



Tackling Crime

**East Belfast Area
B District**

District Policing Partnership

6th Month Report

Figures extracted 25th October 2010



***District Policing
Partnerships***

Local people shaping local policing

Area Commander's Commentary

The level of crime has continued to decrease during the second quarter of 2010/11, with a reduction of 6.8% (184 fewer crimes) being experienced. The most marked decreases have been in burglary, criminal damage and offences against the state.

Unfortunately robbery has increased slightly by 16.7% (6 more crimes) and theft by 9.1% (58 more crimes) due to a rise in the theft of bicycles from back yards and gardens.

On a more positive note burglary has decreased by 24% (84 fewer offences) with domestic burglary also decreasing by 5.5% (11 fewer offences)

Reports of anti-social behaviour have increased by 20.7% (403 more incidents) over the same period last year with problems being experienced in the Queens Quay area, the Short Strand Interface and Ormeau Park. We recognise that acts of anti-social behaviour threaten the quality of life of those affected and we will continue to tackle this issue and would encourage anyone who is a victim or anyone that has information that could assist in the identification and prosecution of offenders to contact police.

My officers and I will continue to engage with the community and partner agencies to ensure that we deal effectively with any challenges that may affect the delivery of a personal policing service to the community of East Belfast.

Yvonne Davidson
Area Commander
East Belfast



Section 1) Policing with the Community

Review of Policing with the Community activities within the East Belfast Area

Handover of Imitation Firearms and Offensive Weapons – Community Safety Staff in liaison with local schools, Inner East Forum, Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium and local Community Groups encouraged youths to hand over imitation firearms and offensive weapons to East Belfast Alternatives. The initiative was successful with a number of imitation firearms, knives, knuckledusters, batons etc then being handed over to police for disposal.

Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium – Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium held a public meeting on 9.6.10 at the Mount Conference Centre regarding Anti-social Behaviour issues at the interface. Over 100 persons attended including statutory agencies such as the police, Youth Services, Youth Justice Agency, Belfast City Council and the DPP. Action plans regarding how best to deal with the issue were discussed and further meetings arranged.

Vulnerable Adults Personal Safety Initiative – During August Community Safety staff gave talks and presentations to groups of vulnerable adults. The talk provided information and advice on how to keep safe both inside and the home.

Offensive Weapons Presentation - Due to the increase of incidents at the interface a specifically tailored presentation on offensive weapons was given at Ashfield Boys School in June. It included information regarding what constitutes an offensive weapon, the penalties for carrying an offensive weapon and showed photographs of knife injuries. It is planned to repeat this prior to historically peak periods.

Victoria Youth Independent Advisory Group – The Victoria Youth Independent Advisory Group meet on the 23 August for a team building exercise with Victoria Neighbourhood Officers. 14 young people from across the Victoria Neighbourhood Area participated with 2 local community workers and 4 neighbourhood officers. All got much out of the event while tackling the challenges of the cave systems at Belfast Activity Centre. This very positive engagement is to be continued with a meeting to be planned for 3 November to set out the year ahead. This will include producing an evaluation report on the community engagement event held on 11 May where local neighbourhood officers sought the view of 36 young people about issues on anti-social behaviour, underage drinking, crime and co-operation with the police.

Victoria Police, Partners And Community Together - PACT Met on 28 September 2010 at the Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church, Ballyhackamore. The meeting was well attended with 12 community issues raised for the PACT Panel to action. Chief Superintendent McCrum, District Commander for South & East Belfast attended the meeting and gave a talk on 'The impact of cuts to policing and the impact on Victoria Neighbourhood Area'. The Belmont Council of Churches is to hold a joint meeting with Victoria PACT on 28 October 2010 at Stormont Presbyterian Church when the Chief Constable Matt Baggott will give a talk on 'Relationships and Renewal'. Community Surgeries are presently being planned commencing in November. Promotional material has been produced to provide the community with information on PACT and Active Citizens Networks. The Northern Ireland Housing Executive, East Belfast District Policing Partnership, Belfast City Council Community Safety Unit and the PSNI contributed towards the funding for this PR material, produced by Graphics Unit in the PSNI. Peter Quigley, Chairperson of PACT, will announce the commencement of the community surgeries at the October meeting.



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transexual Advocate - The main objectives are to encourage reporting, reduce crime and enhance crime investigation. The advocacy scheme is aimed at building trust and confidence within these communities, as well as providing practical support and assistance when coming in contact with their local police and statutory agencies. Although this is a pilot scheme within the Greater Belfast area, the objective is to introduce the scheme to other areas within Northern Ireland. We hope it will encourage members of the LGBT community to consider the Police Service as a career option, as well as improving the reporting of crime. The appointment of the LGBT advocate is a tremendous step in the right direction – This initiative will help to ensure that every section of our community is served by a Police Service that is personal, impartial and accountable. Partnership is at the heart of our outlook and actions. We must share experience, information and responsibility, this scheme is an excellent example of partnership working at its best.

Street by Street - The Street by Street Project continues to work closely with the PSNI; Belfast City Council Community Safety Unit and Wardens; Social Services; NIHE and Youth Justice Agency to address local issues. Through working with residents and partnerships with agencies such as PSNI and Belfast City Council Community Safety, the Street by Street staff were able to easily identify 'hot spot' areas where anti-social behaviour was an issue and respond accordingly. The Street by Street Project has provided a forum for healing relationships between the community and local statutory agencies in particular the PSNI and has provided a mechanism for the community to become more involved in the process of community safety.

The Street by Street Project has received widespread attention during its pilot year and has addressed some key community safety issues such as on street and underage drinking, neighbourhood disputes, bonfire issues and disturbances around vacant properties. Engagement with the wider community has taken place in a number of ways including the provision of a community mobile telephone number for residents to contact in times of need, various community leaflets have been distributed highlighting local issues such as anti-social behaviour and more seriously the increasing number of burglaries, again these have been in conjunction with the PSNI and Community Safety Partnership.

Victim Care Line - Police in East Belfast, in conjunction with the East Belfast District Policing Partnership and Victim Support, launched a victim care line in March 2009. Victims of crime can use the free phone number to contact police and get a progress report on the investigation. Since the inception of the scheme there have been a total of 147 callers to the freephone number. This can only be seen as a positive for the District to build broaden and sustain confidence in Policing.



Section 2) Progress towards achieving targets in the Local Policing Plan for 2010/11

Service excellence					
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Sept 2009	Apr – Sept 2010	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
1.1 To increase the number of police officers assigned to neighbourhood and response policing delivery roles by 10%	202	241	39	✓	This figure equates to a 16.2% reassignment of officers.

Tackling serious harm				
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - March 2009/10	Apr - Sept 2010	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
2.1 To report four times per year on the number of drug gangs frustrated, disrupted and dismantled	2 Disrupted 11 Frustrated 1 Dismantled	1 Disrupted 6 Frustrated 1 Dismantled	✓	

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

A Control Strategy is in place and is reviewed and updated on a monthly basis through the National Intelligence Model process



Tackling serious harm					
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Sept 2009	Apr - Sept 2010	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
3.1 To reduce the number of non-domestic violence with injury crimes by 5%	303	256	-15.5%	✓	
4.1 To increase the detection rate for violence with injury by 10% points.	23.6%	33.1%	9.5%	✓	
Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets					
Non domestic violence with injury crimes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the partnership approach through the Get Home Safe Partnership focusing on transport provision, joint inspections of licensed premises, Pub-link and BAND • Proactively target identified locations and individuals through Get Home Safe • CCTV monitoring of hotspot areas • Use of Head Camera for evidentiary purposes • Use of magnetic arch outside pubs/clubs to detect offensive weapons 					
Detection rate for violence with injury crimes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence with injury crimes - all screened by a Detective Sergeant and clear guidelines set down on how investigation is to progress • Serious Sexual Offences - all dealt with by Public Protection Unit in the same fashion as above • Robbery - again all screened by either Volume Crime Screener or Serious Crime DS • A Women's Aid worker working with the Domestic Violence Officers supporting victims and encouraging them to see prosecutions through. 					



Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns					
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Sept 2009	Apr - Sept 2010	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of antisocial behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31 March 2011.	1951	2354	20.7%	✗	
5.2 To increase the number of on street drinking referrals submitted to BCC	15	25	66.6%	✓	
6.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%.	201	190	-5.5%	✓	
6.2 To reduce the number of non domestic burglaries by 5%	148	74	-50.0%	✓	
5.1 To increase the detection rate for burglary by 5% points.	6.6%	7.1%	0.6%	✓	
Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets					
<p>Anti-Social Behaviour Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Focused patrolling of Hotspot areas ➤ Develop and strengthen relationships with partnership agencies and local communities ➤ Use of Anti-social Behaviour Legislation ➤ Introduction of Roaming Wardens <p>Burglary Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Focused operations in Hotspot areas – ➤ Leaflet drops ➤ Op Lockdown – house to house calls ➤ Targeted bail checks in line with District Priorities ➤ Prolific Offenders Strategy – Offender Management Unit Set Up ➤ Mandatory tasking of CSI Officers ➤ Maximum use of media 					



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

Crime Classes	Recorded Apr- Sept 09/10	Recorded Apr- Sept 10/11	% Change	Cleared Apr- Sept 09/10	% Cleared Apr- Sept 09/10	Cleared Apr- Sept 10/11	% Cleared Apr- Sept 10/11
1. Offences against the person	750	685	-8.7%	249	33.2%	256	37.4%
2. Sexual Offences	47	62	31.9%	12	25.5%	13	21.0%
3. Burglary	350	266	-24.0%	23	6.6%	19	7.1%
(Domestic Burglary)	201	190	-5.5%	8	4.0%	7	3.7%
4. Robbery	36	42	16.7%	4	11.1%	6	14.3%
5. Theft	638	696	9.1%	107	16.8%	123	17.7%
(Theft from vehicles)	68	67	-1.5%	2	2.9%	3	4.5%
(Theft of Vehicles)	93	85	-8.6%	25	26.9%	17	20.0%
6. Fraud and Forgery	65	76	16.9%	19	29.2%	18	23.7%
7. Criminal Damage	653	547	-16.2%	75	11.5%	69	12.6%
8. Offences against the state	57	35	-38.6%	40	70.2%	25	71.4%
9. Other notifiable offences	114	110	-3.5%	86	75.4%	87	79.1%
Violent Crime (1,2 & 4)	833	789	-5.3%	265	31.8%	275	34.9%
Total Crime	2710	2521	-7.0%	615	22.7%	617	24.5%
Total Crime including undercount	2710	2526	-6.8%	-	-	-	-



Section 4) Trend data for Local Policing Plan targets 2010/11

Local Policing Plan Targets for 2010/11	Apr - Jun 2010	Target on course to be met	Apr - Sep 2010	Target on course to be met	Apr - Dec 2010	Target on course to be met	Apr 2010 - Mar 2011	Target on course to be met
1.1 To increase the number of police officers assigned to neighbourhood and response policing delivery roles by 10%	235	✓	241	✓				
2.1 To report four times per year on the number of drug gangs frustrated, disrupted and dismantled	4 x frustration 1 x disruption 1 x dismantle	✓	1 Disruption 6 Frustration 1 Dismantle	✓				
3.1 To reduce the number of non-domestic violence with injury crimes by 5%	130	✓	256	✓				
4.1 To increase the detection rate for violence with injury by 10% points.	35.2%	✓	33.1%	✓				
5.1 To reduce the number of incidents of antisocial behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31 March 2011.	1228	✗	2354	✗				
5.2 To increase the number of on street drinking referrals submitted to BCC	16	✓	25	✓				
6.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%.	113	✗	190	✓				
6.2 To reduce the number of non domestic burglaries by 5%	36	✓	74	✓				
7.1 To increase the detection rate for burglary by 5% points.	6.6%	✓	7.1%	✓				



Section 5) Area's progress towards achieving targets in the Northern Ireland Policing Plan 2010/11

Tackling serious harm				
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - March 2009/10	Apr - Sept 2010	Target on course to be met	
			District	Service
6.1 To report four times per year on the number of organised crime gangs frustrated, disrupted and dismantled	N/A	2 Disrupted 4 Frustrated 0 Dismantled	✓	40 Disrupted 29 Frustrated ✓ 24 Dismantled
6.2 To increase the number of PSNI interventions directed at criminal finances.	N/A	7 seizures £12,732.90	✓	60 seizures £1,083,502.73 ✓

Tackling serious harm						
Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Figure Apr 2009 – Sep 2009	Area Figure Apr 2010 – Sep 2010	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met (including % change)		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
7.1 To reduce the number of non-domestic violence with injury crimes by 5%.	303	256	-15.5%	✓	-4.0% ✓	-8.4% ✓
8.1 To increase the detection rate for violence with injury crimes by 10% points.	23.6%	33.1%	9.5%	✓	5.3% ✓	2.5% ✓
9.1 In partnership with other agencies, to contribute to reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road.	19	6	-13	✓	-11 ✓	-132 ✓
9.2 In partnership with other agencies, to contribute to reducing the number of children killed or seriously injured on the road.	4	1	-3	✓	-2 ✓	-10 ✓



Tackling serious harm (continued)						
Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Figure Apr 2009 – Sep 2009	Area Figure Apr 2010 – Sep 2010	Variation from last year	Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
10.1 To increase the detection rate for:						
Domestic violence with injury crimes by 10% points	45.9%	48.7%	2.7%	✓	8.3% ✓	5.0% ✓
Most serious sexual crime by 5% points	11.8%	17.6%	5.9%	✓	8.3% ✓	3.7% ✓
Sectarian crime by 5% points	33.3%	25.0%	-8.3%	✗	-2.4% ✗	13.2% ✓
Racist crime by 5% points	4.8%	13.3%	8.6%	✓	-2.6% ✗	-2.7% ✗
Homophobic crime by 10% points	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	✓	30.0% ✓	9.2% ✓
Robbery by 5% points.	11.1%	14.3%	3.2%	✓	9.8% ✓	3.6% ✓



Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns						
Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Figure Apr 2009 – Sep 2009	Area Figure Apr 2010 – Sep 2010	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met (including % change)		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
11.1 To reduce the number of incidents of antisocial behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31 March 2011.	1951	2354	20.7%	✗	12.9% ✗	-6.8% ✓
12.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%.	201	190	-5.5%	✓	0.8% ✗	3.1% ✗
12.2 To reduce the number of non-domestic burglaries by 5%.	148	74	-50.0%	✓	-30.3% ✓	-6.2% ✓
13.1 To increase the detection rate for burglary by 5% points.	16.2%	17.9%	0.6%	✓	1.8% ✓	-2.1% ✗



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.

Detections (or clearances)

Detections (or clearances as they may alternatively be known) are, broadly speaking, those crimes that have been 'detected' or 'cleared up' by the police. Crimes are counted as 'detected or cleared' 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 detection/clearance (i.e. the robbery is deemed to be 'detected or 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 'detected or cleared'. In this respect detection/clearance data differs from conviction data as conviction data counts offenders while detection/clearance data counts crimes.

The following methods of detection/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 detection/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 Detections/Clearances

Prior to April 2006 a variety of non sanction detections/clearances could be claimed where police took no further action, the main one being where the victim declined to prosecute. At that time these detection/clearance types accounted for around 50% of the PSNI's total detection/clearance rate. However, since then some major changes have been introduced which have substantially limited the detection/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 detection/clearance types available to the police, which meant that virtually all non sanction detection/clearances could no longer be claimed as a valid detection/clearance. Both of these changes had the impact of greatly reducing the number of non sanction detection/clearances to such an extent that the PSNI overall detection/clearance rate and its sanction detection/clearance rate are now virtually one and the same (only a very small proportion of non sanction detections/clearances are now claimed each year).

Detection/Clearance Rates

The detection (or clearance) rate is the number of detections 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 – littering / drugs paraphernalia
- Rowdy and/or nuisance behaviour - neighbours
- Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour
- Street drinking
- Trespass
- Vehicle nuisance / inappropriate vehicle use

Glossary of Terms

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

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