



**Tackling Crime**

**Magherafelt Area  
G District**

## **District Policing Partnership**

### **3 Month Report**

Figures extracted 29/07/10



## Section 1) Policing with the Community

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

#### **FAITH IN POLICING INITIATIVE**

Continuation of the Faith In Policing Initiative which was launched in March this year involving local church and faith groups, District Policing Partnership and PSNI.

#### **STREET PASTORS**

An application for funding for street pastors in Maghera is progressing.

#### **INTERVENTION PROJECT**

Cross community youth event involving Maghera Parish Caring Association.

#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Attendance at various community fun days including Tobermore, Maghera Church Street Community Association and Swatragh; the Swatragh event involved working with the Total Respect Foundation.

#### **PUBLIC CONFIDENCE OPERATIONS**

During May there were four public confidence operations in Maghera on Saturday / Sunday nights, those involved included clergy / community representatives, Walsh's, District Policing Partnership, Community Safety Partnership, Security Industry Authority, Council Licensing and Environmental Health.

### **CRIME PREVENTION INITIATIVES**

- **Anti-Burglary Initiative:** Travel agents in Magherafelt were supplied with leaflets containing anti burglary advice which they distributed with travel tickets to holiday makers.
- **Plant Theft Initiative:** Introduction of a security and registration scheme with the aim of reducing farm plant thefts.
- A crime prevention event took place in conjunction with Bellaghy Women's Group.

### **VEHICLE NUISANCE**

A multi agency meeting was held with the Council and community representatives concerning vehicle nuisance at New Ferry, as a result of which measures are being put in place to design out the problem.

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

<b>Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns</b>					
<b>Local Policing Plan Target</b>	<b>Apr - Jun 2007</b>	<b>Apr - Jun 2010</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>
2.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31 March 2011. <sup>1</sup>	486	362	-124 (-25.5%)	✓	During the period April-June this year anti-social behaviour reduced by 124 incidents compared to the same period in 2007/08.
<b>Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets</b>					
A multi agency meeting was held with the Council and community representatives concerning vehicle nuisance at New Ferry, as a result of which measures are being put in place to design out the problem.					

<sup>1</sup> Target measured against 2007/08 data

<b>Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns</b>					
<b>Local Policing Plan Target</b>	<b>Apr - Jun 2009</b>	<b>Apr - Jun 2010</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>
3.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%. <sup>2</sup>	19	10	-9 (-47.4%)	✓	During the period April-June this year domestic burglaries reduced by 9 incidents compared to the same period the previous year.
<b>Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets</b>					
<b>Anti-Burglary Initiative:</b> Travel agents in Magherafelt were supplied with leaflets containing anti burglary advice which they distributed with travel tickets to holiday makers.					

<b>Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns</b>					
<b>Local Policing Plan Target</b>	<b>Apr - Jun 2009</b>	<b>Apr - Jun 2010</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>
3.2 To reduce the number of non-domestic burglaries by 5%. <sup>2</sup>	15	10	-5 (-33.3%)	✓	During the period April-June this year non-domestic burglaries reduced by 10 incidents compared to the same period the previous year.

<sup>2</sup> Target measured against 2009/10 data

## Appendix 1- 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 2 – 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