



Tackling Crime

**Magherafelt Area
G District**

District Policing Partnership

12 Month Report

Figures extracted 12/05/11



Area Commander's Commentary

The past twelve months have been challenging against a backdrop of the dissident Republican terrorist threat and economic downturn.

Your officers have delivered Neighbourhood Policing working in partnership with the community.

The Faith in Policing strategy has developed, and a Church Advisory Partnership now meets once per quarter. The Area Commander presents the ongoing policing issues to the Faith Group leaders.

Anti Social Behaviour is the number one issue for communities and we have successfully reduced levels of Anti Social Behaviour by 213 incidents.

Op Blizzard, a joint operation between PSNI, Driver Vehicle Testing Agency, Customs and Excise, has successfully removed 109 cars off our roads and resulted in 163 Fixed Penalty Notices being issued.

I am also pleased to report a reduction in domestic burglaries by 28.6% which is 16 less incidents.

The year ahead will bring many challenges but I am confident with the continued support of the DPP and wider community we will continue to make Magherafelt a safe area to reside, work and socialise.

Chief Inspector Sam Donaldson
Area Commander
Magherafelt Area

Section 1) Policing with the Community

Review of Policing with the Community activities within the Magherafelt Area

BEE SAFE

In February Magherafelt Neighbourhood Policing Team took part in Bee Safe, a multi-agency event organised by HAP (Home Accident Prevention), various agencies working within the community - including Fire Service, Council, HAP, Woman's Aid, Road Safety, NIE and Translink. Local young people from Sperrin College took part as group leaders escorting the groups of young people from each presentation to ensure smooth and effective running. The various agencies delivered presentations of their safety messages to pupils currently in P6 / 7 from the various Primary Schools in area. These messages are hoped to equip young people with information on various topics including bus safety, playing around electricity sub station, road safety, carbon monoxide awareness and Fire Safety escape plans. We delivered our safety message on bullying (which incorporated cyberbullying) with 29 schools and 630 children attending.

BEECHLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

On 14th January 2011 Beechland Neighbourhood Watch hosted a funday at Dunamoney Community Hall. This event was attended by both young and older residents of the Beechland area and was an event geared at bringing the two groups together in a fun environment. Some of the activities enjoyed included dance mats and interactive activities supplied by IGym; the event was funded by Magherafelt Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Review of Policing with the Community activities within the Magherafelt Area

Youth Project 'Cleanup' Greenvale.

Magherafelt Community Team has been involved in a cleanup project in conjunction with Youth Services and local teenagers. The focus is on a length of wall at a pathway leading from Queens Avenue to Princess Terrace, Magherafelt. This pathway is adjacent to Greenvale Youth Centre and Magherafelt Primary School. The wall is currently covered in graffiti, some of which is of a sectarian nature. Local youths have been giving their own ideas as to what should be shown on the wall and worked with a graphic design company designing the final image. Consultation was made with the local residents by distributing leaflets and inviting them along to view the proposed image and to add or amend as they seen fit. Some of the images that will be shown will depict unity amongst the young people who reside in different areas of Magherafelt, other images will portray sports and hobbies of those involved in designing it.

Enforcement

On 24th January 2011 Magherafelt Neighbourhood Policing Team worked with representatives of the Driver and Vehicle Agency to conduct a joint operation targeting road tax evaders. The Driver and Vehicle Agency clamped 8 vehicles raising £2,620 in fines for the Agency. They also ticketed a further 10 vehicles during the operation. Police made detections for other traffic related offences, resulting in tickets being issued and a number of other matters to be investigated further.

On 21st March 2011 Magherafelt Neighbourhood Policing Team participated in a joint operation with the Driver and Vehicle Agency (DVA) to identify vehicles being used on the road without a valid vehicle excise licence (road tax). The DVA clamped a total of 9 vehicles, each incurring a fine of £260 for release. In addition, the DVA issued a total of 14 tickets, all carrying individual monetary penalties for persons who had evaded paying for a vehicle excise licence.

Review of Policing with the Community activities within the Magherafelt Area

Charity Car Wash

Local Business in Maghera (McNally car Sales) in conjunction with Maghera NPT and local youths carried out a Charity car wash which resulted in £300 being raised for Cancer Research.

OP PECT (Police Equipment and Community Team)

This project facilitates familiarisation with the local Neighbourhood Policing Team and the equipment carried and used by police in their role within the community. On the 20th January 2011 Magherafelt Neighbourhood Policing Team attended Castledawson Primary School for an afternoon of education, engagement and fun with pupils from the P1, P2 and P3 classes. This event allowed local police the opportunity to introduce themselves, their role and their equipment to these children while delivering other important messages on road safety and stranger danger. However, the highlight for the pupils was when they were given the opportunity to explore a number of police vehicles. This event also allowed relationships to be developed with the school and the teaching staff. The event was a success with greater understanding being gained regarding the local community and the Police's role within it.

Neighbourhood Watch

On the 8th March a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators' evening and update was held at the Terrace Hotel with supper provided. This provided the opportunity for all current and prospective Co-Ordinators to get together with their NPT officers and discuss what is going well and what is required. It also gave the Co-ordinators the chance to meet and see what is being done in different areas. It is hoped that a further Neighbourhood Watch will be established in another estate in Magherafelt out of this meeting.

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

Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns					
Local Policing Plan Target	2007/08	2010/11	Variation from 2007/08	Target met?	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
2.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31 March 2011. ¹	1653	1451	-202 (-12.2%)	✗	During 2010/11 levels of anti-social behaviour decreased by 202 incidents compared to 2007/08.

Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns					
Local Policing Plan Target	2009/10	2010/11	Variation from last year	Target met?	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
3.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%. ²	56	42	-14 (-25.0%)	✓	Domestic burglaries have decreased by 14 incidents during 2010/11.

Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns					
Local Policing Plan Target	2009/10	2010/11	Variation from last year	Target met?	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
3.2 To reduce the number of non-domestic burglaries by 5%. ²	52	66	+14 (+26.9%)	✗	Non-domestic burglaries have increased by 14 incidents during 2010/11. Acquisitive crime increased significantly in last quarter of reporting period.

¹ Target measured against 2007/08 data

² Target measured against 2009/10 data

Section 3) Trend data for Local Policing Plan targets 2010/11 ¹

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 met?
2.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31 March 2011.	362	✓	714	✓	1124	✓	1451	✗
3.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%.	10	✓	23	✓	32	✓	42	✓
3.2 To reduce the number of non-domestic burglaries by 5%.	11	✓	23	✓	34	✓	66	✗

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.

Section 4) Area's progress towards achieving targets in the Northern Ireland Policing Plan 2010/11

Tackling serious harm						
Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Figure 2009/10	Area Figure 2010/11	Variation from last year	Target met? (including % change)		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
7.1 To reduce the number of non-domestic violence with injury claims by 5%.	193	250	+57	✗ (+29.5%)	✗ (-0.2%)	✗ (-3.3%)
8.1 To increase the detection rate for violence with injury crimes by 10% pts.	41.1%	39.6%	-1.5%	✗ (-11.4%)	✗ (-6.2%)	✗ (-7.3%)
10.1 To increase the detection rate for:						
• Domestic violence with injury crimes ³ by 10% points	45.3%	42.9%	-2.4%	✗ (-12.4%)	✗ (-1.9%)	✗ (-7.2%)
• Most serious sexual crime ⁴ by 5% points	16.7%	47.1%	+30.4%	✓ (+25.4%)	✗ (-0.7%)	✗ (-4.2%)
• Sectarian crime by 5% points	12.0%	22.2%	+10.2%	✓ (+5.2%)	✓ (+10.8%)	✓ (+7.0%)
• Racist crime by 5% points	0.0%	50.0%	+50.0%	✓ (+45.0%)	✓ (+6.4%)	✗ (-7.8%)
• Homophobic crime by 10% points	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	✗ (-10.0%)	✗ (-18.4%)	✗ (-11.2%)
• Robbery by 5% points	40.0%	25.0%	-15.0%	✗	✗	✗

³ Domestic violence with injury crimes are defined as offences of murder, manslaughter, infanticide, child destruction, attempted murder, causing death/GBH by dangerous driving /aggravated vehicle taking, wounding/GBH with intent, firearms/explosives offences endangering life, administering poison, wounding/GBH and AOABH – which have a domestic motivation attributed to them.

⁴ Most serious sexual crime is defined as rape, sexual assault, sexual activity, abuse of children through prostitution and pornography and trafficking for sexual exploitation.

(-20.0%) (-3.4%) (-3.7%)

Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns

Northern Ireland Policing Plan Target	Area Figure 2009/10	Area Figure 2010/11	Variation from last year	Target met? (including % change)		
				Area	District	Northern Ireland
11.1 To reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour to ensure a 15% reduction by 31 March 2011.	1487	1451	-2.4%	✗ (-2.4%)	✗ (-1.2%)	✗ (-4.2%)
12.1 To reduce the number of domestic burglaries by 5%	56	42	-25.0%	✓ (-25.0%)	✗ (-1.8%)	✗ (-2.6%)
12.2 To reduce the number of non-domestic burglaries by 5%	52	66	+26.9%	✗ (+26.9%)	✗ (+1.4%)	✓ (-8.1%)
13.1 To increase the detection rate for burglary by 5% points	23.1%	18.5%	-4.6%	✗ (-9.6%)	✗ (-5.3%)	✗ (-4.9%)

Appendix 1 - 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 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