



Tackling Crime

Ards Area

District Policing Partnerships

12-Month Report

Figures Extracted 16TH May 2008



***District Policing
Partnerships***

Local people shaping local policing

**Ards District Policing Partnership 12 Month Report
[April 2007 – March 2008]**

Section 1) Progress towards achieving targets in the Local Policing Plan for 2007/2008

Domain: Tackling Crime					
LPP Target	Apr-Mar 06/07	Apr-Mar 07/08	Change (Raw Data)	Target	Comment on reasons for change in performance
3.2.1 To reduce the total number of violent crimes by 2%.	1200	913	-23.9%	✓	Ards continues to perform well in these target areas. Town Centre CCTV may be contributing to a general downward trend in both assaults and criminal damage during the night time economy.
3.3.1 To reduce the total number of recorded crimes of criminal damage by 2%.	1143	968	-15.3%	✓	
3.4.1 To reduce the total number of domestic burglaries by 3%.	156	163	4.5%	✗	
Strategy & Impact					
Maximum use of the Area Crime Team on both defensive and proactive intelligence lead operations. Default patrolling in 'hot spots' and Bail enforcement of prolific offenders. Ards Area Crime Team has been working in cooperation with the Crime Teams throughout C District toward reducing domestic burglary.					

Domain: Promoting Community Safety					
LPP Target	Apr-Mar 06/07	Apr-Mar 07/08	Change (Raw Data)	Target	Comment on reasons for change in performance
5.1.1 To reduce the number of recordable incidents of anti-social behaviour.	3679	3565	-3.1%	✓	The Community Policing Teams continue to work pro-actively toward achieving this target.
7.1.1 To reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Data unavailable

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Strategy & Impact

Anti-social behaviour - See sections 4 & 5 below

Road Safety –Ards continues to focus on the known causes of road deaths and injuries such as speed, careless and dangerous driving and drink driving. For instance, Area continues to target the main factors known to influence the number of those killed or seriously injured on the roads. For instance, a total of 509 breath tests were administered in the Ards Area between 1st April 2007 and 31st March 2008.

Section 2) Trend data for Local Policing Plan targets 2007/2008

Local Policing Plan Targets for 2007/2008

Local Policing Plan Targets for 2007 / 2008	Apr - Jun 07/08	Target	Apr - Sept 07/08	Target	Apr - Dec 07/08	Target	Apr - Mar 07/08	Target
3.1.1 To reduce the total number of crimes by 2%.	689	✓	1462	✓	2258	✓	3073	✓
3.2.1 To reduce the total number of violent crimes by 2%.	224	✓	477	✓	663	✓	913	✓
3.3.1 To reduce the total number of recorded crimes of criminal damage by 2%.	184	✓	431	✓	663	✓	968	✓
3.4.1 To reduce the total number of domestic burglaries by 3%.	41	✗	73	✗	122	✗	163	✗
4.1.1 To increase the sanction clearance rate by 3% points.	19.2%	✗	21.8%	✓	21.8%	✓	21.3%	✓
5.1.1 To reduce the number of recordable incidents of anti-social behaviour.	880	✗	1842	✓	2849	✓	3565	✗
7.1.1 To reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Section 3) Summary of Recorded Crime and Clearance Rates within the Ards Area

Crime Classes	Recorded Apr-Mar 06/07	Recorded Apr-Mar 07/08	% Change	Cleared Apr-Mar 06/07	% Cleared Apr-Mar 06/07	Cleared Apr-Mar 07/08	% Cleared Apr-Mar 07/08
1. Offences against the person	1125	824	-26.8%	357	31.7%	249	30.2%
2. Sexual Offences	58	73	25.9%	34	58.6%	11	15.1%
1. Burglary	314	318	1.3%	34	10.8%	33	10.4%
(Domestic Burglary)	156	163	4.5%	21	13.5%	23	14.1%
4. Robbery	17	16	-5.9%	5	29.4%	1	6.3%
5. Theft	816	663	-18.8%	147	18%	154	23.2%
(Theft from vehicles)	96	83	-13.5%	4	4.2%	7	8.4%
(Theft of Vehicles)	96	89	-7.3%	25	26%	26	29.2%
6. Fraud and Forgery	141	67	-52.7%	44	31.2%	20	29.9%
7. Criminal Damage	1143	968	-15.3%	139	12.2%	89	9.2%
8. Offences against the state	17	26	52.9%	13	76.5%	13	50%
9. Other notifiable offences	103	118	14.6%	88	85.4%	85	72%
Violent Crime (1,2 & 4)	1200	913	-23.9%	396	33%	261	28.6%
Total Crime	3734	3073	-17.7%	861	23.1%	655	21.3%

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A Breakdown of Crime Types as Shown in the Table Above

<p>Offences against the person (class 1) Murder Manslaughter Infanticide Attempted murder Threat or conspiracy to murder Causing death/GBH by dangerous driving or aggravated vehicle taking Wounding with intent/GBH with intent Wounding/GBH AOABH Common assault/aggravated assault Assault on police Intimidation Harassment Explosives offences endangering life Firearms offences endangering life Other offences against the person</p>	<p>Sexual offences (class 2) Rape Attempted rape Unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under 14 years Unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl 14 and under 17 years Indecent assault on a female Indecent assault on a female child Indecent assault on a male Indecent assault on a male child Indecency between males Indecent exposure Indecent conduct towards a child Other sexual offences</p>	<p>Burglary (class 3) Domestic burglary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burglary in a dwelling • Aggravated burglary in a dwelling Non domestic burglary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burglary in a building other than in a dwelling • Aggravated burglary other than in a dwelling Going equipped</p>
<p>Robbery (class 4) Robbery Armed robbery Hijacking</p>	<p>Theft (class 5) Theft, one person from another Theft in a dwelling Theft by an employee Theft of pedal cycles Shoplifting Vehicle crime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft from motor vehicles • Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicles Vehicle tampering/interference Handling of stolen goods Other thefts</p>	<p>Fraud and forgery (class 6) Deception Forgery and counterfeiting Making off without payment Other frauds</p>
<p>Criminal damage (class 7) Arson Petrol bombing offences Explosive offences Criminal damage/malicious damage offences Other criminal damage offences</p>	<p>Offences against the state (class 8) Offences under anti-terrorism legislation Firearms offences Offences under Public Order (NI) Order Other offences against the public order</p>	<p>Other notifiable offences (class 9) Blackmail Kidnapping and false imprisonment Drug offences – trafficking and non-trafficking offences Dangerous driving Breach of orders Other notifiable offences</p>

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Section 4) Policing with the Community

Strategy and/or progress under Policing with the Community including assessed impact

Ards Area Neighbourhood Policing Team(s) (NPT) Initiatives 07 - 08

Comber Community Officers in conjunction with a local church and with funds obtained from the local community safety partnership (to pay for pitches and floodlighting) organised late night football aimed at diverting local youths from engaging in ASB. The scheme was intended for 15-18 year olds, but in practice children of a younger age were also permitted to take part. It was agreed that the scheme would take place during the school holidays, throughout July and August 2007 and would start at 9.00pm and finish at 11.00pm. Initially the scheme attracted mainly 13-15 year-olds but attendance increased rapidly as the popularity of the scheme also increased. Toward the end of the scheme it was noted that many of the 15-18 year olds who were previously known or suspected to have been involved in ASB were attending and taking an active part. The scheme attracted a total of 34 young persons in its final week. The benefit of the scheme is seen not only in terms of diverting young persons from possible anti-social activity but also provided local community offices an opportunity to engage with and establish a rapport with local young persons whilst in a less formal setting. The initiative, which was considered to be a success, was repeated during the Halloween holidays in 2007 and will be repeated during the summer of 2008.

Bowtown Parade (July 07)

Every year Newtownards Volunteer Flute Band (mostly Bowtown residents) have hosted a band contest/parade at which 36 bands from across the Province converge on Newtownards on a busy Saturday afternoon. The parade traditionally commences in Londonderry Park and traverses Castle Street, High Street and onwards through the town centre on it's busiest day. The parade causes considerable traffic congestion in the town and is very resource intensive to effectively Police. Neighbourhood officers had been working with the residents and community representatives in the Bowtown on a 'murals normalisation initiative' where paramilitary murals are replaced with artwork promoting multicultural awareness and respect for diversity. Aware that a new mural was to be unveiled at the same time as the annual band contest it was suggested that the two events be combined in a 'celebration day' and consequently that the band contest should take place throughout the Bowtown Estate only.

Given the obvious concerns as to how such an event would be effectively Policed, several meetings were held with Community

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Representatives and a 'policing' plan developed. This essentially involved a minimum Police presence. Several 'marshals' were appointed from within the estate and host band, and were strategically positioned along the parade route. The parade finished at Abbot Crescent where entertainment was arranged for the local children.

The event passed off without incident and was such a success that it was agreed that this should be the way forward for future years. A good result for the community, the shoppers in Ards town centre and massive savings in the deployment of Police resources. Previously this parade necessitated resources of 35 to 40 Police officers for a period of six hours. Clearly, the positive impact upon the Policing Budget harnessed to the fact that public Confidence was raised, fear of crime and disorder was reduced, plus the usual complaints from the business community associated with this event did not occur.

Flags Issue (June 07)

Over the past year neighbourhood officers have attended the meetings of the Newtownards Community Forum, involving various statutory agencies, the churches, and representatives from the Newtownards Loyalist Forum. Neighbourhood officers utilised this forum to progressively develop communication with community representatives with influence in the West Winds, and resultantly provided an ideal opportunity to raise and resolve community issues and problems.

One such issue was the presence of the UVF flags at the entrance to the West Winds estate. Whilst Newtownards has seen a gradual reduction in the number of paramilitary flags over the previous 5 years, three UVF flags have been erected every year at the entrance to the West Winds Estate and were particularly visible to anyone using the Comber Road. After substantial negotiations the flags were taken down. As a direct consequence of the positive publicity this attracted, UVF flags were subsequently taken down in East Belfast/Newtownards Road and then Mount Vernon. Other areas also followed suit.

The whole issue was covered and promoted as a 'good news story' on the front page of the Chronicle and on BBC radio and television and on the internet:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern_ireland/6755973.stm

West Winds Citizenship Project (Oct 07 - Apr 08)

Responding to a marked increase in reported Anti Social Behaviour in the West Winds & Lansdowne area, particularly from elderly residents, NPT Officers consulted with local community representatives and through the Development Association secured funding

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to address youth issues from the Community Safety Partnership. A structured programme running from October to April facilitated 25 young people aged 15 - 18 participate in a variety of citizenship focused projects. These included drugs education, delivered by NPT Officers, Respect for Diversity education and Catering Skills provided by specialist speakers and other similar personal development talks. This culminated in the young people catering for and providing a Christmas Dinner and Dance at the local Community Centre for over 100 pensioners within the Estate, and a similar Tea Dance in March. The young people presented an overview of the project at the Ards Community Safety Partnership Annual Awards where the project received an award. Analysis of Police Statistics revealed a 30% decrease in reported anti social behaviour in the area compared to the three-month period prior to the project commencing.

Inter Estate Midnight Soccer League (Mar - Sept 08)

This ongoing project involves local youths from each of the estates participating in an evening soccer league organised by local neighbourhood officers. A marked decrease in detections for underage drinking has been noted since the inception of this project.

Bowtown Somme Memorial Garden (Jan - June 08)

In response to increased complaints from local residents regarding the use of motorcycles and quads in an area of wasteland at the rear of the estate, Neighbourhood Officers devised a problem solving strategy in conjunction with residents and the local interagency forum. The Housing Executive, as owners of the land, agreed to fund the construction of a wildflower meadow and Somme memorial garden. Construction is well under way and reports of scramblers and quads have gone from being a regular daily occurrence to an almost negligible level.

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Section 5) Community Safety Projects

**Strategy and/or contribution towards
Community Safety Projects including assessed impact**

Ards BEESAFE 2008

BEESAFE is a proactive, multi agency, community safety initiative specifically aimed at primary 7 children.

The BEESAFE educational initiative allows pupils to:

- Become more aware of personal and home safety
- Learn how to react to dangerous situations
- Make a contribution to crime prevention
- Avoid becoming victims of crime
- Understand the role of emergency services
- Foster good citizenship and relations with various authorities

The 2008 Ards area BEESAFE event has been funded by Ards Community Safety Partnership, Ards Environmental Health Department and North Down and Ards Accident Prevention Group.

This is the 3rd year that Ards PSNI Community Safety Branch has coordinated the event.

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This year 400 children will participate in 4 days of interactive learning scenarios delivered by the following organisations.

- Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue – fire safety and hoax calls
- Police Service of Northern Ireland – internet and personal safety
- Northern Ireland Electricity – electrical safety inside and outside the home
- Translink – safe use of buses
- N.S.P.C.C – bullying
- North Down and Ards Home Accident Prevention Groups – home safety
- Portaferry lifeboat – water safety

This year BEESAFE event aims to provide a unique community safety and fun filled learning experience for all participants.

The Mourne activity challenge and good citizenship challenge

The Mourne Activity and Good Citizenship Challenge is a community safety and good citizenship diversionary initiative involving young people and incorporating the partnership of Ards and Down PSNI and District Councils.

Funding for the challenge is secured from PSNI, Ards and Down Councils.

The scheme is run in the form of a 4-Stage Good Citizenship Challenge.

Constable Cosh and Constable Patterson Community Safety Branch, organise and co-ordinate the scheme. To fulfil the major objectives of the scheme, active partnership working is sought from a varied cross section of young people from local Secondary level schools and youth groups.

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Community Policing Team Officers, the Crime Prevention Officer and Council Anti Social Behaviour Officers will all actively take part in the scheme.

There are 4 stages to the Challenge.

1. A good Citizenship Education Programme to be run in the participating schools and agencies and delivered to each 13-14 year old child attending that school/group, tackling Community Safety, Crime Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour issues. Facilitated by local PSNI Community and Schools Involvement Officer, Crime Prevention, Community Policing Officers and Council Anti Social Behaviour Officers.
2. Team Building and personal development at Delamont country Park.
3. Mountain Adventure Programme, both police and Council staff participating (both facilitated by Tollymore Outdoor Activity Centre staff).
4. Residential and presentation evening for 16 young people reaching the final stage of the challenge (Police, Council and Tollymore staff).

The Mourne activity and Good Citizenship Challenge will through its aims and objectives strive to improve local Police Service delivery.

- Increase awareness and support for the Police Service.
- Foster and build a trusting relationship between young people and the police.
- Divert young people from possible criminal activity.
- Enhance the production of positive young citizens, assisting communities to improve their quality of life and in doing so reduce the fear of crime.
- Police Officers will adopt a unique opportunity to demonstrate a visible and tangible commitment to the needs of young people in their local communities.

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Solvent abuse

- Police response to Donaghadee Community members and Donaghadee Primary School staff voicing their concerns about solvent abuse amongst Primary 7 school children.
- Donaghadee Primary School P7 pupils and Donaghadee Jnr Youth Club received an education programme tackling the consequences of risk-taking behaviour, the dangers of solvent abuse and coping with peer pressure.
- Follow-up visits to school and youth club indicate that young people have a better understanding of these risks and are willing to communicate and discuss behaviour with staff in ongoing education.

Happy Slapping – October 2007

- Police response to the concerns arising from the filming and transmitting via mobile phones and computer sites of an alleged assault involving 2 Year 10 Regent House schoolgirls.
- Year 10 pupils at Regent House received education in relation to offences committed on a mobile phone or computer of recording, receiving or forwarding of an indecent, obscene, offensive or violent nature, message, picture or video clip.
- Positive feed-back from pupils, staff and victim's family. Details of education delivered to be displayed in school entrance hall on computer screens, visible to all pupils, to deter future incidents.

October 2007 – Firework education

- Ards Police response to province-wide firework control and enforcement strategy and the high profile public firework safety campaign, coordinated by the NIO.

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- Throughout October 2007 all secondary level schools received firework law and safety education.
- Primary schools and secondary schools were encouraged to participate in organised firework safety poster competitions.
- Firework law and safety education stand in Ards Shopping Centre, delivering advice and education to general public.

November 2007 – Road Safety Roadshow

Roads Policing and Community Safety staff from Ards Police organised 500 local secondary school pupils, aged 16-18 years, to participate in Road Safe Roadshow, a hard-hitting road safety presentation aimed at young potential drivers.

The event was held in Regent House School in the format of video clips, role-play and live personal accounts from emergency services staff, trauma counselling services and a paralysed victim of a road traffic accident.

The event was supported by AXA insurance and Ards DPP.

- Road Safety Education Programme is followed-up in all participating schools.

December 2007 - Young people & Police Conference

- Local Ards Police and support staff participated in this informal conference held in Regent House School, with 16-18 year old pupils, Community Safety, Neighbourhood, Youth Diversion, Roads Policing, Domestic Violence, Anti-Social Behaviour Officers and a member of Ards DPP facilitating small groups of young people.

The aims of the conference were met, giving the young people an insight into local policing, confirming their views on policing are important and heightened awareness of their legal responsibility as members of their local community.

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Section 7) Progress towards achieving targets in the Northern Ireland Policing Plan for 2007–2008

Domain: Satisfaction and Confidence				
APP Target	Apr-Mar 06/07	Apr-Mar 07/08	% Change	Target
1.1.1 To increase the percentage of people who are confident in the police's ability to provide an ordinary, day-to-day policing service for all the people of Northern Ireland by 4% points. (Service Figure)	Omnibus Survey October 2006 79%	Omnibus Survey October 2007 84%	5% points	✓
1.3.1 To increase the percentage of emergency calls responded to within 15 minutes by 2% points.	76.6%	78.1%	1.5%	✗

Domain: Tackling Crime				
APP Target	Apr-Mar 06/07	Apr-Mar 07/08	% Change	Target
3.1.1 To reduce the total number of crimes by 2%.	3734	3073	-17.7%	✓
3.2.1 To reduce the total number of violent crimes by 2%.	1200	913	-23.9%	✓
3.2.2 To reduce the total number of violent crimes against children by 2%.	297	225	-24%	✓
3.3.1 To reduce the total number of recorded crimes of criminal damage by 2%.	1143	968	-15.3%	✓
3.4.1 To reduce the total number of domestic burglaries by 3%.	156	163	1.3%	✗
4.1.1 To increase the sanction clearance rate by 3% points.	23.1%	21.3%	-2%	✗
4.2.1 To increase the sanction clearance rate for sectarian hate crime.	11%	0%	-11%	✗

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4.2.2 To increase the sanction clearance rate for racist hate crime.	0%	38.9%	38.9%	✓
4.2.3 To increase the sanction clearance rate for homophobic hate crime.	0%	0%	0%	✗
4.3.1 To increase the number of drugs supply crime gangs frustrated, disrupted or dismantled. (Service Figure)	6 4 2	29 25 4	+ 23 +21 +2	✓
4.4.1 To increase the number of cash seizures by police. (Service figure)	89	146	+57	✓
4.5.1 The number of persons charged with terrorist offences (section 41 only)	2	0	- 2	✗

Domain: Promoting Community Safety				
APP Target	Apr-Mar 06/07	Apr-Mar 07/08	% Change	Target
5.1.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour by 5%.	3679	3565	-3.1%	✓
7.1.1 To reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road.	Figures not available			
7.1.2 To reduce the number of children killed or seriously injured on the road.				

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Domain: Managing Capability				
APP Target	Apr-Mar 06/07	Apr-Mar 07/08	% Change or variation from limit	Target
8.3.1 To reduce average sickness levels to 80 hours (10 days) for police officers and civilian staff in 2007/2008.	10.2 days	9.2 days	-10%	✓
8.4.1 To process 87% of custody cases within administrative time limits.		100.0%	+13.0%	✓
8.4.2 To process 87% of bail cases within administrative time limits.		95.8%	+8.8%	✓
8.4.3 To process 75% of indictable reported cases within administrative time limits.		65.2%	-9.8%	✗
8.4.4 To process 60% of summary reported cases within administrative time limits.		72.0%	+12.0%	✓

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Glossary of Terms

ABC	Acceptable Behaviour Contract	NIACRO	Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
ABH	Actual Bodily Harm	NICCY	Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People
ANPR	Automatic Number Plate Recognition	NIHRC	Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
ARA	Assets Recovery Agency	NIM	National Intelligence Model
ASB(O)	Anti-Social Behaviour (Order)	NIO	Northern Ireland Office
CID	Criminal Investigation Department	NIPB	Northern Ireland Policing Board
CJI(NI)	Criminal Justice Inspectorate (NI)	NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
CPLC	Community Police Liaison Committee	NSIR	National Standard for Incident Recording
CRO	Criminal Records Office	OCTF	Organised Crime Task Force
CSI	Crime Scene Investigator	OCU	Operational Command Unit
CSP	Community Safety Partnership	OPONI	The Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland
CSU	Community Safety Unit (NIO)	PACE	Police and Criminal Evidence (Act)
CSU	Central Statistics Unit, PSNI	PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
DCU	District Command Unit	PFNI	Police Federation for Northern Ireland
DPP	District Policing Partnership	PSNI	Police Service of Northern Ireland
FTC	Fatal Traffic Collision	PTR	Part Time Reserve
FTR	Full Time Reserve	RTC	Road Traffic Collision
GBH	Grievous Bodily Harm	SNEN	Single Non-Emergency Number
GIS	Geographical Information System	SOC	Scene of Crime
HVP	High Visibility Patrol	SOCA	Serious Organised Crime Agency
KPI	Key Performance Indicator	TSG	Tactical Support Group
KSI	Killed or Seriously Injured	VFM	Value for Money
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender	YCA	Youths Causing Annoyance
MLO	Minority Liaison Officer	YDO	Youth Diversion Officer
NAO	National Audit Office		
NCIS	National Criminal Intelligence Service		