



**Tackling Crime**

**Castlereagh Area  
C District**

## **District Policing Partnership**

### **9 Month Report**

Figures extracted 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010



## Area Commander's Introduction.

Overall crime in Castlereagh Area has fallen by just under 4%. This decrease is significant given it is over the Christmas period when often crimes are committed to gain financial reward and the current economic situation continues to prevail. At a wider Service level however, the total number of crimes has risen slightly.

As the new Area Commander my focus will be very much directed to those areas which affect the quality of life for people who live and work in the area. Reducing domestic burglary will be central to my pro-active strategy and I pleased to say since the last reporting period there has been a further decrease in this area. The incidence of domestic burglary has fallen from -18% to -19.8% from the last quarterly report representing a further reduction of 1.8% in this area. Across the wider spectrum of crime and possibly more significantly the clearance rate for the Area currently rests at 23.3% which is an increase on last year of 7.8%.

Under the headings of Offences against the state and Other Notifiable Offences it can be seen that a significant rise has taken place. An initial reaction may be to presume this has come about as a result of an increase in the reporting of crime which on the whole is actively encouraged. Largely, however, this is due to a renewed focus and emphasis on proactive policing and testing boundaries aimed at making self generated detections.

Police officers at all levels are being encouraged to work in a problem solving manner that will lead to long-term sustainable outcomes that tackle the underlying cause of problems as opposed to scratching the surface of it. This is consistent with our model of policing with the community which clearly identifies community support as being key to the success of any good initiative or idea. It is my intention to go forward into the new year with a focused campaign aimed at securing this much needed support.

The CID/Neighbourhood pilot continues to be rolled out in Castlereagh and a recent review indicates success in the key areas of joint participation, information sharing and more crucially the capacity to be more effective.

Police Surgeries continue to be run in Moneyreagh and Carryduff as part of our community engagement strategy under the remit of the Neighbourhood Team for that area. To date a total of 15 sessions have been run from mid September up until the Christmas period 2009.

**T/Chief Inspector Derek Martin**  
**Area Commander**  
**Castlereagh**





## Section 1) Policing with the Community

### Review of Policing with the Community activities within the Castlereagh Area

#### ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

This programme runs in Knockbraken Health Care park, and is devised to target young students that have failed to sustain in mainstream schooling. Our Schools Liaison Officer delivers a six week course which aims to increase awareness around Alcohol, Drugs, Citizenship, Criminal Damage, Theft and Vandalism.

#### BEAM

Castlereagh CSP have assisted in funding a series of interactive student workshops, aimed at Firework regulations and safety. The workshops were taken by the PSNI and actors from the Bardic Educational Arts & Media (BEAM) Group. The main objectives are to make students aware of the law and legislation surrounding the use of fireworks, to become conscious of the dangers and how their misuse can affect others, and to encourage the youth population to think about their opinions on fireworks. The sessions ran from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 and proved to be very productive with a lot of positive feedback from the schools involved; Dundonald High School, Knockbreda High School, Lagan College, Longstone School, Newtownbreda High School and Our Lady & St Patricks College.

#### BEE SAFE

The annual Bee Safe event held in April is a multi agency partnership, which seeks to educate and advise P7 pupils in a wide range of safety measures, which will prepare them for their transition to senior school. Partners include Police, Translink, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue, Northern Ireland Electricity, Northern Ireland Blind Centre, Local Council and Home Accident and Prevention.

#### CASE

The citizen ship and safety education programme is continually run within all local schools to encourage personal safety, positive citizenship and the prevention of crime. A range of subjects that are covered are Drugs awareness, Anti-Social Behaviour and Internet Safety.



## COP-CARD

A pilot scheme launched in Brooklands Primary School in June. This scheme is aimed to encourage young people to familiarise themselves with their local community, and to get involved with the local community groups. This scheme is due to finish at the end of November, and will be reviewed.

## DIGITAL SIGNAGE

This is a new scheme, which was launched early December. It is a freestanding mobile digital display stand, which is displayed in Forestside Shopping Centre, and the Council offices, with plans to also install a unit in Tesco Newtownbreda and Asda Dundonald. This new technology displays a number of campaigns and information – Crime Prevention, Drink Driving awareness, Neighbourhood information, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue campaign and information from the District Policing Partnership. It also envisaged PIP Suicide Awareness, Home accident and prevention will provide a message. The display unit has a range of attachments for dispensing leaflets and brochures etc and is also Bluetooth enabled.

## DRUGS AWARENESS

This is an ongoing programme run within the secondary schools in the Castlereagh area, this programme is designed to make students aware of the effects of drugs, the consequences of the misuse of drugs and also the general legislation. Our liaison officer also delivers a drugs awareness programme to teachers, this is designed to update them on drugs trends and use patterns.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There are currently **15** Neighbourhood Watch schemes in operation in the area

- 1 Glenhugh Park, Castlereagh
- 42 Glenhugh Park, Castlereagh
- Sunderland Road/Stirling Avenue, Castlereagh
- Ballyhanwood, Dundonald
- Ballyrussell Road, Dundonald
- Manns Road, Dundonald
- Oakwood Avenue, Carryduff
- The Crescent, Carryduff



- Wynchurch Avenue, Castlereagh
- Peartree Hill, Dundonald
- Downshire Road
- Willowbank Drive
- Millars Forge
- Lenaghan Park
- Cairnshill Court.

### **SAFETY WRISTBAND**

This initiative was launched at Marks & Spencer's, Forestside on the 28/11/06 and continues throughout all shops within Forestside. The project was funded by the CSP and is aimed at pre-school, key stage one children and young persons with learning difficulties; it has also been adopted by the NSPCC to run in conjunction with their 'Safe Child' scheme.

### **SHOPPING TROLLEY SIGNAGE**

This was initially launched in Forestside, where all trolleys were fitted with signage that corresponded with the up-to-date police message, which was highlighting the problem of handbag thefts, as part of this campaign handbag lanyards were also given out to shoppers to secure their handbags to their trolleys. This has been a successful campaign and has continued through Christmas, and the New Year, and has been extended to our local Asda Store in Dundonald and Tesco Newtownbreda.



## Section 2) Progress towards achieving targets in the Local Policing Plan for 2009/2010<sup>1,2</sup>

<b>Objective 1: In partnership with the community and other agencies, to make communities and neighbourhoods safe and feel safe</b>					
<b>Local Policing Plan Target</b>	<b>Apr - Dec 2008</b>	<b>Apr - Dec 2009</b>	<b>Variation from last year</b>	<b>Target on course to be met</b>	<b>Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance</b>
1.1.2 To reduce the total number of recorded crimes in line with service targets (1,2)	1806	1737	- 3.8%	YES	The total number of crimes has fallen by 3.8% equating to a reduction of 69 crimes overall. Robbery has risen from 20 to 26. Four of those took place on one day by the same offender who was apprehended and charged. At service level crime has risen by 0.3% and at district level by 4.6%. Despite increases in some categories the overall trend continues downwards.
1.3.2 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries in line with service targets.	187	150	-19.8%	YES	Increased visibility and the use of road checks on main arterial routes aided by other tactics may well have had an impact in this area. The challenge in this area of domestic and non-domestic burglary continues to be presented from travelling criminals and is something that is constantly under review. At service level domestic burglary has risen by 2.9% and at District level by 4.6%
1.5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/3/2011.	1797	1708	-5.0%	YES	Anti-social behaviour shows a reduction on the PFYTD and is on

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

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



					target to achieve a reduction by 2011. Operations continue to be planned on a weekly basis around hotspots and our policy of pro-activity to reduce those incidents that impact on quality of life. Service wide ASB has decreased by 3.5% and at district level by 3.7%.
<b>Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets</b>					
Operation Blitzzen was coordinated to address an increase in Burglaries throughout the last financial year. Burglaries have reduced and detection rate has increase.					
To carefully analyse all crime types and ascertain any trends, hotspots or repeat offending with a view to early and effective resolution. Increased awareness of problem areas leading to a greater emphasis and focused response and patrol activity.					
Community Safety Strategy which is closely and carefully linked to local priorities. Focused use of available resources against identified priorities.					
Youth Alcohol Strategy/ Operation Snapper. Tar-getting and measuring of activities directed towards anti-social behaviour and its links with alcohol.					
Offender Management Strategy. Detailed analysis of offenders with specific action plans in relation to Carefully identified Area and District Offenders.					
Op Convertor. Co-ordinates and prioritises activity towards maximising forensic opportunities. CSI attendance at all Burglary scenes.					



**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
2.4.5 To increase the clearance rate by 3% points (1)	15.5%	23.3%	+7.8%	YES	The increase in the clearance rate from PFYTD is welcomed and is slightly ahead of the overall district which currently rests at 23.1%. This much improved figure on PFYTD is now looking sustainable and is currently well on target.
<b>Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets</b>					



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

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	349	361	+3.4%	96	27.5%	136	37.7%
2. Sexual Offences	37	24	-35.1%	9	24.3%	4	16.7%
3. Burglary	330	267	-19.1%	14	4.2%	21	7.9%
(Domestic Burglary)	187	150	-19.8%	4	2.1%	9	6.0%
4. Robbery	20	26	+30.0%	2	10.0%	9	34.6%
5. Theft	443	390	-12.0%	98	22.1%	102	26.2%
(Theft from vehicles)	67	53	-20.9%	2	3.0%	3	5.7%
(Theft of Vehicles)	41	46	+12.2%	9	22.0%	10	21.7%
6. Fraud and Forgery	93	112	+20.4%	4	4.3%	13	11.6%
7. Criminal Damage	471	446	-5.3%	33	7.0%	40	9.0%
8. Offences against the state	5	14	+180.0%	2	40.0%	4	28.6%
9. Other notifiable offences	58	97	+67.2%	32	55.2%	76	78.4%
<b>Violent Crime (1,2 &amp; 4)</b>	<b>406</b>	411	<b>+1.2%</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	149	36.3%
<b>Total Crime</b>	<b>1806</b>	1737	<b>-3.8%</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	405	23.3%





## Section 4) Trend data for Local Policing Plan targets 2009/2010<sup>3</sup>

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
1.1.2 To reduce the total number of recorded crimes in line with service targets. (1,2)	+1.7%	<b>12mth target - 5.1%</b>	-3.8%	<b>YES</b>	-3.8%	<b>12mth target - 5.1%</b>		
1.3.2 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries in line with service targets.	-12.3%	<b>12mth target - 12.5%</b>	-18%	<b>YES</b>	-19.8%	<b>YES</b>		
1.5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/3/2011.	-17.7%	<b>YES</b>	-3.6%	<b>YES</b>	-5.0%	<b>YES</b>		
2.4.1 To increase the clearance rate by 3%	+13.3%	<b>YES</b>	+11%	<b>YES</b>	+7.8%	<b>YES</b>		

Note: The trend information is a snapshot each quarter of how the local PSNI has been performing against Local Policing Plan targets during the year.

<sup>3</sup> 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 2009/2010<sup>4</sup>

<b>Objective 1: In partnership with the community and other agencies, to make communities and neighbourhoods safe and feel safe</b>						
<b>Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target</b>	<b>Area Figure Apr 2008 – Dec 2008</b>	<b>Area Figure Apr 2009 – Dec 2009</b>	<b>Variation from last year</b>	<b>Target on course to be met (including % change)</b>		
				<b>Area</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Northern Ireland</b>
1.1.1 To ensure that by 2010/2011, there are fewer than 100,000 crimes recorded. <sup>5</sup>	1806	1737	-3.8%	TGT -5.1% <b>ACT -3.8%</b>	TGT -3.6% <b>ACT +4.6%</b>	TGT -4.6% <b>ACT +0.3%</b>
1.3.1 To ensure that by 2010/2011, there are fewer than 6,000 domestic burglaries recorded. <sup>6</sup>	187	150	-19.8%	TGT -12.5% <b>ACT -19.8%</b>	TGT -12.5 <b>ACT -4.6%</b>	TGT -9.2% <b>ACT +2.9%</b>
1.5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/3/2011. <sup>6</sup>	1793	1708	-4.7%	TGT 0.01% <b>ACT -4.7%</b>	TGT 0.01% <b>ACT -3.7%</b>	TGT -1.6% <b>ACT -3.5%</b>
<b>Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Northern Ireland Policing Plan targets</b>						

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Figures shown for these targets are the Area's figures which contribute to meeting the Northern Ireland wide target.



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

Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Figure Apr 2008 – Sep 2008	Area Figure Apr 2009 – Sep 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. <sup>6</sup>	15.5%	23.3%	+7.8%	<b>23.3%</b>	<b>23.1%</b>	<b>24.3%</b>
<b>Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Northern Ireland Policing Plan targets</b>						



### Appendix 3 - Breakdown of Crime Classes, as recorded by the PSNI

<p><b>Offences against the person (class 1)</b>  Murder                      Manslaughter  Infanticide                Attempted murder  Causing/allowing death of vulnerable person  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><b>Sexual offences (class 2)</b>  Rape  Attempted rape  Sexual assault/sexual activity  Exposure  Other sexual offences</p>	<p><b>Burglary (class 3)</b>  Domestic burglary  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burglary in a dwelling</li> <li>• Aggravated burglary in a dwelling</li> </ul> Non domestic burglary  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burglary in a building other than in a dwelling</li> <li>• Aggravated burglary other than in a dwelling</li> </ul> Going equipped</p>
<p><b>Robbery (class 4)</b>  Robbery  Armed robbery  Hijacking</p>	<p><b>Theft (class 5)</b>  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"> <li>• Theft from motor vehicles</li> <li>• Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicles</li> </ul> Vehicle tampering/interference  Handling of stolen goods  Other thefts</p>	<p><b>Fraud and forgery (class 6)</b>  Deception  Forgery and counterfeiting  Making off without payment  Other frauds</p>
<p><b>Criminal damage (class 7)</b>  Arson  Petrol bombing offences  Explosives offences  Criminal damage/malicious damage offences  Other criminal damage offences</p>	<p><b>Offences against the state (class 8)</b>  Offences under anti-terrorism legislation  Firearms offences  Offences under Public Order (NI) Order  Other offences against the public order</p>	<p><b>Other notifiable offences (class 9)</b>  Blackmail  Kidnapping and false imprisonment  Drug offences – trafficking and non-trafficking offences  Dangerous driving  Breach of orders  Other notifiable offences</p>

## Appendix 4 – Definitions and Glossary of Terms

### Police Recording of Crime

**Recorded crime figures** (sometimes referred to as notifiable offences) detail those crimes and offences (including attempts) recorded by the police which are deemed to be indictable or triable-either-way. Certain closely associated summary offences are also counted in the recorded crime figures.

- **Indictable offences** are those more serious crimes which are tried on indictment in the Crown Court by a judge and jury.
- **Triable-either-way offences** are those offences which, under certain circumstances, are triable either summarily in a Magistrates Court or on indictment in the Crown Court.
- **Summary offences** are less serious and are tried in a Magistrates Court before a resident magistrate with no jury.

The number of crimes recorded by the police is dependent on two factors:

- whether the victim or a representative of the victim brings that crime to the attention of the police or on the crime coming to the attention of the police through some other means (such as the police officer being present at the time).
- whether that incident is determined as being a recordable offence within the categories laid down by the Home Office in the official counting rules.

### **Clearances**

Clearances (or detections as they may alternatively be known) are, broadly speaking, those crimes that have been 'cleared up' by the police. Crimes are counted as 'cleared or detected' in accordance with strict counting rules issued by the Home Office. They are counted on the basis of crimes rather than offenders. For example, if six offenders are involved in a robbery and are all arrested and charged, then this counts as one clearance (i.e. the robbery is deemed to be 'cleared'). Alternatively if only one of the six is identified and charged while the other five remain unidentified and at large, this also means that the robbery can still be deemed as 'cleared'. In this respect clearance data differs from conviction data as conviction data counts offenders while clearance data counts crimes.

The following methods of clearance involve a formal sanction:

- charging or issuing a summons to an offender (this will not necessarily result in a subsequent conviction at court),
- issuing a caution to the offender,
- having the offence accepted for consideration in court, or
- the offender is a juvenile who is dealt with by means of an informed warning, restorative caution or prosecutorial diversion.

In addition, for the most serious offence types ('indictable only') a non sanction clearance can be claimed if:

- the Public Prosecution Service (PPS) directs no prosecution, or
- the case cannot proceed because the offender has died.

### **Recent Changes in the Recording of Clearances**

Prior to April 2006 a variety of non sanction clearances could be claimed where police took no further action, the main one being where the victim declined to prosecute. At that time these clearance types accounted for around 50% of the PSNI's total clearance rate. However, since then some major changes have been introduced which have substantially limited the clearance options open to the PSNI.

In April 2006, a higher evidential standard was adopted within the PSNI following the establishment of the Public Prosecution Service in Northern Ireland. Then in April 2007, the Home Office significantly restricted the clearance types available to the police, which meant that virtually all non sanction clearances could no longer be claimed as a valid clearance. Both of these changes had the impact of greatly reducing the number of non sanction clearances to such an extent that the PSNI overall clearance rate and its sanction clearance rate and now virtually one and the same (only a very small proportion of non sanction clearances are now claimed each year).

### **Clearance Rates**

The clearance (or detection) rate is the number of clearances recorded in a given time period as a percentage of the total number of crimes recorded in the same period.

### **Violent Crime**

Violent crime comprises three main offence groupings – (i) offences against the person, (ii) sexual offences, and (iii) robbery. What violent crime offences have in common is that they involve actual violence or the threat of violence. The degree of violence varies considerably, even between incidents in the same classification. The large majority of incidents categorised as violent crime do not actually involve any significant injury to the victim, although some of the crimes not resulting in injury may still be traumatic for their victims, e.g. threats to kill.

### **Vehicle Crime**

Vehicle crime comprises the offences of theft from motor vehicles and theft / unauthorised taking of motor vehicles.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

ASB incidents are operational figures (and are not quality assured by the PSNI's Central Statistics Unit) collated in accordance with the Home Office National Standard for Incident Recording (NSIR), which was introduced in April 2006. ASB incidents are a group of non-crime incidents that are reported to the police (i.e. they do not result in a notifiable offence). ASB incidents consist of the following incident types:

- Abandoned vehicles - (not stolen or causing an obstruction)
- Animal problems
- Begging / vagrancy
- Hoax calls to emergency services
- Inappropriate use / sale / possession of fireworks
- Malicious / nuisance communications
- Noise
- Prostitution related activity
- Rowdy and/or nuisance behaviour - environmental damage / littering
- Rowdy and/or nuisance behaviour - neighbours
- Rowdy and/or nuisance behaviour
- Street drinking
- Substance misuse
- Trespass
- Vehicle nuisance / inappropriate vehicle use

<b>Glossary of Terms</b>			
ABC	Acceptable Behaviour Contract	NICCY	Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People
AOABH	Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm	NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
ANPR	Automatic Number Plate Recognition	NIM	National Intelligence Model
ASB(O)	Anti-Social Behaviour (Order)	NIO	Northern Ireland Office
CAIT	Child Abuse Investigation Team	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
C(PT)	Constable Part-Time	OCTF	Organised Crime Task Force
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	PFYTD	Financial Year to Date
DPP	District Policing Partnership	PQA	Performance Quality Assurance (Unit)
FTR	Full Time Reserve	PSNI	Police Service of Northern Ireland
FYTD	Financial Year to Date	PTR	Part Time Reserve
GBH	Grievous Bodily Harm	RTC	Road Traffic Collision
KSI	Killed or Seriously Injured	SOCA	Serious Organised Crime Agency
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender	TSG	Tactical Support Group
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Committee	VFM	Value for Money
NIACRO	Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders	YDO	Youth Diversion Officer

Note: This glossary should be kept under review to ensure that DPP members clearly understand PSNI abbreviations.