A PACT panel has been established in Comber Neighbourhood and a number of PACT meetings have taken now place identifying a number of local problems for prioritisation. This is moving ahead and proving to be very successful.

Newtownards has lacked a joined up police community engagement forum. After community consultation a PACT panel was established and initial progress made. Unfortunately due to significant issues within the community divisions arose which have halted progress and it is clear that support for one joined up mechanism has dwindled. My focus is to ensure that Police community engagement with all groups within the community is taking place. As such I have recently tasked the Neighbourhood Inspector to review all community forums within Newtownards and to conduct an analysis of communities that are not involved. A plan of action will be drawn up to involve these communities. The aim of this process is to devise a PACT Policy that covers the Neighbourhood and meets the engagement needs of the communities.

Three community groups within the Peninsula Neighbourhood already exist and it is clear that one PACT for that Neighbourhood would not be acceptable to the community. Discussions have taken place with the chairpersons and initial discussions re a



collaborative model have been positive. I hope to meet with the chairs in the near future to consider a more co-ordinated approach. I have also asked the NPT Inspector for the Peninsula to review all community forums within the Peninsula and conduct an analysis of communities not involved. Again a plan will be drawn up that includes these groups.

Training has been sourced through MNI and funding identified to run a Chairpersons course for PACT members. This will hopefully be progressed once clarity on the Newtownards Pact Policy is made.

Active Citizen Networks in each Neighbourhood have been established.

A number of community communication initiatives are underway to improve local police visibility and familiarity including local policing contact leaflets. The third Neighbourhood policing Newsletter has been published providing information on the work ongoing within Ards Area. This has been circulated electronically and in hard copy, it is also on the Police Internet Site.

A review of the Area internet site is ongoing to include additional NPT detail. A pilot project involving New Media is progressing and we expect to launch Facebook and Twitter pages early during February. Ards will be one of two pilots running across NI.

A dedicated Neighbourhood Noticeboard has been placed in the Station to ensure all officers aware of ongoing work and can support and buy in.

A schedule of regular Police Surgeries within each Neighbourhood is now in place. In pursuance of the Area Community Engagement Strategy, Ards Neighbourhood Police actively engage with members of the five estates through regular Police surgeries. Comber Neighbourhood Team operates regular surgeries in both Comber and Ballygowan. The Peninsula Neighbourhood Team has launched a police surgery rota to provide greater accessibility and visibility across the Neighbourhood. Surgeries take place at Ballyhalbert, Donaghadee, Greyabbey, Kircubbin, Portavogie and Portaferry. This will involve static locations throughout the Peninsula. Surgeries are essential in allowing the community to have easy access to local police but are also an opportunity for police to brief the community on ongoing initiatives and concerns. As rationalisation of the police estate continues the accessibility through regular surgeries will become more important.

Neighbourhood engagement and diversionary initiatives are ongoing and these are outlined elsewhere in the report.

Media engagement continues with meetings with local press.



Community Initiatives

Operation Snapper (underage drinking and ASB Op)

PSNI Officers across C District continue to focus on the seizure of alcoholic drinks from underage drinkers as part of Operation Snapper. The operation was intended to reduce anti-social behaviour associated with under-age drinking, complaints of which tend to increase dramatically during the school holiday periods. The concerted effort toward tackling under-age drinking has impacted upon anti-social behaviour reports and criminal damage, resulting in a positive impact on public reassurance and the quality of life of local residents. The operation was so successful that it has remained a key tactic as we continued to tackle ASB through Halloween. Additional funding from Regional resources was specifically allocated to assist with this enforcement initiative.

Ards Area has seized almost 1000 items of alcohol in 229 separate seizures FYTD. The seizures have led to 7 reports to PPS, 55 referrals to the Youth Diversion Officer and 18 reports for Council Bye Law breaches.

ASB Forum and joint protocol for information sharing between Ards PSNI, Ards Borough Council and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE).

Ards PSNI along with Ards Borough Council and the local NIHE continue to meet monthly to consider issues pertinent to each partner and consider and implement joint problem solving enforcement and preventative strategies aimed at reducing crime and anti-social behaviour. There are currently 2 full ASBOs in place with one further application currently with PPS. 7 pre ASBO Official Warning letters have also been delivered to persistent offenders.

Late Night Football

The late night soccer scheme in Comber continues to be a major success. The scheme aimed at 13-18 year-olds, and in conjunction with Comber Youth for Christ, runs from 7.30pm to 11.00pm every Friday night at the Presbyterian Church during school holiday periods. The scheme is a significant aspect of the tactical engagement methods used to build relationships with young people in the Neighbourhood. Building on this success each NPT Team has began to implement this initiative across the Area.



Ards NPT has introduced night time football in Bowtown Estate as a diversionary activity for the youth in the area. This has proved to be a great success with a reduction of reported incidents of ASB/YCA in the area. The project initial involved police but has been driven by the community within the estate freeing officers to focus on enforcement and visibility.

Donaghadee are also running a Late Night Football initiative at Crommellin Park in conjunction with the local community and the DPP.

Firework Initiative Comber

During the Halloween holiday period Comber NPT carried out a series of specific ASB and misuse of Firework OPS in Comber, Ballygowan and Killinchy. The aim was to deter ASB by high profile patrolling and to reassure the community particularly the elderly who have previously been upset by the constant loud bangs or firework misuse. The use of 'TextAlert' was also utilised to advise various members of the community and Neighbourhood Watch of the dangers. Although there was some evidence of fireworks being used illegally there were substantially fewer incidents and complaints than in 2008. The team did also have success in detecting persons with illegal bangers which were seized and reports submitted to PPS.

Antisocial Behaviour Ballygowan

During the summer into Autumn ASB had been a problem in the Ballygowan area and extra attention and patrolling was carried out by the NPT. A number of individuals were identified as ringleaders in the ASB and criminal behaviour. Numerous detections were made and persons reported and in addition the prolific offenders were served with ASBO warning letters. The regular response from offenders and associates was that there is nothing to do in Ballygowan. To address this Ards Borough Council, Comber NPT, PACT and Ballygowan Community Association commenced an initiative to try to secure funding and facilities for the youth of the area and a number of meetings were held towards the end of last year. Two premises have been identified and consultation is ongoing to progress this initiative. One very positive aspect of this initiative is that youths from the area have now attended some of the meetings and agreed to participate in this initiative.

Minority Groups/Migrant Workers Briefings

There are a number of migrant workers employed within Comber area and Police and the communities in general have limited contact with these groups. There has also been some community concern that some persons may be flaunting the law and it was having an



adverse effect and perhaps heightening tensions. Comber NPT in partnership with Community Safety were keen to progress a better understanding between persons of differing ethnic and cultural origins and also to brief migrant workers on relevant legislation. Briefings were carried out at Willowbrook Foods, Whiterock in November and further briefings will be carried out in the coming months in other areas. The owner of Willowbrook Mr McCann stated the initiative was a very useful and is keen to continue with briefings as often as possible. The Comber Cultural Forum and Diversity Group also continue to meet.

Community Concerns – North Down House

During the Summer months, Autumn and into the Winter 2009 several residents had complained of noise and anti-social behaviour in and around the 'North Down House', Comber. The NPT visited both the complainants and staff at the premises. It was decided that other partners should be involved in the solution and several meetings took place involving the NIHE, Ards Borough Council and NPT. Several further meetings were held with the owner of the premises and the complainants individually where agreement was obtained for both parties to meet. A meeting took place in November chaired by Police and views were exchanged and issues discussed. Agreement was made to take a number of steps to reduce the problems and complaints and both parties agreed to work together or discuss any future issues.

Anti-social Behaviour Comber

Within Comber town area ASB appeared to be increasing over last three months of 2009. NPT carried out a number of operations to identify the culprits. During the operations a number of regular offenders were identified and their parents were approached directly to advise of the activities they were involved in. There was some support for Police actions and also some criticism from parents. Where offences were evident the persons were reported and unfortunately this occurred on several occasions. Police met with parents, local councillors and residents groups to discuss the issues and the assistance of Mediation Network was also sought. There were several meetings which became more positive on each occasion. As further incidents occurred police contacted parents to attend the scene which they did and were therefore able to personally see what was happening. Some interviews were arranged beforehand and this helped in building the confidence of parents who were beginning to show support. As a result of maintaining contact with both parents and young persons in the area Police were able to secure information on some activities which resulted in



good detections for offences such as arson. The Seasonal Christmas Fair in the Square Comber went off without any incidents being reported. Police literally played an integral part in the fair with a mobile Police Information Unit and Const Rea playing the saxophone on stage!

Cross Community Rugby/Gaelic

Donaghadee NPT have planned a cross community match involving kids from Donaghadee RFC and Ballygalet Gaelic Club. All matters have been organised and a date just to be finalised.

Ganaway Youth Club

This initiative engages 13 yrs+ in various diversionary activities and runs Monday and Thursday evenings involving officers from the Peninsula NPT. There are currently 28 kids attending who are otherwise disengaged from organised youth activity. This hard to reach demographic is a specific target for police community engagement.

Donaghadee Youth Forum

Following on from the Tri-partite initiative a Youth Forum has been established with DPP and local youth workers. Peninsula Neighbourhood Officers are directly involved in developing police community engagement with young people living in the Ards Area. This initiative has potential to develop a youth advisory group within the Area aimed at ascertaining the policing needs of young people, directly from young people, within Ards.

NRG

Collaborative initiative with Peninsula Healthy Living, South Eastern Health Trust, Ards Borough Council, North Down YMCA, FASA and the South Eastern Education and Library Board Youth Services. The initiative commences again on 8th January and runs to 26th March every Friday 8pm – 11pm and is aimed at 11-17 year olds. The event will take place at areas throughout the Peninsula and involves an exciting programme including soccer, gaelic games, tennis, sailing, dance, media skills, DJ tutoring etc.

Portaferry Halloween Gala Road Safety Display

Portaferry NPT co-ordinated a joint emergency services RTC demonstration with Portaferry NIFRS at the Gala Halloween night display. NIFRS provided a vehicle which they cut a casualty out of. Police did a running commentary via PA and demonstrated Police



Actions at such events. A display trailer was also located at the event and literature handed out relating to road safety.

Licensees Education Initiative (July 08 – ongoing)

Through Ards Community Forum, this initiative involves local Neighbourhood Officers and Ards Council Officers visiting local Off-licensees on Friday and Saturday evenings and regularly reminding staff of their obligations. An education seminar for licensees was jointly organised by ABC and PSNI during February 09 to raise awareness of the new test purchasing legislation and to work towards establishment of a local vintner's forum. The first meeting of a new local licensing forum took place during April 09. The second meeting took place in Sept 09 although the turn out was disappointing. A training package was sourced for licensed premises staff and funding approved with ABC, CSP and PSNI PWCF and this innovative package was delivered to licensee staff during Oct 09. This was well received by those attending, it is an exciting project that brings statutory agencies and our local business community together in partnership with the aim of reducing alcohol associated disorder and underage drinking. Various other options being considered to focus licensed premises buy-in and commitment to this new Forum. Consideration being given to extending the initiative across the District.

Cherryvalley Community Forum

Comber NPT officers have been working with Community Reps in Cherryvalley and De Wind and are striving to establish a Community Forum. This is progressing well with discussions re establish a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Discussions with residents of Carrickmannon, Ballygowan re a NWS are also underway.

Anti-Social Behaviour Team and PACT Response Officer

A Partnership approach with Ards Borough Council with team of three wardens focused on ASB enforcement and joint operations throughout the Area. Tasking of the team is co-ordinated through Area TCG and the ASB Forum. A new role of PACT Response Officer is being funded by CSU following a joint application by Ards PSNI and Ards BC to support PACTs throughout Ards and problem solve local Community Priorities. New technology has been introduced with the use of push to talk mobile phones that essentially have become radios for the ASBT. A handset is provided to each of the members, as well as Call Management and CCTV operator in Bangor. This allows the team to be immediately deployed to incidents and deal with them effectively. It also frees up



valuable police time, otherwise spent at these calls.

Road Safety and Community Concern Initiative

Ards Police have been maximising use of the Community Concern Initiative to increase speed enforcement throughout the Area. This initiative works in response to community concerns re speeding at specific locations and joint approval from Area Commander and DPP. Ards are using this scheme more than any other Area in Northern Ireland. The Peninsula Road Safety Committee continues to organize community events in association with the local NPT.

A Road Safety event and competition at Kircubbin during September attracted many young drivers from the Area. The event took the form of a driving skills competition and experience of driving a 4x4 vehicle and trailer. A treasure trail and highway code test was also included.

A number of Beach Scrambler/Road Safety enforcement Operations have taken place with more planned. The Cycling Helmet Watch 09 initiative is ongoing and the Peninsula NPT were involved in a sponsored cycle event to PSNI HQ that raised over £7000.

The Road Safety Road Show was delivered at St Columba's College, Portaferry on 5th November and hundreds of teenagers from Ards and Down areas were served up a hard-hitting road safety message.

Opportunities for older People (O4O) Initiative

This is an initiative aimed at setting up a Rural Radio Station primarily for older residents to keep in touch with the local community. Peninsula PSNI Officers are working in partnership with Peninsula Healthy Living, Queens University, Age Concern and Local community reps. PSNI will have regular advice slots on the programmes.

Dealing with Difference

A number of young people from across C District have signed up to a programme aimed at dealing with difference. The programme will consist of 5 day modules to include teambuilding, historical talks, sports training and true life stories including a meeting with an 81 yr old holocaust survivor.

Strangford Lough Project – Young Sea Dogs

Turn o' the Tide is a 3 year program giving the local people a chance to experience Strangford Lough in new and exciting ways.



Portaferry NPT have been working closely with the Strangford Lough Office to assist primarily in youth projects within the program which not only educates the young people but also allows Police engagement in a neutral setting. Evenings and weekend sessions have created a diversion from other ASB issues.

Police Estate Rationalisation

An extensive consultation process took place during the period September to November 08 relating to the closure and disposal of Greyabbey PSNI Station. The disposal of the site was recently approved by the Policing Board. Consultation will shortly commence on the future estate arrangements within C District.

Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

Ongoing engagement and development of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes throughout the Area. C District has the services of a dedicated Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator funded through the PWCF. This has recently been taken forward by David Patterson. Ards Area now has 41 schemes accredited with on average 25 members in each. Another 5 schemes are at planning stage.

Portaferry Mud Team

Joint public safety initiative between Portaferry Coastguard Unit and local NPT in order to provide additional training and capability regarding the rescue of persons stranded in wet ground and Mud. Team trains regularly on Strangford Lough.

Youth Drop In Centre

West Winds Summer Splash allocation was used to complete funding of the Youth Drop In Centre in Dakota Avenue which formally opened in June with much publicity. The Centre continues to be a great success with 20-25 young persons aged 11-16 attending on three nights per week. Neighbourhood Police have provided informative presentations on drugs and antisocial behaviour at the venue which have been well received and attracted positive comments from parents.

KEEP SAFE Initiative rebranded

Both Bowtown and West Winds have agreed to progress the Kilcooley Keep Safe drugs drop safe initiative piloted by Bangor Neighbourhood Police. Meetings have taken place between Police and the Community and sites identified and agreed. Discussions are ongoing to finalise procedures and processes and it is hoped that this will now go live this Springtime. An educational program



aimed at drugs and alcohol is being delivered through FASA as a lead in to this initiative. An innovative leaflet drop also took place highlighting that Drug Pushers were operating in the area and asking residents to provide specific information to Police.

West Winds Police Notice Board

This initiative affords Police their own space in the community centre to use as deemed appropriate. At the moment, Crime prevention advice leaflets and Officer Contact details are on display but it is hoped to expand this to include topical and seasonal issues and specific localised appeals etc. An envelope has also been included entitled "P D S A !" or 'Please do something about ' which affords locals the opportunity to anonymously draw Police attention to particular problems in the area.

Police surgeries continue to afford personal contact in the Estate on the first Tuesday of each month.

Ards Rugby Club Diversionary Youth Activities

Given the proximity of the club to the West Winds Estate and Lansdowne areas and in an attempt to address ASB problems, discussions have recently taken place with a view to providing some form of Diversionary activities in conjunction with Ards Rugby Club. Meetings have been held with various partners, funding sourced and it is hoped to run some form of imulti-cultural event during March of this year.

Link Team Co-ordinator

An NPT Officer was invited by The Link Family and Community Centre to sit on a selection panel interviewing for the post of Team Co-ordinator during June 2009. This post was created to strengthen the ongoing working relationship between The Link and Ards NPT/ PSNI to address addiction issues within the area.

The successful applicant, Joan Fitzsimmons has been employed since July 09 and has brought a wealth of experience and fresh ideas to the table.

This appointment has enhanced the ongoing work between both organisations and we are currently looking at several new initiatives to address the addiction issues within the Ards area.

Forgotten Garden Project

The community garden has been transformed by a small team of Link members (with the support of Conservation Volunteers) into a



peaceful and relaxing area in the middle of the town. This project has offered the persistent on street drinkers a distraction from their usual activities and helped develop good relations with local Police. It officially opened on Thursday 1st October 2009.

Local Drugs Awareness

NPT Officers have completed several drugs courses combining both East End and Glen Estate youth. Police arranged several activity weekends for the participants at Ballykinler Army Camp working alongside Army Recruiting Branch although unfortunately due to the security situation these were cancelled at short notice. To show our appreciation for the willingness and attentive responses from the participants Police organised a trip to the Giants Causeway.

Two further courses have been provisionally agreed for October 2009.

Ards Intercultural Forum

An umbrella group formed to ensure persons representing a diverse cultural background and people from ethnic minorities had a voice in the running of the community in Ards and influence in the decisions being made. There are a number of individual groups concerned with the forum, each of which covers a particular ethnic minority background. Examples of this are, Dr Chris Stange from the Afro Community Support Organisation Northern Ireland, a body primarily formed for people from African/Caribbean backgrounds, and Kit Tupas, Filipino Association, for those from the Filipino community. Also represented on this forum is PSNI, court service, housing executive, council and so on. This is an important group for police as it provides a platform for communities in the area to interact with PSNI, ask questions and hopefully build confidence. The Forum in conjunction with NIHE are currently mapping the migrant workers within the area to identify key locations and identify locations of interest to agencies should problems arise and require police response, hate crime etc, community tensions etc.

Age Concern/Ards Over 50's Forum

Group of persons concerned with inclusion of the views of the over 50 community in Ards and providing support to them. This support organisation runs various event such as Senior's Safety Road shows and gives a voice to older persons who sometimes feel left out of the community, and that their needs go unnoticed. Although no formal agreement exists PSNI meet monthly with the group to provide information and listen to concerns. PSNI can then use this platform to reassure and build confidence in our older residents. Ards Over



50 are having open day/ information day Feb that will have NPT and DPP attending/ supporting etc.

East End Family Information Day

Newtownards NPT in conjunction with East End Residents Assoc, FASA, NIFRS, Age Concern and DPP organised a Family Information Day at Victoria Primary School on 19th Dec 09. Funding was secured to provide home safety equipment, which was presented to pensioners as part of a home safety kit. Road safety demonstrations and information was also available. Advertising posters for the event were designed by the Eastend Residents Youth team.

Killard School XL Club

Newtownards NPT have undertaken a 2 year initiative, working with vulnerable young people with learning difficulties from Killard School. 10 year 12 pupils are member fo the XL Club and are currently striving to achieve a qualification through the Princes Trust Scheme. The program consists of a variety of Life Skill based competences and basic business management which the pupils undertake. Ards NPT have been visiting the class weekly to deliver citizenship and safety lessons.

'Mephadrome' Community Concerns

Ards Police, acting upon concerns raised within the community, identified that a retail outlet in Newtownards town was selling "Mephadrome" in unusual amounts and at high prices. Mephadrome is a plant food that young persons are inhaling due to it having the same effect as Cocaine although not as long lasting. Mephadrome is not a controlled substance under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and therefore not subject to the same legalities and regulations regarding possession or selling. Ards NPT Officers undertook careful research and analysis of the situation, obtained legal opinion, gathered the required evidence and obtained a search warrant to enter the premises, with the intention of searching and seizing any Mephadrome or related items that could prove it was being sold to youths for the purposes of intoxication. As a result of this operation a quantity of items were seized and sent off for forensic examination and 1 person was arrested, interviewed and reported to PPS. It is understood that this was the first operation of its kind in Northern Ireland using Intoxication Act 1985 to deal with this problem.

BEE-SAFE

A proactive, multi-agency community safety initiative aimed at P7 children, organised by Ards Police Community Safety Branch.



Eighteen primary schools took part. The remaining 15 schools received the education in their classrooms.

Personal safety, crime prevention and Internet safety education delivered.

Staff and pupil evaluation shows increased knowledge and sense of responsibility reflected by the children.

Each participating child was given a parents' guide to Internet safety in an attempt to encourage parents to take responsibility for their children's Internet safety.

Parents Information Project

Police prepared a talk for parents in community halls outlining the potential dangers of the internet and drink/drugs. By teaming up with FASA, a voluntary body formed to help young people deal with drugs, drink and issues with suicide, police were well equipped to inform parents about how they can reduce any risks that their children may face with internet or substance abuse. *Disappointing turn out from parents in Ballygowan.*

Crime prevention in Ards Shopping Centre

Community Safety officers spent 3 days setting up a stall and speaking to hundreds of people about crime prevention advice. This was very well received and people were able to ask questions and obtain door chains, personal attack alarms and property marking systems. Local DPP members also assisted. In addition to this Police also spent a day in the local shopping centre advising people about the security of handbags following a spate of thefts in the area.

Strength to Strength

A number of vulnerable children were brought together and educated re risk taking and anti-social behaviour by police. This included talks by police and a trip to a police station to explain the role of police and how bad behaviour can impact on everybody.

Personal Safety with Vulnerable Adults – The Ards Youth Diversion officer undertook a 12 week project with young adults with learning difficulties to educate them regarding all aspects of personal safety. This included crime prevention, stranger danger and travelling on public transport. It was a very important project as Police Officers were able to speak to and engage with people who normally would not have cause to work with police.

Ards Text Alert



We have a text alert system set up for the Ards Neighbourhood Watch participants, however this is being extended to include schools and local traders over the next couple of months. It is expected that this will expand into all groups and eventually open to all residents in Ards. Co-ordinators are presently being processed.

Vulnerable People/Domestic Violence

In view of recent increase in local Domestic Violence reports Police have been liaising with women's aid, PPS, DPP, CSP, NIHE etc and are putting together a regular forum of interested parties to discuss and address issues of domestic violence and increase the standard of investigation and response to such incidents. Ards was included in the National Media Campaign leading up to Christmas with Billboards, adshells and bar adverts running the campaign.

CASE

The Schools liaison Officer delivered CASE classes on 93 visits to schools throughout the Area during the last quarter. The classes covered Knife Crime, Rules and Laws, ASB, Theft, Bullying, Role of Police, Vandalism, Bike and Road Safety, Drugs and Solvent Abuse, Personal Safety and Internet Safety. CASE training continues into the new school terms.

The Schools liaison officer went into a number of schools and provided in depth and comprehensive fireworks education accompanied by fire service leading up to halloween.



Section 2) Progress towards achieving targets in the Local Policing Plan for 2009/2010^{1,2}

Objective 1: In partnership with the community and other agencies, to make communities and neighbourhoods safe and feel safe					
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Dec 2008	Apr - Dec 2009	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
1.2.2 To reduce the level of assaults.	535	653	+118	✗	40% reductions over last 3 years placed significant pressure on continued reductions. No identified hotspot activity. Significant Increase in Domestic related crimes suggesting people socialising at home more often in current economic climate. Rise in MSVC although numbers very low last year. Clearance rate increased by 3.5%. 2007 (582)
1.3.2 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries in line with service targets.	129	159	+30	✗	Ards targeted during May and June. Current economic situation creates environment that can lead to increase in dishonesty related crime. 4.8% increase in clearance rate
1.5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/03/2011 based on 2007/2008 reports.	2850 (2007/08)	2195	-655	✓	Op Snapper, diversionary programmes, robust enforcement policy with ASB and NIHE. Full use of Youth Diversion system and reports of offenders. Use of POPT to target anti-social behaviour. Analytical product to identify specific problem locations. ABC ASB Team. Media reassurance messages. 23% reduction

¹ The Local Policing Plan targets are shown for example purposes only and are taken from Ards Local Policing Plan 2009/2010.

² When comparing % changes between two time periods (e.g. this year and last year), the change should be displayed as a % point change.



1.6.2 To reduce the number of crimes of criminal damage recorded in line with service targets.	618	616	-2	✓	Op Snapper, diversionary programmes, robust partnership enforcement policy. Youth Diversion system and reports of offenders. POPT to target anti-social behaviour. Analytical product to identify specific problem locations. ABC ASB Team. Media reassurance messages. Sustaining the major reductions delivered during 08/09 with very minimal increase (16%) (698 2007)
1.7.1 To contribute to reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road.	N/A	N/A	N/A		5 Fatalities – figures not available re KSIs Ongoing enforcement activity. 2 persons killed this year compared to 1 last year. Community Concern Initiative ongoing success
1.9.1 To reduce the number of commercial burglaries.	111	121	+10	✗	Ards targeted during May and June. Current economic situation creates environment that can lead to increase in dishonesty related crime. Overall burglary clearance rate up 5.2%. Seeing uprising pressure after last years reductions.

Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets

Burglary –

- Maximum use of District and Regional resources on both preventative and proactive intelligence led operations.
- Default patrolling in analysed 'hot spot' crime locations.
- Policy of intrusive monitoring of specifically identified prolific offenders including intensive bail checks.
- Policy of CID and CSI attendance at all burglaries (Domestic and Commercial)
- CSI and District Forensic Manager now co-located in Newtownards Station – local knowledge and ownership.
- Op Converter Team to maximise and prioritise returns on FP and DNA hits.
- Daily review of all incidents/patterns of reported crime. Full use made of Analysts in order to analyse particular problems and identify trends/patterns



and locations of crime. Monthly Area and District tactical assessment meetings to identify priority areas and trends and support Sector Inspectors with actioning interventions.

- Maximum use of Media to advise members of the public of recurring crime, to offer crime prevention advice and to provide reassurance.
- Neighbourhood Watch Scheme co-ordinator funded via PWCF.
- High profile deterrent Operations – Op ‘Seasons Greetings’

Anti-social behaviour/Criminal Damage –

- Op Snapper alcohol enforcement,
- ASB Partnership Forum with ABC and NIHE to focus multi-agency strategy at all aspects of ASB
- Stringent Enforcement Policy ASB Collation and YDO warning letters to parents
- Maximum use of Police Officers Part Time to tackle anti-social behaviour and provide reassurance by high-visibility patrolling.
- Neighbourhood Team Diversionary Programmes with partners
- Licensees Forum

Road Safety –

- Focus on the known causes of road deaths and injuries, tasking RPU resources to priority locations within Area for enforcement operations. Maximising use of the Community Concern initiative to direct safety camera activity with DPP (Ards has the largest number of targeted operations within Northern Ireland as a result of this initiative).
- Review of Collision Remedial Schemes ongoing
- Road Safety Education with Schools - Corporate Road Safety Awareness Media Campaigns



Objective 3: To ensure that Policing with the Community is at the core of delivery of the policing service

Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Dec 2008	Apr - Dec 2009	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
3.1.4 The Area Commander to update the DPP on a quarterly basis on progress being made towards Neighbourhood Policing implementation in the Ards Area.	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	Report Attached
Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets					



Section 3) Additional information [OPTIONAL]

Crime Classes	Recorded Apr– Dec 08/09	Recorded Apr- Dec 09/10	% Change	Cleared Apr-Dec 08/09	% Cleared Apr-Dec 08/09	Cleared Apr-Dec 09/10	% Cleared Apr-Dec 09/10
1. Offences against the person	535	653	22.1%	147	25.5%	222	34.0%
2. Sexual Offences	38	39	2.6%	11	28.9%	9	23.1%
1. Burglary	240	280	16.7%	46	19.2%	36	12.9%
(Domestic Burglary)	129	159	23.3%	15	11.6%	14	8.8%
4. Robbery	12	10	-16.7%	1	8.3%	1	10.0%
5. Theft	504	516	2.4%	92	18.3%	146	28.3%
(Theft from vehicles)	73	45	-38.4%	3	4.1%	2	4.4%
(Theft of Vehicles)	53	65	22.6%	20	37.7%	28	43.1%
6. Fraud and Forgery	85	88	3.5%	29	34.1%	7	8.0%
7. Criminal Damage	618	616	-0.3%	101	16.3%	82	13.3%
8. Offences against the state	15	22	46.7%	8	53.3%	8	36.4%
9. Other notifiable offences	72	88	22.2%	58	80.6%	52	59.1%
Violent Crime (1,2 & 4)	585	702	20.0%	159	27.2%	232	33.0%
Total Crime	2119	2314	9.2%	493	23.3%	563	24.3%



Section 4) Trend data for Local Policing Plan targets 2009/2010³

Local Policing Plan Targets for 2009/2010	Apr - Jun 2009	Target on course to be met	Apr - Sep 2009	Target on course to be met	Apr - Dec 2009	Target on course to be met	Apr 2009 - Mar 2010	Target on course to be met
1.2.2 To reduce the level of assaults.	+47	✗	+66	✗	+118	✗		
1.3.2 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries in line with service targets.	+6	✗	+11	✗	+30	✗		
1.5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/3/2011.	-30	✓	-317	✓	-655	✓		
1.6.2 To reduce the number of crimes of criminal damage recorded in line with service targets.	+60	✗	+4	✗	-2	✓		
1.7.1 To contribute to reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road.	0	✓	-1	✓	N/A	✗		
1.9.1 To reduce the number of commercial burglaries.	+16	✗	+10	✗	+10	✗		
3.1.4 The Area Commander to update the DPP on a quarterly basis on progress being made towards Neighbourhood Policing implementation in the Ards Area.		✓		✓		✓		

³ The Local Policing Plan targets are shown for example purposes only and are taken from Ards Local Policing Plan 2009/2010.



Section 5) Area's Progress towards achieving targets in the Northern Ireland Policing Plan for 2009/2010⁴

Objective 1: In partnership with the community and other agencies, to make communities and neighbourhoods safe and feel safe						
Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Contribution Apr 2008 – Dec 2008	Area Contribution Apr 2009 – Dec 2009	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met (including % change)		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
1.1.1 To ensure that by 2010/2011, there are fewer than 100,000 crimes recorded.	2182	2387	205	+9.4%	+4.3%	+0.7%
1.2.1 To reduce the level of more serious violent crime.	19	55	36	+189.5%	+32.9%	+13.4%
1.3.1 To ensure that by 2010/2011, there are fewer than 6,000 domestic burglaries recorded.	135	162	27	+20.0%	-7.2%	-0.8%
1.4.1 To increase the number of drugs supply gangs frustrated, disrupted or dismantled.	FIGURES	NOT	AVAILABLE	THIS	QTR	
1.5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/3/2011.						
1.6.1 To ensure that by 2010/2011, there are fewer than 27,000 crimes of criminal damage recorded. (1)	632	630	-2	-0.3%	-0.9%	-6.9%
1.7.1 To contribute to reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road.						
1.7.2 To contribute to reducing the number of children killed or seriously injured on the road.						
Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Northern Ireland Policing Plan targets						

⁴ Local PSNI only need to provide information on targets that can be measured locally. Therefore not all Annual Policing Plan targets are shown in this table, for example, Omnibus Survey targets are not shown.



Objective 2: To continue to build, broaden and sustain confidence in the police

Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Contribution Apr 2008 – Dec 2008	Area Contribution Apr 2009 – Dec 2009	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met (including % change)		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
2.4.1 To increase the clearance rate by 3% pts.	23.1%	24.1%	1.3%	+1.3%	+2.8%	+1.3%
2.4.2 To increase the clearance rate for racist crimes.	12.5%	50.0%	28.9%	+28.9%	+5.2 %	+3.7%
2.4.3 To increase the clearance rate for homophobic crimes.	66.7%	/0	/0	/0	-16.7%	-6.7%
2.4.4 To increase the clearance rate for sectarian crimes.	25.0%	14.3%	-10.7%	-10.7%	-7.1%	0.2%
Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Northern Ireland Policing Plan targets						

Objective 3: To ensure that Policing with the Community is at the core of delivery of the policing service

Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Contribution Apr 2008 – Sep 2008	Area Contribution Apr 2009 – Sep 2009	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met (including % change)		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
3.1.3 To ensure that Neighbourhood Officers work at least 80% of their duty hours on neighbourhood policing duties.						
Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Northern Ireland Policing Plan targets						

