



Tackling Crime

**West Belfast Area
A District**

District Policing Partnership

9 Month Report

Figures extracted 17/01/11



Area Commander's Commentary

Latest crime figures show crime in West Belfast to have reduced by 2.9% against last year, with 4424 crimes having been reported to police this year. Currently, 23.1% of reported crime is being cleared, an increase of 3.7% on this same period in 2009/2010.

The trend data for this report, shown on page twenty six, should be viewed in context and will only provide an accurate and true picture of local police performance when read in conjunction with the rest of this report. Whilst the percentage targets may not have been achieved for burglary crimes and detections, alongside non domestic violence with injury crimes and violence with injury detection rates, we are still witnessing improvements in these areas on the previous year's figures.

Police activity around illegal drugs is reported on pages twenty two and twenty three. The report outlines that whilst individual drug seizure incidents have decreased, the quantities of drugs being seized are on the increase. There has also been a small increase in the number of persons arrested, charged, reported or formally cautioned for drug offences.

This report, our third report of this 2010/2011 year, also outlines numerous activities that have taken place, and continue to evolve, with police officers in West Belfast working alongside individuals and groups from the local community and our partner agencies. The activities documented include those focused on anti social behaviour, initiatives with young people, domestic abuse awareness, and drug seizure operations, through to the various crime prevention campaigns and patrolling patterns that took place in December.

As we look ahead towards the coming months and the last quarter of this reporting year, we aim to strengthen our working relationships with the community, and to continue to develop new opportunities for engagement that will ultimately contribute to greater confidence in local policing. We would encourage anyone who has any ideas or initiatives that they would like to discuss, to speak to one of your local neighbourhood officers. Grosvenor Road Neighbourhood can be contacted directly on 02890 700587, or, 078250 13877. Direct contact with Woodbourne Neighbourhood can be made by phoning 02890 259899, or, 077349 09733. Full contact details are also on page thirteen of this report.

Emma Bond
Area Commander, West Belfast



Section 1) Policing with the Community

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

Halloween Activities

During the run up to Halloween a joint press release between PSNI and the Upper Falls Forum was printed in the Andersonstown News on 30th October 2010 highlighting the dangers of fireworks and also encouraging the reporting of the sale of illegal fireworks.

This was in addition to Service wide media releases in relation to the legalities and penalties of buying and purchasing fireworks, and on firework safety.

Constable Taylor delivered Fireworks Safety presentations to primary schools in West Belfast in advance of Halloween.

Constable Bethel was involved in the preparation and running of Halloween events at Falls Park. He had a meeting with the Park Manager and at the manager's request, organised a high visibility police presence at the lantern walk, bonfire, and fireworks display on the Halloween weekend.

Anti Social Behaviour

Constable Ruddy, the Anti Social Behaviour Officer for the Woodbourne area, gave a talk on police policy and procedure regards anti social behaviour (ASB) legislation to ladies from West Belfast at the Whiterock Community Centre. Personal contact with one resident after the meeting, who appeared to show hostility toward police during the presentation, led to an invitation for police to attend an event the following week. It is hoped that such encounters will lead to the breaking down of barriers and contribute to the continual improvement of police and community relations.

Should any other community groups or local organisations wish to receive a presentation on ASB, please contact Constable Ruddy at Woodbourne station on 02890 259899, or Constable Donald, the ASB Officer for the Grosvenor Road area, on 02890 700587.

Anti Social Behaviour, Lenadoon

Lenadoon is one of our key areas for anti social behaviour. Neighbourhood police and members of Belfast City Council (BCC) patrol the area together as a joint approach to tackling ASB. These joint patrols include visits to local off licences to remind management and staff of their legal obligations and responsibilities such as the checking of identification to prevent the sale of alcohol to young persons. The consumption of alcohol by young persons under the age of 18, and indeed over 18, has been raised by the local community on several occasions at meetings. On street drinking is challenged by police, whether the persons involved are underage or are over 18, and dealt with as is necessary and appropriate on each occasion whether that is a report to BCC, a report to Youth Diversion Officers (YDO), or escorted home to their parents.

There are continued reports of anti social behaviour in Lenadoon Park and Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) have been working closely with Greater Andersonstown Safer Neighbourhood Project (GASNP). A meeting was held with GASNP, BCC and Housing Executive and police have



now been provided with a list containing names of people reported to be involved in this element of ASB in this area. Together with our ASB co-ordinator we are examining these individuals and their background, to include previous involvement with police, through the ASB Forum. Housing Executive and BCC are taking an active role that includes identifying their tenants and visiting the addresses or issuing warning letters.

There has been a significant reduction in incidents in the Lenadoon Park area following this meeting and these actions.

Anti Social Behaviour, Woodbourne Crescent / Colin Glen Foot Bridge

NPT continue to deal with ASB issues at the above locations. Police have called in and personally spoken to the shop owners who are affected by this behaviour who have been encouraged to ring police and report these incidents at the time they occur. Shop owners have been advised that local NPT's are now on duty every alternate weekend and when neighbourhood officers are not available their response colleagues are aware and pay attention to the area. In addition, the Crime Prevention Officer met with the shopkeepers in December.

With the help from the shop owners and GASNP we have been able to deal with some of these issues and problems when they occur as calls have been made directly to the NPT mobile. Police actions have been very well received in the community.

The incidents at Woodbourne Crescent have decreased, however there are still occasional reports in relation to Colin Glen park regards young people lighting fires around the bridge. Woodbourne Neighbourhood are meeting with Community Restorative Justice (CRJ) and the management of Colin Glen park to progress an holistic problem solving approach in conjunction with Dunmurry Neighbourhood Policing Team.

St Pauls GAA, Shaws Road

There were numerous reports made to police at the start of this reporting period involving this club. These reports mainly relate to ASB and assaults on the Shaws Road. Police have continued to monitor activity and visited the club and reminded management of their obligations and the licensing laws.

After another incident over a weekend involving an assault, police inspected the club and found approximately 30 persons still inside consuming alcohol a considerable time after closing. A meeting was arranged with management from St Pauls to address this issue. The meeting was positive and police were informed that management were in the process of making several changes, due to come into effect January 2011, which would overcome any difficulties.

Police will continue to pay passing attention to the area and the club when possible during the course of their patrols. Neighbourhood Sergeants will be monitoring any reports made and will address any problems that arise.

Liaison with Good Morning West Belfast

Police have been working with Good Morning West Belfast in an effort to improve communication between local police, Good Morning West Belfast, and ultimately the local community, to enhance relationships and promote shared working.

Constable Lonsdale meets with Good Morning West Belfast at least every two weeks to discuss local issues. Furthermore, Good Morning West Belfast now has a direct contact point within Woodbourne Neighbourhood and can make a report directly to Constable Lonsdale, or seek advice,



as and when the need arises. Should there be any information that would be of benefit to the wider community, police can arrange for a media release to take place.

Good Morning West Belfast have thus far reported that it has already been found to be beneficial to have a point of contact so that any issues or information that is presented to them by their 500 clients can be acted upon without unnecessary delay. Similarly if information exists which would be of benefit to Good Morning West Belfast then the local officer will make contact to have it disseminated to the local community.

One example of this work in action involves a report of unknown persons alleged to be involved in drug related activity in the Ardmonagh area. As a result, police have given passing attention to the area and Good Morning West Belfast has been updated. Police continued to check this area in the evening time when the activity was reported to have been taking place and no further incidents were noted or have been reported to police.

Road Traffic Reports

Constable Everest has been working with Holy Child Primary school to implement a new traffic management system during the start and end of the school day. NPT crews are paying close attention to traffic flow and are assisting local residents.

Constable Everest has continued to keep in touch with persons from St Teresa's Nursery with regards to parking issues.

Quads and Scramblers

Police have been calling with local petrol stations to remind them of their obligations in relation to selling fuel to minors. Belfast City Council will also be calling into the petrol stations when they are working with police at weekends. This new initiative is linked to reports of the dangerous use of quads and scrambler type vehicles in local areas.

Licensed Premises

All of the off licences and shopping centres in the Woodbourne area have been visited in conjunction with BCC and licence checks have been carried out. Retailers have also been encouraged to sign up to a new scheme that the council are running, 'Challenge 21,' which includes free staff training.

Grosvenor Road officers were also doing additional work with licensed premises and off licenses over the Christmas period in an effort to promote and encourage responsible trading.



Schools Liaison and activities with Young People

Citizenship and Safety Education

Police have met with the following schools and organisations and delivered a range of presentations to the students to include Firework Safety, Internet Safety, Knife Awareness, Drugs and the Law, Underage Drinking, Stranger Danger, Role of the Police, and How Police Help through the Citizenship and Safety Education (CASE) programme:

Springfield Primary - Internet Safety and Firework Safety to approximately 100 students
Springhill Primary - Firework Safety to approximately 60 students
St. Kevin's Primary - Firework Safety to approximately 60 students
St. John the Baptist Boys and Girls School - Firework Safety to approximately 75 students
St. Mary's Primary - Firework Safety to approximately 15 students
St. Joseph's Primary - Firework Safety to approximately 50 students
St. Clare's Primary - How Police Help to approximately 80 students

St. Dominic's High School - Internet Safety to approximately 90 students
St. Louise's Comprehensive College – Internet Safety to approximately 200 students
St. Louise's Pastoral Centre - Role of the Police to approximately 12 students
Firework Safety to approximately 12 students
Knife Awareness to approximately 12 students
Underage Drinking to approximately 12 students
Drugs and the Law to approximately 12 students

The Link Centre - Internet Safety to approximately 6 students
Underage Drinking to approximately 6 students
Drugs and the Law to approximately 6 students
Role of the Police to approximately 6 students

Suffolk Boys Brigade - Role of the Police to approximately 15 students
Stranger Danger to approximately 15 students
Firework Safety to approximately 15 students

Northern Ireland Deaf Youth Association - Internet Safety to approximately 20 students

Youth Justice Agency - Role of the Police delivered on a personal one to one basis as part of a Youth Conference.

Should any other primary or secondary schools, further education centres, or youth organisations within West Belfast like more information on the



CASE programme, or to discuss lesson delivery at your school or organisation, please contact Constable Taylor, the Schools Liaison officer at Woodbourne Neighbourhood on 02890 259899, or Constable Quaile, the Schools Liaison officer attached to Grosvenor Road Neighbourhood, on 02890 700587. Full contact details are on page thirteen of this report. Feedback from schools that use this service is positive with requests for lessons to continue to be delivered each year.

Work Shadowing

A work shadowing programme took place between 24th to 26th November when a total of thirteen students attended from St. Marys Grammar and St. Roses High schools. During the work shadowing week the students visited a variety of police departments across Belfast and further afield. Work shadowing provides an opportunity for young people to informally interact with police officers and police staff, ask questions about their individual roles and gain an insight into local policing, hopefully breaking down barriers and addressing misconceptions.

Cross Community Activities

During November, fourteen young people from the Lenadoon and Suffolk areas were involved in bowling and ice skating activities together. This project was jointly arranged by police, Suffolk and Lenadoon Interface Group (SLIG), a local youth worker and Include Youth with police providing finance and SLIG organising transport.

In addition to the bowling and ice skating, police organised a station visit to Woodbourne and facilitated a question and answer session at SLIG offices in December where local policing issues were addressed.

This project was an opportunity for not only local neighbourhood officers to meet and interact with the young people but it provided an ideal opportunity for the young people themselves to meet others from their neighbouring community.

Diversionsary Activities

Police have been assisting Youth Justice Agency and Community Restorative Justice (CRJ), alongside other agencies, with a young female who has been involved in several incidents over the past year in an effort to lead her in a more positive direction and keep her away from the Criminal Justice system. A meeting has been held with interested stakeholders, hosted by CRJ. Mediation and support is to be offered at this initial stage.

Clonard Youth Club

Constable Thompson and Constable Lilburn have been meeting with staff at Clonard Youth Club. Meetings are of an informal nature at this stage, though delivery of CASE may be possible at a later date.

Emergency Text Service for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Speech Impaired

Constable Taylor continues to manage and assist with registration of persons to enable the use of the emergency text service for the deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired.



Anti Burglary and Senior Safety

In partnership with the Upper Andersonstown Forum, neighbourhood police were involved in an Anti Burglary and Safety of Seniors event held at St Agnes Church Hall, Andersonstown, at the end of November 2010. The elderly and vulnerable were invited through the forum and included local church groups and residents groups. The Crime Prevention Officer also delivered a presentation during the event on Senior Safety.

Crime Prevention

PSNI crime prevention stalls were on display during December at the shopping centres. NPT set up a Policing Information and Crime Prevention stall in the malls of the centres and gave out advice together with attack alarms and stationery for children. These events are reported to have been a big success.

Regular patrolling, to include foot patrols, of the commercial premises took place as part of the Christmas Anti-Crime Campaigns. These patrols not only focused on the retail premises themselves, but also on the surrounding car parks. A total of 1236 Operation Habit detections were made in the District in December with letters posted to vehicle owners. December recorded the lowest figure this 2010/2011 year to date for theft from vehicle crime across A District. Ten crimes were reported in the Grosvenor Road area and six crimes were reported in the Woodbourne area. Anti burglary patrols of burglary hotspot areas also took place as part of the crime prevention campaigns.

Neighbourhood officers have also been concentrating on updating key holder lists within their respective beat areas, and passing out Tiger Kidnapping information and advice to shopkeepers. Should anyone wish to receive this information, please make contact with one of our Neighbourhood Policing Teams – contact details are on page thirteen of this report.

Sergeant Moore of Grosvenor Road Neighbourhood and Sergeant Walsh from the Divis Policing Team are two of the officers who have met with security staff from bookmakers premises to discuss crime prevention. These meetings, held at the Twin Spires complex, were in response to robberies at bookmakers premises.

Grosvenor Road Neighbourhood Christmas Party

Once again, Grosvenor Road Neighbourhood held their Christmas Party in Grosvenor Road Police Station. This provides an opportunity to say thank you to all those who have assisted local officers over the past year. Invitations were sent to community representatives and community associations, political representatives, and partner agencies.

Christmas Service at St. Peters Cathedral

Grosvenor Road neighbourhood police officers were invited to attend the Christmas Service at St. Peters Cathedral. This is the first time officers have attended the service.

Officers have been in regular contact with the Cathedral and Clonard Monastery and have been patrolling in an effort to deter anti social behaviour and vehicle related crime in the vicinity as persons attending services were falling victim to such crime and behaviour. Officers also assisted with parking issues.



Operation Seasons Greetings

Operation Seasons Greetings, a concerted intelligence led anti-crime operation over the Christmas period, commenced on 1st December within A District, and similarly across the Police Service, and ran until the end of December.

The aim of the operation was to catch offenders, alongside increasing the perceived and actual threat of apprehension for specific types of offences in identified locations, thus acting as a deterrent to criminals, whilst providing public reassurance through an intensification of police activity.

Operation Seasons Greetings focused on the following areas:

- Domestic and Non Domestic Burglary
- Vehicle Crime
- Retail Crime
- Robbery
- Violent Crime, Alcohol, and Licensed Premises
- Road Safety and Drink Driving
- Public Confidence in Policing

Policing activity ranged from patrolling identified hotspots, to speaking with the local community, through to carrying out targeted operations against known or suspected offenders.

During the course of Op Seasons Greetings police in A District were involved in the following activities:

- High visibility foot and mobile patrols
- Delivery of Key Safety Messages
- Road Safety operations with an emphasis on drink-driving
- Tracking of Cash-in-Transit and other high value deliveries through the Walk and Talk Initiative
- Joint enforcement operations with partners
- Retail Crime Watch Initiative
- Liaison with Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators
- Bail checks
- Crime Prevention Activities

Planned operations and proactive patrolling built upon the success of previous years and methods employed were reviewed on a daily basis and adjusted as new patterns emerged with the aim of having police in the right place at the right time. Results of Op Seasons Greetings are captured in the following sections of this report.



Victim Updates

PSNI Victim Strategy

The importance of improving communication with victims and witnesses, which is ultimately linked to public satisfaction and community confidence in policing, is recognised.

The Service wide Victim Strategy has recently commenced within F District following a successful pilot scheme in E. The project is being evaluated regularly and is constantly evolving as difficulties arise or new opportunities emerge. However, whilst it is recognised that it is not yet as good as it could be, findings thus far show that it does work and is generating positive results. 70% of high volume crime victims in E District have received updates on the progress of their investigation, whilst the overall update figure across all crimes is 65%, an increase of 10% thus far.

F District are currently operating live time crime recording within the overall strategy. As opposed to the attending officer submitting crime details on paper, the officer makes a phone call to the station whilst with the victim and details are provided and inputted to police systems over the phone.

The Victim Strategy, when launched in A District, will include:

Victim Updates – Specific dates will be identified at which the Investigating Officer will make contact with the victim and update them as to the progress of the investigation. This is likely to be 10, 30 and 75 days after the initial report.

Contact Logs – Officers will record all contact with victims on an electronic log within the file preparation system.

Contact Prompts – Officers will receive an automatically generated workflow task, similar to an e-mail, to notify and remind them that contact with a victim is due. Supervisors will also have sight of this.

Improving Communication – Work is also progressing with regards making it easier for the victim to make contact with the Investigating Officer as and when required.

The victim strategy itself is only one facet of a wider project to improve systems and communications across the PSNI.

A District Initiatives

Until the Victim Strategy commences, A District have been exploring local options that could be used in the interim period to increase and improve communication with victims that include Occurrence and Case Management Teams in each station sending victim and crime details to supervisors who will provide a quality assurance function for their officers to ensure that contact has been made and documented, and local messages being sent to the officer at the start of each investigation on their electronic file management logs.



Daily Tasking Meetings are held within Grosvenor Road and Woodbourne stations where every incident is reviewed to ensure to ensure that it has received an appropriate response and also in an attempt to identify opportunities to improve performance and service delivery.

A District has introduced a system whereby victims of anti social behaviour, where applicable, will receive a call back from a Call Handling Officer in Tennent Street to inform them of the police response and to confirm that no additional assistance is required. These call backs are documented on the control log and, as above, can be reviewed at the daily tasking meeting. A recent quality assurance check of this process was conducted in relation to reports of rowdy, nuisance behaviour. Where call back suitability existed, 79.5% of persons reporting such crimes in A District were found to have received a call back.

Surveys are also to be carried out at Service level across certain crime types with the aim of improving service delivery and the quality of service provided to the victim.

Speedy Justice

The PSNI, after close collaboration with the Public Prosecution Service (PPS), Northern Ireland Office (NIO), and Northern Ireland Courts Service, introduced what are referred to as Speedy Justice measures. The aim of these measures were to make the Criminal Justice System more effective and efficient and to promote streamlined, positive and speedy justice, alongside working to reduce bureaucracy to provide more time for front line policing. As a result, A District has been introducing these new practices within the Speedy Justice realm to local officers.

Immediate Caution Scheme

The Immediate Caution scheme is one of the measures within Speedy Justice. Where circumstances permit, after a number of factors are assessed, an alleged offender who has admitted committing a low level crime can receive an immediate caution by way of a disposal for the offence. This would be an alternative option to being reported to the PSS for a prosecution through the courts. Once the police officer is satisfied that evidence exists to report the alleged offender for the crime, and where the alleged offender has admitted responsibility and is willing to accept a caution as a method of disposal, the investigating officer can telephone a PPS prosecutor and seek approval for an immediate caution to be delivered.

The following circumstances should be present for an Immediate Caution to be a suitable method of disposal :

1. Offender admits offence.
2. No previous convictions or disposals.
3. Victim views have been considered and are supportive of Caution disposal.
4. The risk, vulnerability, evidential and public interest tests have all been considered and consequences assessed.
5. Resolution by this means is the proportionate and appropriate option.



The following offences are examples of those that would be suitable for consideration for a Caution:

- Vehicle Interference
- Making Off Without Payment
- Criminal Damage less than £200
- Theft, namely Shoplifting, less than £100
- Theft of a Cycle
- Common assault where the charging standard exists
- Public Order Offences
- Minor Motoring Offences

Where any of the following circumstances are present, further consideration must be given by a supervisory rank before a Caution request is made:

- Commercial or Repeat Victim
- Neighbourhood Priorities involved
- High Community Impact
- Offender has previous offending history
- Offences involving Young Persons (under 18 years)
- Hate Crime
- Victim not supportive of caution disposal

At present, 25% of all cautions within A District are delivered using the Immediate Caution Scheme. 25% of all cautions across the PNSI are also delivered by this same method. The Service target is to achieve 40% of all cautions delivered through use of the Immediate Caution Scheme. However, within A District the main barriers to achieving this figure are lack of admissions by alleged offenders, alleged offenders having previous offending history therefore they are not suitable to receive this method of disposal, and the nature of the offences involved, as only minor offences can be dealt with in this way.

Discretionary Disposals

A District introduced the Discretionary Disposal system on 22nd October 2010 with the scheme now in operation across the Police Service. Discretion is an alternative way of dealing with low level crime, for example minor shoplifting, minor assaults, graffiti and broken windows. It allows the victim to be at the heart of the decision making process.

Where a minor offence is reported to police and a suspect has been identified, and the suspect meets certain conditions, for example, they admit



the offence and are not a persistent offender, then the matter may be suitable to be dealt with by discretion. The police officer will at that stage offer the victim the chance to have the matter dealt with by discretion or alternatively, the case will be sent to the Public Prosecution Service who will decide whether or not the case goes to court.

If the victim decides that the matter should be dealt with by discretion, then they will agree a suitable outcome which could include for example, an apology, repairing a broken window or paying for the item that has been stolen or damaged.

The police officer will then offer the option of discretion to the suspect and if they agree and comply with the agreed outcome then the matter can be dealt with under this scheme.

Discretion is not a criminal conviction, so the suspect will not be given a criminal record, however details will be held on police records, which will be consulted by officers in the event of a further offence.

Advantages to using Discretion as a means of offence disposal:

- It challenges offenders to recognise the impact of their behaviour.
- Delivers a speedy, effective outcome tailored to the needs of the victim.
- Where Discretion has been used it has produced high victim satisfaction rates.

Discretion Summary:

- The victim must be fully consulted to allow them to make an informed decision.
- The victim must consent before discretion can be considered.
- The victim's views will be sought on the appropriateness of the outcome.
- The victim has an input into how this should be dealt with.
- The suspect must admit the offence and agree to the suggested outcome.

Discretion allows greater access to justice and will support our desire to promote confidence in policing and the Criminal Justice System.

Fourteen offences have been dealt with by a Discretionary Disposal across A District thus far. All victims who agree to a Discretionary Disposal are given a call back by police to ask for their thoughts on the process, to include what worked well for them, and what aspects of the service could be improved. Initial feedback from victims is positive, with comments such as,

'I didn't want to have to go to court. I just wanted the money to fix the window. The young person who did this, I think he was only in second year at school, I didn't want to take him to court at his age'.

'It (the way the offender was dealt with by police) was way beyond what I had expected and I couldn't fault it. No one was hurt, I was not interested in prosecuting someone, I just wanted the damage paid for'.

'It was only a first offence, I did not want the person to get a criminal record, it was only a phone'.



Further details on Discretionary Disposals will be available in the next quarterly report.

Become Involved with Local Policing

For more information on the initiatives referred to in this report, or if you would like to become involved in any of the initiatives, or would like assistance with running new activities in your area, please contact your Grosvenor Road or Woodbourne Neighbourhood Police Officers.

Grosvenor Road Neighbourhood Team, led by Temporary Inspector Green, Sergeant Wilson, and Acting Sergeant Moore:

Grosvenor Neighbourhood Direct Line Number - 028 90 700587

Ring or Text Grosvenor Neighbourhood on - 07825 013877

E-mail Grosvenor Road Neighbourhood on – NPTGrosvenorRoad@psni.pnn.police.uk

Woodbourne Neighbourhood Team, led by Inspector Wise, Sergeant Byrne and Sergeant Robinson:

Woodbourne Neighbourhood Direct Line Number - 028 90 259899.

Ring or Text Woodbourne Neighbourhood on – 07734 909733

Woodbourne Neighbourhood are currently setting up a direct e-mail address and details will be made available as soon as it is operational.

Or, telephone 0845 600 8000 - and ask for a member of the Grosvenor or Woodbourne Neighbourhood Policing Team.

More information can be found on the West Belfast Neighbourhood pages within the PSNI website at www.psni.police.uk.

From the PSNI Homepage, search for A District, and select West Belfast.

The Neighbourhood web pages are in the process of being updated to make them more user friendly and informative for the local community. As a result, new and additional information will be accessible via the web pages in due course.

In the event of an emergency always phone - 999

To report a crime or an incident, please phone A District Call Handling at Tennent Street - 0845 600 8000

If you wish to provide information about any crime you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. This is an independent charity and is not run by the Police.



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

Service excellence					
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Dec 2009	Apr - Dec 2010	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
1.1 To work in partnership with the DPP, the community, community activists, residents associations and statutory partners to develop a method of ascertaining and improving the level of community confidence.	-	-	-	✓	A DPP survey prepared by Central Statistics Unit found that 76% of the respondents had, 'total,' or, 'some,' confidence in local policing. It is hoped that Policing with the Community activities, as outlined in section 1, and efforts to build relationships between neighbourhood officers and residents associations, outlined in section 2 of this report, will contribute to a positive improvement in community confidence.
1.2 To build relationships with Neighbourhood Officers and Residents Associations.	-	-	-	✓	Police in West Belfast continue to build relationships with Residents Associations. Some of the activities in this area are detailed below.

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

Building Relationships with Neighbourhood Officers and Residents Associations

As previously reported, Constable Ball has been involved with setting up a *Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the Hillhead area*, the first scheme of this kind in West Belfast. The Neighbourhood Watch scheme has finally been approved by the Department of Justice and a meeting is in the pipeline with the coordinators and local residents. Constable Mullan is now the Beat Officer for the Hillhead area and will be the police point of contact for the residents.

Local residents meetings have taken place in October with the residents of *Mayfield* to tackle anti social behaviour in the Mayfield area. NPT have increased patrols in that area with positive results.

Constable Ball, the Traveller liaison officer, is continuing to work with an important contact within the *Travelling Community* and he also represented the PSNI



during Traveller Focus Week which took place from 29th November to 3rd December at the Conflict Research Centre in Belfast. On the last day of the event, Travellers had an opportunity to interact with police officers in an informal environment and have a brief debate on what barriers exist between police and some members of the travelling community.

Local neighbourhood constables have been speaking to local representatives regards attending the *Turf Lodge Residents Group* and *Turf Lodge Community Safety Forum*. This is an attempt to try and build community confidence and trust between local officers and residents.

There are rising concerns with residents in the *Riverdales* regarding ASB. There have been reports of alleged drug use in Riverdale Park North, however, police have not yet found any evidence of suspicious activity. Police are also monitoring a problem in Riverdale Park South were an elderly resident is experiencing problems with youths entering the rear garden causing a nuisance. Details are being gathered for the attention of the ASB co-ordinator.

Woodbourne police have been liaising with CRJ regards a neighbour dispute in the *Coolnasilla* area. Police have suggested mediation through CRJ and all parties are in agreement of this course of action. Enquiries are continuing.

Grosvenor Road Police have also been working with CRJ regards a neighbour dispute in Rockvale Street. Police have liaised with CRJ and Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and at present it is hoped that the matter can be resolved through mediation involving both CRJ and NIHE.

Police remain in contact with the *Chalky's residents group* and assist with any underlying issues they may have.

Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group visited Woodbourne station in December and met with local neighbourhood officers.

Sergeant Moore and Constables Quaille and Anderson from Grosvenor Road, alongside Constable Connolly, the Crime Prevention officer, have been meeting with elected representatives, residents associations, and statutory agencies, such as Belfast Health Trust, regards anti social behaviour issues in the *Falls* area. This includes issues within Albert Street and the Distillery areas, and concerns regarding nursing staff working in the area. A process has been established where the nursing team will advise local police through Call Handling at Tennent Street should there be groups of young people congregating in the areas that they are working in and police will respond. Constable Connolly also provided crime prevention advice to nursing staff. Belfast Trust have thanked police for their help to date. Anti social behaviour itself remains a broader issue for this area and is one that police continue to focus on.

Constable Anderson has met with residents and staff from housing associations in College Square North regards minor reports of anti social behaviour. Advice was provided and Constable Anderson remains in contact with residents and staff though no additional actions have been required at this stage.

Police have attended meetings with *Conway Street* residents concerning ASB at the electricity substation on Conway Street. Partnership working with community representatives through Community Restorative Justice and Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) appear to have alleviated issues.

Residents in *Cavendish Street* have been reporting ASB and neighbourhood police have been working with locals in an effort to find a resolution.

Distilleries residents organised a Children in Need Party at Grosvenor Road Rec and local officers were invited to attend alongside local representatives and residents.



Police have been visiting staff at *Suffolk Community Centre* on a regular basis to address local concerns. Officers have also engaged with local community representatives for the area to ensure existing working relationships are not only maintained but developed, and to maximise opportunities to share information and agree priorities for neighbourhood policing teams.

Aside from a number of snowballing incidents and a few other sporadic incidents there have been no new hotspots or problems identified within the Suffolk, Brooke, and Ladybrooke areas over this period.

Police have been attempting to make new community contacts in the *St Anne's* area following a digger being set on fire and entry gained to premises in November. Whilst *St. Anne's* is regularly patrolled, both foot and vehicle patrolling, police are yet to confirm if a residents association exists with those residents who have spoken to police having no knowledge of such an association for the area.

Police are keen to make new contacts within the *St. Anne's* area to discuss local concerns and assist with crime prevention and would encourage anyone living or working within *St. Anne's* who would like to speak to police to make contact with Constable Beggs at Woodbourne police station on 028 90 259899.



Tackling serious harm					
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Dec 2009	Apr - Dec 2010	Variation from last year	Target on course to be met	Area Commander's comment on reasons for change in performance
2.1 To reduce the level of non-domestic violence with injury crimes by 5%. ^{1 2}	455	441	- 3.1%	×	Levels of non domestic violence with injury crime have fallen by 14 crimes, a reduction of 3.1%. Therefore, the 5% reduction target has not been achieved this quarter. There are several offences contained within this category, as outlined in the footnote below. The most notable changes across offences in this category are the increase in murders (0 in 2009, 3 in 2010) and attempted murders, (6 in 2009, to 11 in 2010), alongside reductions in more serious assaults as follows; Wounding/GBH with Intent: 97 in 2009 to, 75 in 2010. Wounding/GBH: 48 in 2009 to 28 in 2010.
2.2 To increase detection rates for violence with injury crimes by 10% points.	21.1%	26.1%	+ 5% points	×	Detection rates for violence with injury crimes have improved by 5%. Early screening of crime reports quickly identifies the most appropriate officers to have responsibility for investigations with a comprehensive advice and support framework in place should assistance or guidance be required.

¹ Domestic Abuse is an under-reported crime. Measures will be taken by the Service to increase and encourage reporting of domestic violence with injury by providing victims with the confidence to make a report to police. Police in West Belfast will continue to seek to improve clearance rates for Domestic related Violent Crime as stated.

² 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.



2.3 To report four times per year on domestic violence.	-	-	-	✓	Comments below refer to this target.
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Additional comments, including any 'control strategies' and their impact on Local Policing Plan targets

Domestic Abuse

There have been 227 crimes with a domestic motivation reported in West Belfast this year. This is a reduction of 142 crimes, or 38.5%, on the previous years figure for the same period.

Detection rates for domestic violence with injury crimes currently sit at 44.7%, up by 2.1% on last year.

The majority of crimes with a domestic motivation in West Belfast continue to relate to offences of Aggravated Assault, Breach of a Non Molestation Order and Criminal Damage offences.

The reduction in reporting of crimes with a domestic motivation by over a third, and the increase in detection rates for such crimes is very encouraging. No one factor is responsible for this reduction and improvement. Increased awareness and education, multi-agency working through the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and a robust investigative, pro arrest and pro charge policy have together combined to achieve this improvement.

In addition to the long term, previously documented, initiatives within A District, Domestic Abuse Officers (DAO's) have been, and are, currently involved in the following activities:

Domestic Abuse and Crime Prevention at local Hospitals

Domestic Abuse officers have been working alongside the Crime Prevention team on a planned drive to increase awareness of domestic abuse issues whilst offering crime prevention advice.

They have been visiting local hospitals and health centres setting up information tables displaying posters, and providing alarms and leaflets to members of the community. Officers were also available to speak to staff, patients and visitors personally. The initiative was positively received and channels were established with staff in these locations should they need to seek additional advice at a later stage. Leaflets continue to be displayed in Accident and Emergency areas, health centres and staff rooms.

Awareness Initiative

Domestic Abuse officers have been liaising with the neighbourhood team at Grosvenor Road and together they have organised DAO's to give a presentation to a group of cross-community workers and organisations. This has been scheduled for 25th January at Forthspring, with Cornerstone.

Multi-Agency Working and Conferencing

The Sergeant within the Domestic Abuse Office sits on the Belfast area Domestic Violence Partnership, 'Protection & Justice' sub group. This sub group have organised a conference to be held at the City Hall on 26th January entitled, '*Journey to Justice Conference - Domestic Violence and Abuse. How can our policing and justice systems help?*' Guest speakers scheduled to attend include PSNI Deputy Chief Constable Judith Gillespie, Public Prosecution Service representative, Women's Aid, Victim Support and the NI Commissioner for children and young people.



Personal Policing – Dealing with Local Concerns					
Local Policing Plan Target	Apr - Dec 2009	Apr - Dec 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 burglaries by 5%. ³	365	361	- 1.1%	✗	<p>361 burglaries have been recorded in West Belfast, four less than the same period last year.</p> <p>Of these 361 burglaries 294 were domestic burglaries and 67 were non domestic burglaries.</p> <p>Non domestic burglaries have fallen by 43% this year, or 51 crimes, against the previous fixed year to date figure (PFYTD), whilst domestic burglaries have risen by 19%, or 47 crimes, in 2010/2011 against PFYTD.</p> <p>In 40% of burglaries in West Belfast, entry to the premises, where entry method known, was gained through an unlocked or open door or window. This accounts for 148 of the total 369 burglaries. There has been very little change in this figure, the previous quarterly report showing 39.8%, despite repeated publicity efforts both at local and Service level, to advise and remind residents of the dangers of leaving property available and accessible to the opportunistic criminal.</p> <p>Crime Scene Investigators (CSI's) are</p>

³ Targets will be measured against performance achieved during 2009/2010.



					<p>tasked to attend all Burglary scenes to maximise evidential opportunities. A District has a CSI tasking system in place to ensure that this is achieved.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Officers complete follow up calls with every burglary victim within their Beat Area offering additional support, advice, and a personal contact point.</p>
3.2 To increase the detection rate for burglary by 5% points.	8.4%	11.7%	+ 3.3% points	✗	<p>The burglary detection rate has marginally improved when compared against last quarter and last year and currently sits at 11.7%.</p> <p>Given that these crime types often go undetected at the time the offence is committed, forensic opportunities are maximised through high quality Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) work at the scene.</p>
4.1 To increase the number of drugs seizures. ^{3 4}	114	88	- 22.8%	✗	There have been 26 fewer drug seizures this year, representing a reduction of 22.8%.
4.2 To increase the number of persons arrested, charged, reported or formally cautioned for drug offences. ^{3 4}	Arrested 67 Charged 22 Reported 33 Cautioned 9 <u>Total: 131</u>	Arrested 66 Charged 23 Reported 27 Cautioned 22 <u>Total: 138</u>	Arrested -1 Charged +1 Reported -6 Cautioned +13 <u>Total: +7</u>	✓	<p>The overall increase of 7 persons is an increase of 5.3%.</p> <p>Speedy Justice measures, such as the Immediate Adult Caution Scheme referred to on page ten, will have contributed to the increase in persons cautioned and reduction in persons charged.</p>
5.1 To work with the community, community activists, residents associations and statutory partners to identify and target anti social / anti community behaviour hotspots with the objective of minimising this type of behaviour.	-	-	-	✓	Work relating to anti social behaviour is detailed within the Additional Comments section commencing page 24. Policing with the Community activities, pages 2 through to 12, also refer.

⁴ The emphasis is to target drug users and drug suppliers across all levels and types of drugs from the minor use offences to high level supply.



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

BURGLARY

Domestic Burglary

At the close of this reporting period domestic burglary hotspots were Kennedy Way Cross, comprised of Turf Lodge, Lenadoon, and Bingnian areas, followed by Grosvenor Road.

Insecure doors and windows are a problem in both the Grosvenor Road and Woodbourne areas. An article was placed in the Andersonstown News on 7th October 2010 warning people of the dangers of leaving doors and windows open in a further attempt to remind the community of the necessity and importance of keeping their doors and windows locked. Several articles also appeared in the press informing the community about burglaries that had taken place in local areas with an appeal for information and an appeal for homeowners to be vigilant. These were in addition to the Service wide anti burglary media campaign throughout December through local and national press, television, radio and billboard advertisements.

Insecure properties continue to be targeted for vehicles, with entry to the properties likely to be gained overnight and through a door.

Televisions continue to be targeted, more so in the Woodbourne area.

Non Domestic Burglary

Non domestic burglaries can be further divided into two types, namely commercial (hospital, building site, or business premises) and non residential (sheds and garages). Non residential burglaries are more likely to be linked to a domestic burglary with similar locations being targeted by the same offenders. For example, during a spate of domestic burglaries in the Fruithill area, sheds and garages were also broken into.

This crime type is not currently a significant problem for West Belfast, and as a result there are no hotspots for this crime.



DRUGS

The following information provides figures for drugs seizures in West Belfast, 1ST April 2010 – 31st December 2010 against those seized during the same period in 2009.

--2010/2011 drug statistics are provisional and may be subject to minor amendment.

	<u>Seizures 2010</u>	<u>Seizures 2009</u>
Cannabis Herbal (gms)	14,678.96	1147.14
Cannabis Resin (gms)	4285.21	305.37
MDMA Tablets	2030.00	35.00
Cocaine Powder (gms)	481.01	1743.13
Amphetamine Tablets	96.00	0.00
Amphetamine Powder (gms)	80.31	4.01
Cannabis Plants	27.00	1.00
Cannabis Joints (gms)	15.00	3.00
Cocaine Wraps	1.00	0.00
MDMA Powder (gms)	0.00	5.00
Opiate Powder (gms)	0.00	1.00

The 2010 drugs seizures were made during 88 separate drug seizure incidents and have a street value of £217, 257.

A total of eleven different types of drugs have been seized in West Belfast between this reporting period, and the same period last year. Whilst seizure incidents have fallen from 114 to 88, there has been an increase in the amount of each drug seized during these 88 incidents in all but three of those eleven drugs categories, the exceptions being cocaine powder, MDMA powder and opiate powder.

Incidents of Note

In October local police carried out a planned search under Section 23 Misuse Drugs Act in the Clonard area. During the search the householder handed police a small quantity of suspect herbal cannabis, one joint of suspect herbal cannabis and a small grinder. A quantity of small plastic bags and a small quantity of seeds were also seized. As a result one male is being prosecuted for possession of Class B.

A search at the start of November in the Rossnareen area led to a quantity of white powder, 100 tablets and assorted drug paraphernalia being seized. One male was arrested and remains on police bail for Possession of Class A.

A substantial quantity of suspected resin, herbal cannabis, and approximately £10,000 in cash were seized after a search in the Glenalina area on 4th November. One male was arrested and was charged with the offences of Possession of Class B with Intent to Supply, Producing Class B drug, and Possession of Criminal Property.



One male was arrested after cannabis plants were found at his home address in Sliabh Dubh on 13th November. He was subsequently charged with the offences of Possession of Class B with Intent to Supply, Possession of a Class B drug, and Cultivating Class B drug.

After calling at an address in the Moyards on 15th November, police detected a smell of cannabis. A search was conducted and a quantity of herbal cannabis was found and one male was arrested. The male was released from custody on police bail for the offences of Possession of Class B and Possession of Class B with intent to supply whilst the investigation continues.

A search at Palace Gardens on 10th December resulted in the seizure of approximately £12,000 of cannabis and one arrest being made. This male was released on police bail and remains on bail while further enquiries are made.

Local officers conducted a search in the Highfield area in December which resulted in the seizure of 8 cannabis plants. One male was reported to PPS.

In December local police officers carried out a search at the home of one male in the Beechmount area by virtue of a warrant under Section 23 Misuse of Drugs Act. Upon searching the house police seized a small quantity of suspect herbal cannabis, cannabis resin and a set of weighing scales. One male has been dealt with by way of an Adult Caution for possession of Class B.

Information

Information from the community is vital to sustain and improve our efforts to lessen drug use, reduce the availability and supply of illegal drugs, and to minimise other crimes, such as burglary, committed to fund drug habits.

Should anyone in the community notice suspicious activity or behaviour, to include different vehicles or persons repeatedly calling at an address at different times of the day or night, or an acquaintance with disposable cash but no obvious income, they should pass it on to police or anonymously to the Crimestoppers charity. Such information, no matter how small or insignificant it may seem to an individual, helps us to build a picture of events that can lead to identifying illegal drug activity and stopping the sale of harmful drugs to vulnerable persons in the community.

Police would like to encourage anyone who has information that may help the community to speak to their local police officers (contact details are on page thirteen of this report), or contact the independent Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111 where information will be taken anonymously if preferred.

In addition, should anyone come across what they believe may be an illegal substance, we would ask them to make contact with police. This not only ensures that the drugs are disposed of safely, but helps to build a more accurate picture of the current drugs in circulation.



ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

ASB Hotspots

At the close of this reporting period anti social behaviour hotspots for West Belfast were Lower Falls, Clonards, Lenadoon and Bingnian. Levels of ASB in the Lower Falls area were similar to the previous month, however increases were noted in Turf Lodge, Highfield, Bingnian and Suffolk areas.

The weather conditions will have had an impact on ASB figures. Police received a number of reports of youths throwing snowballs. Such reports are recorded as anti social behaviour. Other crime types have also been affected by the weather as three incidents of criminal damage were as a result of snowballs being thrown at vehicles and on two occasions during December vehicles were stolen with keys whilst being left to defrost.

ASB Officers

An Anti Social Behaviour Officer has been appointed within each of the two neighbourhood areas. Constable Ruddy has been appointed the ASB officer for Woodbourne, and Constable Donald has been appointed the ASB officer for Grosvenor Road.

ASBO'S, ABC's and Warning Letters

At present, there are two Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO) in force in West Belfast with a third currently going through the application process, and three persons are signed up to an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC). In addition, thirty four anti social behaviour warning letters were sent out between October and December 2010.

The warning letters are the first step in the process. They outline the offences committed and the fact that an ASBO application could be made should the behaviour continue. It is at this stage the person is offered the ABC and any support or referrals to other agencies. The letters have proved useful in that most offenders do cease to come to police attention after receiving this letter. However, if the behaviour continues the ASB Officer may send a second warning letter or approach them again regards an ABC. If the behaviour persists, it is at this stage an ASBO is considered.

ASB officers continue to attend the ASB joint forum with representatives from Belfast City Council (BCC), the Housing Executive and Youth Justice Agency. There are a total of forty six persons within West Belfast whose behaviour is currently being monitored at the monthly ASB forums as a result of identification by the ASB officers. These persons are reviewed on a regular basis by Constable Ruddy and Donald who bring updates and to the monthly forum and action tasks as required. Decisions on how to proceed with each individual case are taken after discussions with Belfast City Council, Youth Justice Agency and the Housing Executive. ASB legislation will be used once all other avenues have been explored.

Best Practice

Constable Ruddy has been liaising with anti social behaviour officers in other Districts in an effort to share best practice. In addition police have also met with the PPS prosecutor in Law Society House and the PSNI Court Liaison Officer in an effort to improve local practices and ensure that all evidential opportunities are maximised in an efficient manner with regard to securing an anti social behaviour order (ASBO).

Neighbourhood officers continue to encourage members of the public to ring police and report incidents at the time they occur. The direct dial mobile number has been, and will continue to be, circulated through local persons and organisations such as Safer Neighbourhood Projects, community representatives and CRJ. In addition, neighbourhood teams can send text messages to advise local representatives when they are on duty and available to respond to reports as



required. We are also continuing to encourage the public to provide names of alleged offenders where possible.

Theft from Vehicles

There were a total of 31 thefts from vehicles parked in A District during the month of December which is the lowest monthly figure this financial year to date, and substantially lower than December 2009 where 81 theft from vehicles occurred. This figure of 31 crimes across the District relates to 10 thefts in the Grosvenor Road area and 6 thefts in the Woodbourne area in West Belfast, and, 8 thefts in the York Road area, and 7 in the Tennent Street area within North Belfast.

This low figure can be linked to crime prevention initiatives and proactive anti crime operations. During the month of December 1,236 letters were posted to motorists under Operation Habit advising them that police on patrol had noticed valuables left on display to the opportunistic criminal whilst their vehicle was parked and unattended. Vehicle crime was also a focus within Operation Seasons Greetings, our intelligence led anti-crime operation over the Christmas period.

Grosvenor Road officers are currently planning operations to address the issue of vehicle crime in the College Square North and Lower Falls areas as post Christmas we have seen an increase in thefts from vehicles in these locations.

Grenade Attack in West Belfast

On Friday 5th November 2010 terrorists attempted to murder three police officers, as they were carrying out their normal duties. Terrorists once again showed their complete disregard for the safety of not just the police officers they clearly wanted to kill, but anyone who might have been in the area at that time. The device used was a grenade designed to fragment on detonation and kill anyone within a ten metre radius. Shrapnel was recovered over a large area and was found embedded in the shutters of local premises.

Thankfully none of the police officers were seriously injured. One officer had to remain in medical care and underwent a series of operations on his arm, but we are delighted to report that he was released from hospital. This officer remains absent from work whilst recovering from his injuries.

These officers were out delivering a service to the local community, responding to a call for assistance from a local shop owner who had been robbed. They were carrying out an investigation to identify the person responsible and ensuring that the local community was protected from serious harm.

This attack could have so easily had a different outcome. Police officers, local people, including young people and children in the area at the time of this attack, could have been seriously injured or killed.

Our investigation into the robbery and attempted murder is ongoing and we are determined to identify those responsible. The PSNI appeal for your support, not just in this investigation, but for the officers who day and daily continue to deliver a personal, professional and protective policing service despite the significant challenges.

Information about crime can be passed anonymously to the Crimestoppers charity by calling 0800 555 111.



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

Local Policing Plan Targets for 2010/11	April-June 2010	Target on course to be met	April-Sept. 2010	Target on course to be met	April-Dec. 2010	Target on course to be met	April 2010 – March 2011	Target on course to be met
1.1 To work in partnership with the DPP, the community, community activists, residents associations and statutory partners to develop a method of ascertaining and improving the level of community confidence.	-	✓	-	✓	-	✓		
1.2 To build relationships with Neighbourhood Officers and Residents Associations.	-	✓	-	✓	-	✓		
2.1 To reduce the level of non-domestic violence with injury crimes by 5%.	-18.6%	✓	-8.0%	✓	-3.1%	✗		
2.2 To increase detection rates for violence with injury crimes by 10% points.	+4.1%	✗	+6%	✗	+5%	✗		
2.3 To report four times per year on domestic violence.	-	✓	-	✓	-	✓		
3.1 To reduce the number of burglaries by 5%.	-25.9%	✓	-0.4%	✗	-1.1%	✗		
3.2 To increase the detection rate for burglary by 5% points.	+1.5%	✗	+0.9%	✗	+3.3%	✗		
4.1 To increase the number of drugs seizures.	-22.0%	✗	-21.8%	✗	-22.8%	✗		
4.2 To increase the number of persons arrested, charged, reported or formally cautioned for drug offences.	-24.0%	✗	-40.0%	✗	+5.3%	✓		
5.1 To work with the community, community activists, residents associations and statutory partners to identify and target anti social / anti community behaviour hotspots with the objective of minimising this type of behaviour.	-	✓	-	✓	-	✓		









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 and 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.