

## **East Devon Community Safety Officer's Report July 2015**

### **The Honiton Local Action Group met on both 4<sup>th</sup> June and 16<sup>th</sup> July**

At the July meeting 13 people representing 9 different agencies attended. In the Honiton area over the last year up to the end of June 2015, total crime has decreased 7.9% from 632 offences to 582.

#### **Anti Social Behaviour**

- Kick boxing sessions are being offered to young people in Honiton aged between 4 and 16 years of age. It was suggested that this could be a good way of channelling challenging behaviour.

#### **Crime Prevention**

- I referred to an article in the Midweek Herald about the Police led operations aimed at deterring rural crime etc. Recently there were local operations in Dunkeswell and on the Sidmouth Road and a total of 64 vehicles were stopped. Four traffic offences are being processed and 6 Prohibition Notices were issued by vehicle inspectors for serious vehicle defects.

#### **Other community safety activities / issues**

- D&SFERS confirmed that Honiton Fire Station will be allocated 515 hrs per year to complete community safety activities, this includes community action days, station visits, road traffic collision reduction and targeting certain areas in Honiton which are seen as more of a risk.
- Temporary pavement stencils advising dog owners to clean up have been put in place targeting known hot spots.
- An estate walkabout in Honiton has been arranged by EDDC at the end of July. This is designed to check on the general state of EDDC owned dwellings and to make sure that tenants are not sub letting.
- The Honiton Youth Club re-opens in September with two sessions per week being provided.
- The towns CCTV system which has proved invaluable over recent years, is being given an upgrade.
- The Day Care Centre for older persons will re-open in August. This will be an ideal location to talk about community safety issues such as scams awareness etc.

### **The Axe Valley Local Action Group met on both 4<sup>th</sup> June and 16<sup>th</sup> July**

At the June meeting 8 persons representing 6 different agencies attended. In the Axminster area over the last year up to the end of June 2015, total crime has increased by just 4 offences to 466. In the Seaton area it has decreased by 12% from 374 offences to 329.

#### **Anti Social Behaviour**

- PCSO Andy Trott reported that there was a small group of youths who had been causing anti social behaviour in the town. Following a number of warnings, Andy said that 3 of these had received Section 35 Dispersal

Notices banning them from the town centre for a 48 hour period over a weekend period. This had proved very effective and had reduced the anti social behaviour in the town greatly. The parents of those served with the notices had been very supportive of this action.

- PCSO Samantha Slater from Seaton stated that she had experienced problems with boy racers at the Underfleet car park and had started the process of issuing Section 59 letters to some of the offenders.
- The update on the homeless situation and on those sleeping around Seaton Town Hall was that some of the individuals were now in prison and there are no current issues . There was only one person currently sleeping rough in the town and he is not at present causing any problems.

### **Crime Prevention**

- D&SFERS reported that the home fire safety visits, including those for vulnerable groups, was progressing well. The T5 Road Traffic Collision Reduction Vehicle had been in attendance at a number of local events recently.
- A number of the Beach Huts at West Walk, Seaton had been broken into. The Police are investigating and a meeting with beach hut owners and tenants was taking place at the time of the June LAG meeting.

### **The Sidmouth and Ottery St Mary Local Action Group met on both 9<sup>th</sup> June and 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Both meetings were well attended with a number of different agencies represented.

In the Ottery St Mary area over the last year up to the end of June 2015, total crime has increased by 3 offences to 512 while in the Sidmouth area it has decreased 5.1% from 448 to 425 offences.

### **Anti Social Behaviour**

- Cllr Pang advised the group of some recent negative publicity involving the Ottery St Mary skate park which continues to experience problems with litter. A new gate with a padlock has been fitted to prevent cars and motorcycles from entering. Cllr Pang advised the group that she would like to give the skate park ambassadors the opportunity to achieve a Level 1 Practical Coaching Skills qualification. Also on 5th September a skate park event is to be organised to include a BBQ and bands. Skateboarding Accredited Trainers from Sport England have also been invited to attend.
- There has recently been a lot of criminal damage at both Connaught and Blackmoor Gardens in Sidmouth. It is hoped that consideration will be given by EDDC to locking the gates to Blackmoor Gardens at night to prevent a repetition.
- An elderly male resident of Ottery St Mary continually removes any graffiti found around certain areas of the town. I suggested that we present him with

a certificate on behalf of the Community Safety Partnership for his public spiritedness.

### **Substance Misuse**

- There was positive feedback from all school representatives at the June meeting about the 'Last Orders' productions at their schools.

### **The Exmouth Local Action Group met on the 10<sup>th</sup> June**

10 persons representing 7 agencies attended.

Total crime in the Exmouth area over the last 12 months up until the end of June 2015, has decreased 0.7% from 1955 to 1942 offences.

### **Anti Social Behaviour**

- Following problems around Exmouth with Graffiti, Cllr Gazzard confirmed that the Town Council was offering a reward of £1,000 for information regarding the offences.
- Insp. Weeks updated the group of an increase in anti social driving along the seafront and advised that the previous Saturday's car cruise had seen at least 150 vehicles which resulted in tickets being issued for various offences.

### **Substance Misuse**

- Insp. Weeks explained that as a result of the Hush shop closing in Exeter people are now coming to Exmouth to buy their new psychoactive substances and this is causing more anti social behaviour. Impact statements were being taken from surrounding shop owners and the shop had been handed a letter explaining about a Premises Closure Notice. As a result the owner of the shop had decided to stop selling the NPS or legal highs by 22 June and the herbal products only would be sold until all the stock had gone.

### **The East and Mid Devon Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Forum met on 17<sup>th</sup> June**

This meeting was very well attended by 17 people representing 15 different agencies.

- All the Children's Centres represented are working with women who are suffering from domestic abuse and or sexual abuse although much of the latter is historic.
- SAFE are currently working with 18 young people in Mid Devon and 5 in East. Referrals come either from children's social care or schools. They have good links with schools in Mid but not as good in East at the moment. SAFE work with any children over 5 years old. They are also linked in with the Early Help Forum in East Devon. Healthy relationships workshops have been delivered to 63 young people in East Devon & Exeter in college and school settings.

- Devon Domestic Abuse Support Service is only funded for high and medium risk work but a standard risk service is being developed across Devon in partnership with other agencies and this will be volunteer led.
- It was suggested that someone from the new Victim Care Unit be invited to attend the next meeting of the Forum in October to update on the work they do and explain the referral process.
- KOR Communications, who usually coordinate the promotional materials for the annual Awareness Week, will be overseeing a campaign as a result of the domestic homicide in Exmouth some 3 or 4 years ago where a mother was murdered by her adult son.
- The group felt that the November Awareness Week should incorporate advice about both domestic abuse and sexual violence.

### **Other Community Safety and ASB Work**

- July 2015 is SCAMs Awareness Month. I have already been to Waitrose store at Sidmouth and Sainsbury's at Ottery St Mary together with Trading Standards Dept staff and Police to hand out advice leaflets to members of the public. I will also be doing the same at Tesco's in Exmouth. I have also sent a letter to all secondary schools across the district asking them to give a copy to students. The letter contains advice about scams which I hope the students will discuss with their older friends and relatives as older people are often the target of scams.
- We are working on a 'Be Safe' card which will be credit card size and which will contain helpline numbers regarding drug and alcohol and domestic abuse support, Samaritans, Victim Support, Police non emergency and Crimestoppers.
- I have sent a letter to all East Devon secondary schools for the parents of pupils attending proms events. It gives advice about a lot of issues such as the danger of consuming too much alcohol and making sure to use licensed taxis etc.
- In view of the number of complaints across East Devon re vehicle related anti social behaviour I recently held a meeting between Police and EDDC staff. As a result those agencies will be doing joint patrols in the future. I have also prepared letters to go to people living around the areas affected asking them to phone police and report such incidents and I have specified a unique reference number re the log. I have also drafted a letter to be given to the offenders telling them what action will be taken if they are caught driving in such a manner. This includes their vehicles being seized and Police contacting insurance companies. In Honiton the issue is at Tesco's car park where the council have no jurisdiction.
- I have provided funding to the Police to purchase items to secure beach huts in Sidmouth and Seaton following a recent spate of burglaries. The Police Crime Prevention Officer and local Police Officers will work with beach hut owners and tenants in order to improve security.

- PCSO's at Seaton and Sidmouth are launching Caravan Watch 2015 on 25<sup>th</sup> July. This promotes caravan security across the district and advice will be given to caravan owners at various caravan parks about security. This builds on the success of the initiative which commenced in 2011 with funding from our Community Safety Partnership. Caravan Watch has been recognised as being good practice and will hopefully be introduced across the Devon and Cornwall Police area in due course.

**Gerry Moore**  
**21<sup>st</sup> July 2015**

## **Mid Devon Community Safety Officer's Report** **For 23 July 2015**

### **The Creedy Local Action Group met on Tues 21 July 2015**

Total Crime decreased from 592 offences to 535 offences (-9.6%) based on yearly figures 01/07/2014 to 30/06/2015 compared to previous 12 months.

#### **ASB**

- MDDC Housing are planning to take court action against tenants in three of their properties in the Crediton and Coplestone areas for ASB issues.
- Continued use of Community Protection Notices for noise and dog issues.

#### **DVSA**

- A Pattern Changing course is being co-facilitated by the Children's Centre and Devon Domestic Abuse Support Service. Good attendance by the 10 women on the course, who are already providing positive feedback. Staff who are running the crèche for children of these women are Thrive trained and have also seen positive changes in the children.

#### **Substance Misuse**

- Last Orders booked for QE School for October.
- The Rugby World cup was on display at Crediton Rugby Club as part of the tour. Police report that this passed without incident and no increase in substance misuse.

#### **Scams & On-line Safety**

- The group watched the Think Jessica DVD 'Silence of the scams' and this was made available to members of the group to show to other groups such as town and parish councils.
- Call blocker devices are now available to purchase at MDDC offices in Crediton and Tiverton.

#### **Crime Prevention**

- Successful police week of action in June including School Speedwatch.
- Police plan a multi-agency Community Event at the Fire Station in Crediton on 29 September – details passed to Crediton Children's Centre so they can participate.
- Police & DSFRS held a successful road safety awareness evening in July – plans for this to be repeated are in place.

- Mel Smith, Migrant worker PCSO for Mid Devon, attended the LAG to explain what her role entails.
- The Children's Centre will be doing more outreach work in Crediton and surrounding areas after the summer due to losing their building. They will still have a staff base in Crediton but plan to link more closely with existing toddler groups and preschools to deliver sessions out in communities.

### **The Culm Local Action Group met on 20 May 2015**

Total Crime increased from 501 offences to 564 offences (12.6%) based on yearly figures 01/05/2014 to 30/04/2015 compared to previous 12 months.

#### **ASB**

- A migrant worker PCSO to work with minority communities across Mid Devon is now in post and working from Cullompton Fire Station and has use of a vehicle. Good linked working with Fire.
- Multi-lingual leaflets are being considered by the police in the Cullompton area because of communications issues and some ASB issues with Eastern Europeans regarding drinking in CCA Fields.

#### **DVSA**

- Partners of migrant workers (Eastern European) are victims of Domestic Abuse who are known to the Children's Centre.
- Pattern Changing course due to start in September has nine local mums from Children's Centre already booked onto the course.
- The Children's Centre are producing an awareness raising questionnaire with regard to DVSA and this will be shared with the DV Forum.

#### **Substance Misuse**

- A PADS (Pubs Against Drugs) operation was planned – the police will be working with pubs on this. Have already used cocaine wipes with pubs, who are keen to now use these themselves.
- Last Orders booked with CCC for October.

#### **Scams & On-line Safety**

- Displays and presentations at Cullompton Library to promote scam safety messages.
- CSP agreed to fund additional performance of Chelsea's Choice at Cullompton Community College re CSE.

#### **Crime Prevention**

- More warning signs for car parks to be purchased and put out by police at vulnerable locations.
- Rural engagement operations – another 4 operations are planned for rest of the year. This is following a successful Op on Junction 27 last month.
- Police week of action carried out in June. Included property marking, Smartwater, driver safety and scams information.
- Police to have information stand at Two Sisters factory in June. Links to Leisure Services with regard to corporate membership offers.

### **The Exe Local Action Group last met on 19 May 2015**

Total Crime decreased from 1447 offences to 1060 offences (-26.7%) based on yearly figures for the period 01/05/2014 to 30/04/2015 compared with previous 12 months.

Town Councillor Janet Rendle was reappointed as LAG Chair.

#### **ASB**

- Housing officers reported that the new ASB legislation seems to be working well and there are better powers for Housing providers.

#### **DVSA**

- No issues reported.

#### **Substance Misuse**

- Devon Youth Service have spoken to Tiverton High School and DYS are looking at doing regular weekly inputs at the school to tackle NPS, Substance Misuse and Mental Health. This is likely to start from September.
- Police raised concern regarding an application from a late-night food outlet wishing to extend hours until 4.30am which raised issues of dispersal from the town centre. This application has subsequently been dropped.
- Last Orders booked at THS for October.

#### **Scams & On-line Safety**

- No issues or updates

#### **Crime Prevention**

- Fire cadets will be going ahead in Tiverton.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour work**

- Since the last CSP meeting, 12 CPN warning letters have been issued for noise, littering and dog issues. Two of these went on to receive a Community Protection Notice. Many of the dog cases have shown good partnership working between the police and Council enforcement officers.
- Names on the monthly Youth ASB meeting agenda have declined recently with only 4 individuals due to be discussed at the July meeting. Two girls who had been subject to ABCs were sent a letter by the ASB Officer to commend them for their improved behaviour.
- A Neighbourhood Agreement has been signed by neighbours living in Council and Housing Association homes who have had an ongoing neighbour dispute, as a result of a multi-agency ASB meeting. This appears to have improved the situation.
- MDDC have obtained a Civil Injunction for three tenants living in one of their properties.

### **INFORM Group**

INFORM met on 24 June 2015.

- It was agreed to order pull-up banners advertising INFORM for use in the CSP pop-up shop.
- CEOP training is planned for 27 September at Cullompton Community College.
- Work to get primary schools to engage with INFORM is in progress. Reports of issues with children as young as 8 yrs.
- Questionnaire ready for children to be completed during Autumn term regarding social media use.
- Discussion regarding Prevent Training in schools.



### **Other Work/Updates**

- **PREVENT – WRAP training** is to become an integral part of staff Safeguarding Training at MDDC. The Learning & Development Team are also prepared to provide

this to locals schools is time is covered financially. It is intended to take this from CSP funds in order to ensure it is rolled out in a professional manner.

- The Mid Devon Safety Advisory Group is running well and has had busy agenda's over the months approaching summer.
- **SCAMs – July Awareness Month** – a CSP pop-up shop opened in Tiverton on 30 June and will be open Mondays to Thursday between 10am and 12 midday. On some days there are themes around Scams or crime reduction and the shop is open slightly longer.
  - 14 July was phone scams awareness and we promoted the call blocking devices. Around 25 units have so far been sold.
  - Students from Cullompton Community College helped at the shop and promoted staying safe on-line and received good publicity.
  - Partner agencies involved have included Age UK, Trading Standards, CRP Call blockers, Fire (who have been almost every day!), Police, Housing Officers, Street Pastors and CAB.
  - The shop will close on Thursday 6 August and it's intended to go out with a big publicity push by offering free tea/coffee and biscuits and balloons etc.



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