

Dundee City Council Policy and Resources Committee

20 January 2014

**Report by Chief Inspectors McKillop and Trickett,
Dundee South and Dundee North Local Policing Areas
D (Tayside) Division, Police Scotland**

**SUBJECT: POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND
ENGAGEMENT**

OPERATIONAL REPORT PART 1

January 2014

Report No: 25/2014

<p>Abstract: The attached report provides members with background operational information to the performance information submitted separately to provide context.</p>
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1. RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 It is recommended that members note and scrutinise the operational report.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide some context to the information provided in relation to performance and to elaborate on some of the work which has taken place within Dundee North and South Local Policing Areas.

3. PERFORMANCE

3.1 Violent Crime

The weekly violence reduction planning process has become business as usual in both Dundee North and South. This plan directs preventative activity with the aim of reducing violence. It contains tasks in relation to patrolling priority locations, areas where violent crime is more prevalent identified through analytical product; visits to prolific offenders; preventative visits to identified flats where antisocial behaviour has occurred; arresting those wanted on warrant for violent offences and licensed premises inspections.

On a weekly basis, Community Sergeants with their teams carry out many of these tasks supplemented by response officers, Campaign Against Violence (CAV) officers and specialist officers from the Licensing and the Divisional Violence Reduction Team (DVRT).

There is a particular focus on reducing violent crime associated with the night time economy in the City Centre/West End, Broughty Ferry and the Hilltown. This work has involved supporting licensees to effectively promote responsible drinking and behaviour within licensed premises. If a violent

offence takes place within a licensed premises, officers follow-up and discuss the incident with the licensee and staff to identify what could be learned from the incident and what measures can be put in place to avoid a repetition.

Operations have also taken place involving Police officers, licensing officials and door staff inspecting busy pubs and clubs and identifying potential problems at an early stage. This has led to a reduction in violent crime across Dundee.

During the festive season additional officers have been allocated to patrol the City Centre, Broughty Ferry and the Hilltown, during the day, to tackle retail crime and anti-social behaviour and during the night, to police the night-time economy. The media messages circulated on traditional and social media by Area Commanders encouraged preventative techniques with the public to 'Party Safe' and 'Shop Safe'.

3.2 Aquisitive Crime

The festive season presents opportunities to thieves to break into cars, usually where valuables are on open display or break into houses, which can be a traumatic experience. Crime prevention advice has been circulated to media agencies, including the 'Shop Safe' advice mentioned above and also Dundee universities and colleges to encourage householders to consider the security of their premises. This is particularly relevant to our student population, many of whom leave flats unoccupied when they return home. Officers in student areas are particularly aware of this and conduct additional patrols in these areas during the festive season.

3.3 Domestic Abuse

Unfortunately during the festive season instances of Domestic Abuse increase. To mitigate against this increase, analysis has been carried out to identify hot spots from previous festive seasons. These areas are briefed to officers and will have increased patrol activity. Response and community officers are working closely with officers from the Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit to visit known domestic violence perpetrators and warn them regarding any repeat of this behaviour. Victims of domestic abuse will also be visited to offer support and a point of contact.

3.4 Drugs/Anti Social Behaviour

Operation Jonquil relates to serious and organised crime, particularly the supply and distribution of the Class 'A' controlled drug – diamorphine (heroin). Associations and targeted activity feature across Dundee.

Operation Highrise continues in the Lochee area. Community and response officers along with the Housing ASBT and the DVRT continue to deal with issues of drug abuse and antisocial behaviour in high rise blocks and retail centres.

Local Action Plans exist to deal with Anti Social behaviour in Whitfield, Kirkton and Hilltown areas, focussing on patrolling known hotspots, reassuring

shopkeepers and residents and working with partners to intervene early with known juvenile offenders.

The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership in Dundee including Police took part in a 'Rapid Improvement Event' to further develop partnership working to explore innovative ways to reduce the supply and demand of illegal drugs within Dundee.

3.5 Road Policing

Dundee officers have taken part in the National 'Festive Drink Driving' campaign, concentrating on reducing road casualties by enforcing road traffic legislation particularly in respect of drink and drug driving, which sadly sees an increase at this time of year. Daily road checks are being set up throughout the city to detect and deter such behaviour. Leaflets are being distributed throughout licensed premises to warn people of the dangers of drink driving and encouraging members of the public to report anyone they believe is doing so.

There have been no fatal road accidents in Dundee during the past three months.

3.6 Planning

Multi Member Ward Plans, based on LCPP community safety priorities, have been updated with the last six months activity; these have been published at the end of November and are available on the Police Scotland website under 'Your Community'.

All members will have received a letter from the Area Commanders along with a copy of the Dundee Policing Plan, which was in place for one year as an interim plan. Consultation is now ongoing to produce a three year plan from April 2014 and the feedback form attached to the letter provides an opportunity for you to comment on any part of the plan you wish.

Consultation extends to all partners across Dundee, internally with staff members and with the public through an extensive public survey exercise that has recently been completed.

The draft plan will be brought to this committee in line with the Police and Fire Reform Act.

3.7 Events

There have been several significant events that Dundee officers and staff have supported during the reporting period, notably.

- Christmas Light switch on in the City Centre and Broughty Ferry.

These have passed with great success and have enhanced the professional image of D Division Officers.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1. There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

5. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no staffing issues as a result of this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

6.1 This report does not have any impact on the environment.

7. SUMMARY

7.1 The attached report updates members regarding significant operational matters and gives context to the performance of the local policing area.

8. COMPLIANCE

Is the proposal;

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| (a) Human Rights Act 1998 compliant? | YES |
| (b) Equality & Diversity compliant? | YES |