



Tackling Crime

**Down Area
C District**

District Policing Partnership

9 Month Report

Figures extracted 20 January 2010



Section 1) Policing with the Community

Review of Policing with the Community activities within the Down Area

Down Diversity in Action Forum

The Down Diversity in Action Forum (DDIAF) is a multi agency partnership committed to respecting difference and valuing the individual regardless of background while creating opportunities that embrace diversity for the benefit of all. Whilst the Forum has made significant steps towards supporting the BME (Black, Migrant, Ethnic) communities, it wanted to extend this support to include the 'less visible' minorities (such as the LGBT community) along with helping to tackle sectarianism in general. Accordingly the DDIAF relaunched itself in December to promote the following aims:

Adopt a strategic approach to identify real needs in respect of addressing diversity;
Maximise resources and opportunities to promote equity, diversity and independence;
Develop communication channels to encourage people to live, learn, work and play together;
Embrace a partnership approach encompassing all sectors of the community to create a shared future for all residents of Down through positive action;
Build the capacity of local groups to articulate their needs and to embrace diversity through cultural activities.

Down Youth IAG (Independent Advisory Group)

DYIAG continues with its 'peer research' project and consulted with the 'Newcastle, Castlewellan & Dundrum' Youth Council in December. 'On Street' surveys have been conducted in many town and villages and 'questionnaires' have been distributed to a selection of post-primary schools throughout the Down area

Four DYIAG representatives met with Chief Inspector Deirdre Bones in December 2009 to discuss the views and opinions of young people in relation to police efforts to tackle 'criminal damage' within the area. The representatives intend now to consult with its membership and to give the PSNI critical feedback regarding its current policy and initiatives. Likewise, the DYIAG has also given the Area Commander an undertaking that it will adopt a 'problem solving' perspective in its examination of the various issues.

On 14 December 2009 the DYIAG hosted a Youth Consultation event in St Patrick's Centre, Downpatrick. Approximately 50 young people came from Newcastle, Castlewellan, Dundrum, Ardglass, Downpatrick, Strangford, Killyleagh, Crossgar and Ballynahinch for a Christmas Party. Down DPP assisted by helping produce a quiz using Quizdom and PSNI had their Mobile Police Unit and a police car available for inspection. An evening of fun, games and food was had whilst the DYIAG were able to gather valuable views from young people in relation to policing, drugs, alcohol and antisocial behaviour. 13 new young people expressed an interest in finding out more about the work of DYIAG with PSNI and would like to come along to future meetings.

On 15 December 2009 representatives from DYIAG attended a Local Policing Plan consultation event with local councillors, DPP, PSNI and community representatives. Members are pleased that their views and opinions are being sought and that they can represent other young people from within their community.

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.

Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

Down District now has 84 accredited schemes within the area .

A text alert and E-mail system is now established within the district giving immediate contact with all co-ordinators within C District.

This system of contact has already illustrated its worth by identifying a vehicle acting suspiciously and giving a description of two occupants in an area after the initial circulation of a suspicious vehicle by myself, this information has been subsequently passed to the CIO for their information. There has been other examples recently where two way feedback is progressing.

The Text alert is also working well in that it gives an immediate highlight to co-ordinators.

Local Newsletters have been completed - advertising the mobile phone numbers of the local neighbourhood officers, distributing crime prevention information and informing the local NW co-ordinators of some of the community safety initiatives in the area. These newsletters and other crime prevention alerts were delivered by local neighbourhood officers before Christmas.

8 talks have been delivered to various NW groups within the area including DPP and CSP events, both Castlewellan and Kilcoo areas have received information, the product of which is a NW scheme presently with the NIO for accreditation (1st in the Castlewellan area) .

Local contact within "hard to reach" communities has been increased and will hopefully be enhanced in the future.

Newcastle

Dunwellan / Burrendale Interagency Forum - multi-agency partnership approach to resolving local problems in the estates ranging from anti-social behaviour to refuse bins.

Woodgrove residents, Castlewellan - meeting with residents to resolve anti-social behaviour in the playground behind Woodgrove.

Nitelife Initiative - working in partnership with licensees both in Castlewellan and Newcastle to resolve criminal damage, anti-social behaviour and violent crime associated with the night time economy.

Downpatrick

Town centre High visibility patrolling

Downpatrick Neighbourhood Team have increased visibility in order to reassure the local business community following their increased involvement with the Downpatrick Business Forum. Police have received several positive comments from the business community, shoppers and visitors to the town.

Drugs

A leaflet drop campaign has taken place in areas known to be frequented/inhabited by dealers in Downpatrick encouraging information to be supplied to police or crimestoppers regarding drugs activities.



Surgeries/bicycles

Officers have provided surgeries with the use of the mobile police station and bicycles and community based venues to allow for greater accessibility particularly to rural and outlying areas

Get home safe operations

Roving patrols have been used to target hot food outlets and give attention to those walking home, especially rowdy groups who are potential troublemakers. Pro-active policing and partnership working (joint council enforcement officer patrolling) has made a significant improvement to the safety of people working and socialising in Down at the weekends.

Freshers fair

South Eastern Regional College

To encourage pupils to consider a career in the police and to provide a means by which college pupils can get to know their local neighbourhood officers.

Rowallane Sector

The biggest success for the Rowallane Team in the last quarter has been the training of the team in the use of and the deployment of the mobile police station. It has received favourable press throughout the sector and has enhanced the visibility and adaptability of the officers. Whilst the station is deployed in an area we have been able to also have officers out on cycles and on foot.

Sept/Oct saw the end of the CSP led initiative in Crossgar. The NPT have been involved in the planning of the initiative and in many of the events which were organised around providing opportunities for different groups within the community coming together to understand perspectives, needs etc. As well as joint patrols with the Council enforcement officers the team took the lead role in organising a clean up of the monastery grounds in Sept. This involved the NPT and student officers from the Police College working along side young people from the area (including those engaged with the Youth Justice Agency) - The success has been further marked as an inspection of the grounds again at the end of last week found that no beer bottles etc have been discarded in the usual haunts. The team also engaged with the CSP in a similar scheme for Ballynahinch. Again we have been out on joint patrols with the Council Enforcement officers and are working with the Roads Service etc to address problems around Riverview.

In December, the NPT put together a Road safety initiative for the Saintfield area which included siting a "crashed" car in Saintfield on the night of the annual Christmas fayre. The mobile police station was on site as were the motorcyclists providing entertainment and education for the many young people who engaged with the officers. The team were also supported by the education officer from the Roads Policing Unit who provided an information board and leaflets from one of the local business. This initiative was followed up in the weeks to Christmas with visits to all the business in the Sector to provide crime prevention advice and reassurance during this busy season.



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
1.1.2 To reduce the number of crimes recorded in line with service targets (1)	3172	3410	+8.2%	✗	Increase in number of offences against the persons –Op Nitelife being established to address this. Noticeable increase in number of reported oil burners. Increase in number of thefts which can be attributable to ongoing economic climate. Overall crime has decreased this quarter.
1.3.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries in line with service targets(1)	266	216	-18.8%	✓	Ongoing burglary operations and proactive patrolling. Focus on identified offenders and robust bail checks.
1.4.1 To increase the number of drugs supply gangs frustrated, disrupted or dismantled(2)					No figures available
1.5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/3/2011(3)	3702 2007/2008	2259	-39%	✓	This is a 3 year target and at the moment we are exceeding this. Figures recorded this quarter are at their lowest level since recording commenced in 2006
1.7.1 To contribute to reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road(4)	28	27	-1	✓	Figures available from 1 April 2009 to 30 October 2009

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



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

Burglary

- Maximum use of Area, District and Regional resources to conduct preventative and proactive intelligence led operations.
- Default patrolling by response officers in analysed 'hot spot' locations.
- Intrusive monitoring of specifically identified District and Area offenders and proactive policing of bail conditions.
- Robust forensic policy and attendance of CSIs at scenes of crimes.
- Maximum use of media to inform members of the public of crime trends and to offer crime prevention advice.
- NPT officers call in with business premises to offer crime prevention advice.
- Alerting of NW co-ordinators to make them aware of crime trends.
- High profile deterrent operations ie Op Blitzzen and Op Seasons Greetings
- 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.

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
- Meeting with Castlewellan Licensees
- Implementation of surgeries and use of mobile police station to offer reassurance/crime prevention advice.

Road Safety –

- Focus on the known causes of road deaths and injuries, tasking RPU resources to priority locations within Area for enforcement operations.
- Review of Collision Remedial Schemes ongoing
- Road Safety Education with Schools - Corporate Road Safety Awareness Media Campaigns
- Use of road safety camera van
- Proactive operations to prevent and detect 'boy racers' and prosecution of offences.



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

[This section should only be included in the 6, 9 and 12 month reports.]

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
1.2.1 To reduce the number of crimes recorded in line with service targets(1)	10.4%	✗	12.3%	✗	8.2%	✗		
1.3.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries in line with service targets(1).	-5.6%	✓	-5.5%	✓	-18.8%	✓		
1.4.1 To increase the number of drugs supply gangs frustrated, disrupted or dismantled(2)	No figures		No figures		No figures			
1.5.1 To reduce the number of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31/3/2011(3)	8.1%	✓	9.3%	✓	-39%	✓		
1.7.1 To contribute to reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road(4).	11	✗	17	✗	27	✓		

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.

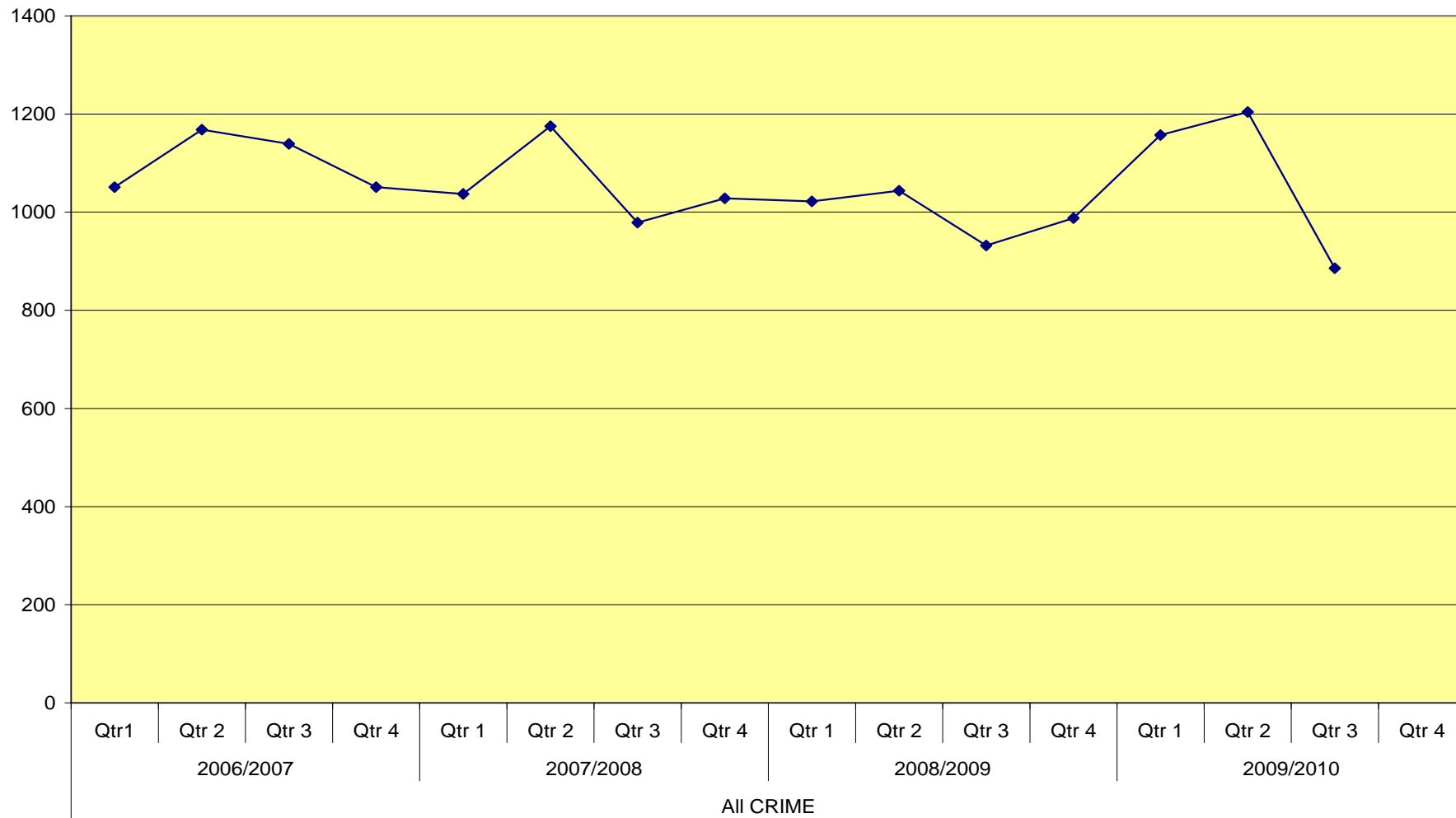


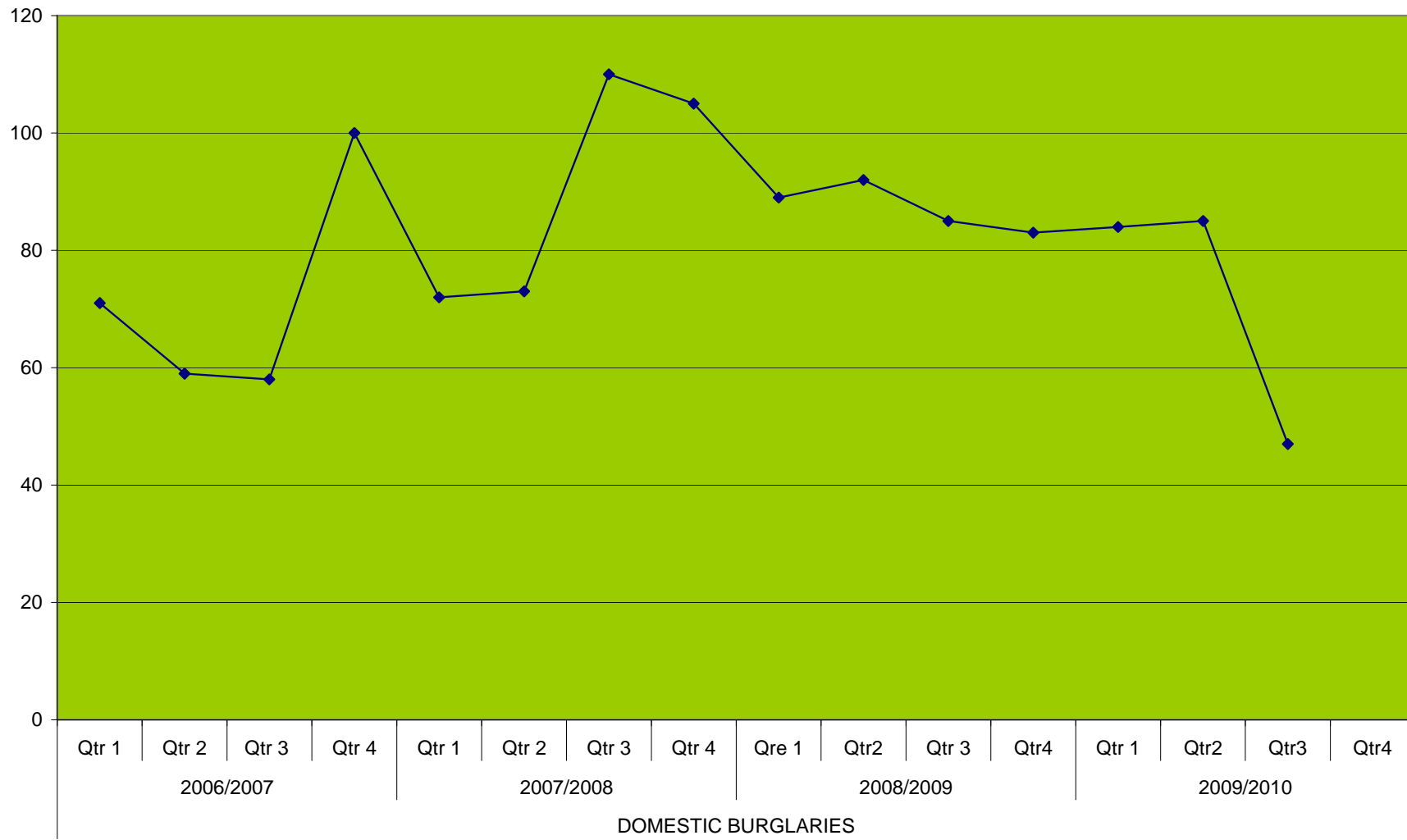
**Summary of Recorded Crime and Clearance Rates within Down
Quarter 3 Report: April to December**

figures last updated on 20 January 2010 at 08:49:32

	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	789	900	14.1%	227	28.8%	269	29.9%
2. Sexual Offences	57	61	7.0%	20	35.1%	9	14.8%
3. Burglary	580	474	-18.3%	44	7.6%	36	7.6%
(Domestic Burglary)	266	216	-18.8%	21	7.9%	19	8.8%
4. Robbery	15	12	-20.0%	4	26.7%	2	16.7%
5. Theft	610	738	21.0%	66	10.8%	104	14.1%
(Theft from vehicles)	92	109	18.5%	3	3.3%	4	3.7%
(Theft of vehicles)	102	72	-29.4%	17	16.7%	29	40.3%
6. Fraud and Forgery	82	127	54.9%	8	9.8%	14	11.0%
7. Criminal Damage	731	761	4.1%	72	9.8%	91	12.0%
8. Offences against the state	18	15	-16.7%	12	66.7%	11	73.3%
9. Other notifiable offences	116	155	33.6%	76	65.5%	99	63.9%
Total not yet assigned to offence category	0	0	/0	0	/0	0	/0
Violent Crime (1, 2 & 4)	861	973	13.0%	251	29.2%	280	28.8%
Total Crime	2998	3243	8.2%	529	17.6%	635	19.6%
Crime Undercount for Apr-Jun 0708	0	23	/0	na	na	na	na
Total Crime including undercount	2998	3266	8.9%	na	na	na	na









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

<p>Offences against the person (class 1) 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>Sexual offences (class 2) Rape Attempted rape Sexual assault/sexual activity Exposure 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 Explosives 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>

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

Glossary of Terms			
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.

