

Dundee City Council Policy and Resources Committee

18 November 2013

**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
November 2013
Report No: 470/2013**

<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 the Dundee Local Policing Area.

3. PERFORMANCE

3.1 Crime

All Officers in Dundee are working hard to reduce violence across the city and keep people safe. Every week a Violence Reduction Plan is produced for each policing area in Dundee. 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.

Campaign Against Violence officers and the Divisional Violence Reduction Team (DVRT) are used to supplement local officers in carrying out these tasks over the weekend.

Improvements have been made to task orientated briefing and debriefing processes, leading to better targeting of offenders and priority locations as well as greater interaction with licensed premises.

Each policing area now has a third community team along with an additional Sergeant operating on a three early, three late, three off shift pattern. This ensures a community Sergeant with a community team is on duty every day early and late shift – an enhancement on previous arrangements. Local councillors have been provided with detail of these officers to maintain a local footprint across all Multi Member Wards.

Multi Member Ward Plans are currently being reviewed and updated with the last six months activity against local priorities, these will be published at the end of November and LCPPs will be updated at the next meetings.

The investigation of domestic crimes and all types of assault is scrutinised on a daily basis and officers now work towards a seven day turn around time in respect of full investigation into such incidents. This is driving up detection rates, dealing promptly with offenders and keeping victims safer.

Where specific problems have arisen or certain individuals are identified as causing problems in the community local action plans or perpetrator management plans are put in place and proactively managed until the matter is resolved.

3.2 Licensing

Formal Licensing Inspections are taking place utilising local Community Officers and supplemented by the DVRT. Local Inspectors and Community Sergeants are meeting with licensees following any violent crime taking place at or near their premises to discuss issues to assist in keeping people safe.

Intervention Plans are currently in place in respect of several licensed premises. These plans include detailed actions that licence holders need to address i.e. use of polycarbonate instead of glass, strict adherence to door policy in respect of controlled drugs and admittance of persons already under the influence of intoxicating liquor, compliance inspections from DVRT scrutinise all aspects of the licence.

Operation Frankie – This is a coordinated stop / search operation of patrons entering licensed premises by police to counter controlled drugs and weapons. It has met with success outside several city centre premises.

Offenders who commit acts of violence in or around licensed premises will have bail conditions applied for on pre conviction and exclusion orders from specified licensed premises post conviction.

This focus on licensed premises generating violence through excessive alcohol consumption will be increased as we head towards the festive period.

3.3 Safe Zone Bus for Dundee

On 17 July 2013 a meeting was held between Mr Alex Neil MSP Cabinet Secretary of Health and Wellbeing, Sir Stephen House, Chief Constable Police Scotland and Pauline Howie, Chief Executive Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) to determine how the SAS and Police Scotland can jointly progress matters in furtherance of the Scottish Government's Alcohol Strategy; promote best practice; improve partnership working and further

support ongoing activity to reduce alcohol misuse, violence, disorder vulnerability and health related harm within our communities

As a result the Scottish Government has identified funding for two SOS (Safe Zone) Buses across Scotland and there is the opportunity for one of those to be piloted within Dundee. This bus which would be staffed mainly by voluntary sector workers would provide a safe haven for vulnerable people including those vulnerable to the influence of alcohol, those separated from friends and those with other vulnerabilities, during time of the night-time economy.

As a result initial discussions have been instigated led by the Tayside Council on Alcohol who will be the lead agency in the project assisted by the Scottish Ambulance Service, Local Authority, Red Cross, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, NHS and voluntary organisations. The first meeting will take place in the coming week or so with a hope of getting a pilot bus implemented in Dundee prior to the festive period this year.

This is seen as a positive step in delivering many of the SOA objectives with respect to keeping people safe in our communities.

3.4 Drugs/Anti Social Behaviour

Operation Highrise working with community and response officers in the Lochee area continues along with the Housing Anti Social Behaviour Team to deal with emerging issues of drug abuse and antisocial behaviour in high rise blocks and retail centres. This has included a survey of residents to deal with the local problems they identify.

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

Areas identified where drugs activity is taking place are targeted by officers for patrol activity, stop search and 'ditch a dealer' leaflet drops.

The Repeat caller programme continues to provide a problem solving approach working with partners to many of the more persistent problems our communities face.

On a weekly basis premises linked to antisocial behaviour are visited by officers to provide preventative advice and patrol to prevent repetition.

3.5 Domestic Abuse

Local officers utilise the Police Scotland Domestic Abuse Toolkit when attending incidents of domestic abuse. This provides a consistent and robust approach to such incidents across the Division. Whilst in the short term it leads to an increase in reported incidents, in the longer term it will drive down domestic crime and keep victims safer. The Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit has developed its operating practices and now reviews all Domestic crime to improve conviction rates and identify learning points to improve victim safety. They are involved in the investigation of complex cases and historical reports as well as developing perpetrator management plans to actively target those committing domestic crime.

Scrutiny of all types of domestic incidents is made daily and officers now work towards a seven day turn around time in respect of full investigation into alleged offences.

3.6 Road Policing

Dundee officers have taken part in the National 'Road Users' campaign and the 'Get Ready for Winter' campaign. The former concentrates on reducing road casualties by enforcing legislation in respect of seat belts, mobile phones, no insurance, disqualified driving, etc. The latter relates to ensuring compliance with construction and use legislation i.e. lights, windscreen wipers, tyres, etc, now that daylight hours are decreasing and roads become wet. They maintain road policing activity through targeted patrols to educate road users through enforcement to encourage keeping people safe on the roads of Dundee. There have been no fatal road accidents in Dundee during the past three months.

3.7 Events

There have been several significant events that Dundee LPA Officers and Staff have supported during the reporting period, notably.

- SDL / UAF March – 5th October 2013;
- A number of sporting events, most notably the Dundee Utd v Celtic football match;
- Flower and Food Festival at Camperdown Park – 15000 people per day 6-9 September 2013.

All have passed with great success and have enhanced the professional image of D Division Officers across Police Scotland and beyond.

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 |