

East Devon Community Safety Officer's Report September 2015

The Sidmouth and Ottery St Mary Local Action Group met on 8th September

- 7 persons representing 6 different agencies attended the meeting and Cranbrook Town Council were represented for the first time. In the Ottery St Mary area for the period 1st July 2014 until the end of August 2015, total crime has increased by 5.1% from 612 to 643 offences while in the Sidmouth area for the same period it has increased by 1 offence from 533 offences to 534.

Anti Social Behaviour

- Cllr Pang told the group that the 'Skate Jam' event held on 5th September was at the Ottery St Mary Skate Park well attended and a great success.
- Re the damage in Blackmoor Gardens, Sidmouth EDDC have provided local Police with a key and when resources permit they will lock the gardens at 9pm each evening.
- Re the Graffiti around the town in Ottery St Mary a local shop has supplied cans of graffiti remover for people to use. The elderly volunteer who assists with graffiti removal and who was mentioned in the last report, is assisting in letting local people have the cans of graffiti remover.
- The new Community Development Worker in Cranbrook started on 1st September and will be involved in the 'Early Help' process.
- There have been two recent reports of vehicle related anti social behaviour in Sidmouth. Gerry confirmed that a socket has been provided by EDDC at Manor Road car park enabling a portable CCTV system to be used. This was in use over the previous week but it was quiet.

On line Safety and Scams

- PCSO Clapp reported that there had been a few scams around the town and one elderly lady almost parted with £6000 as result of a courier scam but an alert bank official was suspicious and the money was not passed over.
- Local PCSO's are distributing scams awareness leaflets around the town.
- I have offered to arrange a talk to the Ottery and District Later Life Forum and I have prepared an article on scams awareness for their newsletter.

Other Community Safety Activities / Issues

- The Cranbrook Town Council representative reported that crime levels in the town are low, with some thefts reported from building sites, a few reports of domestic incidents and some anti-social behaviour.
- Some rather aggressive travellers have left the Millennium Field in Ottery St Mary where they were for less than a week.
- During the summer holidays criminal damage was caused to 30 windows at the new science block at Clyst Vale Community College. All windows were replaced ready for the new term.

The Exmouth Local Action Group met on the 9th September

- 13 persons representing 8 agencies attended. In the Exmouth area for the period 1st July 2014 until the end of August 2015, total crime has decreased by 0.4% from 2313 to 2304 offences.

Anti Social Behaviour

- The representative from EDDC's Environmental Health Dept informed the meeting that they are consulting over the possibility of implementing a Public Spaces Protection Order for the Strand area of the town for such things as dog behaviour and feeding seagulls etc. The group discussed whether or not there should be a PSPO for the Magnolia Centre in relation to alcohol issues etc, but decided against it at this time.
- The Graffiti Wall in Phear Park will be launched on Saturday 26th September.
- The issue of vehicle related anti social behaviour along the seafront was again discussed but the issues were not thought to be a major problem. However the Police and D&SFRS did carry out a joint initiative recently whereby advice was given to young motor vehicle users along the Esplanade.

Substance Misuse

- One of the Exmouth Town Councillors reported that there was a male person on a pedal cycle who regularly delivers small packages to people in the Strand area of Exmouth. It is felt that he may be delivering New Psychoactive Substances which currently are not illegal but Police are aware of this individual.

Crime Prevention

- At the request of the Police, I have arranged for an input on scams awareness to be given to residents at a local retirement home as one was the residents was the victim of such a scam.

Other Community Safety Activities / Issues

- Speed enforcement checks have been carried out by Police in the areas most complained about and all bar one person stopped for speeding was local to the town.
- Mark Gerry, one of EDDC's Community Development Officers, has taken over the Switch Project at Littleham from Polly Anderson who is due to leave the council in the near future.
- D&SFRS is currently undertaking chimney fire awareness work.

The Honiton Local Action Group met on 17th September

11 persons representing 7 agencies attended.

In the Honiton area over the last year up to the end of August 2015, total crime has decreased 5.7% from 616 offences to 581.

Anti Social Behaviour

- The Police and D&SFRS are holding an event at Honiton Fire Station in November aimed at young drivers.

- Streetscene have caught 2 persons in separate fly tipping incidents in the Honiton area. One has been issued with a fixed penalty ticket while the other one has agreed to remove the rubbish at his own cost from outside the nearby recycling centre.

Crime Prevention

- Honiton Town Council has confirmed that an upgrade of the towns CCTV system is to take place and the 7 cameras will be replaced.

Other Community Safety Activities /Issues

- I am writing on behalf of the LAG to Devon County Council's Highways Dept expressing concerns that the towns Traffic Management Review may not take place due to funding issues. If it does take place at all it is likely to be a limited review.
- A 'Dragons Den' type process is taking place whereby local groups are able to bid for small amounts of funding up to £750 from one of EDDC's Community funding streams.
- EDDC is putting a lot more resource into its Heathpark estate in an attempt to provide more facilities for people on the estate. Also there are plans to renovate the community flat.
- Following concerns about HGVs regularly using the High Street, local Police have consulted with the Police Casualty Reduction Officer who has advised as to what such vehicles are legally entitled to do.

The Axe Valley Local Action Group met on 17th September

8 persons representing 3 different agencies attended. The Police were very well represented but not so other agencies.

In the Axminster area over the last year up to the end of August 2015, total crime has increased by 3.5% from 461 offences to 477. In the Seaton area it has decreased by 3.2% from 349 offences to 338.

Anti Social Behaviour

- Police reported that the 'boy racer's at the Underfleet in Seaton have not been such a problem in recent weeks.

Substance Misuse

- EDDC's Environmental Health Dept have received a complaint about Nitrous Oxide capsules being found on the floor of the old Chubb's shop in the town. Police are aware and monitor the area.

Crime Prevention

- Due to resources not being available until late in the season the beach hut security event will now take place in the early part of next year. I am trying to resolve the data protection issues whereby Police are supplied with details of beach hut owners and tenants by EDDC.

Other Community Safety Activities /Issues

- Police Operation Midas took place recently involving Special Constables from a number of forces across the South West. Locally, 3 drink drivers were caught.

The East and Mid Devon Drug and Alcohol Group met on 16th September

This meeting was again poorly attended although there was representation from the Police and the Community Rehabilitation Company (formerly the Probation Service)

- Drink Wise Age Well in Devon is a lottery funded initiative focusing on over 50s drinking in Devon. It is linked in with Addaction and provides training, tailored advice and support. The contact number is 0800 304 7034 or drinkwiseagewell.org.uk
- Cornwall Council has commissioned Plymouth University to see what works re: alcohol messages. Exeter University are prepared to evaluate any projects around alcohol.
- Staff at the Open Door Centre in Exmouth are hoping to provide a support group for families of people with addictions.
- Simon Perkins from the new Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) gave an update on the CRC which is now under one owner (Working Links) covering Devon, Cornwall, Bristol, Gloucester, Somerset Wiltshire and all of Wales. Best practice is therefore shared across this whole area. The intention is to create a 'One Stop Shop' approach for service users with pooled resources to deliver a service for all agencies involved and reach a wider range of service users. This creates an opportunity for a seamless handover to other agencies when the 12 months' probation period has finished. The CRC is trying to find the venues for these 'One Stop Shops' and create a friendly day centre type service where service users can approach various agencies.

Other Community Safety and ASB Work

- I am working on an input for both the National Alcohol Awareness Week commencing 16th November and on the Domestic Abuse Awareness Week the following week. Re the latter I will be linking in with Exeter's Domestic Abuse Forum's 16 days of action and I am looking for any local photo opportunities during that period in order to highlight helpline numbers in the press.
- I will again be sending the Annual Autumnal Safety letters to parents via schools in respect of Halloween, November 5th and the days leading up to them.
- I am trying to highlight the Governments Prevent agenda as widely as possible, particularly within EDDC. This is being discussed at this week's Strategic Management Team meeting.
- The 'Be Safe' cards which give details of various helpline numbers have now been designed, printed and distributed.

- There is much national concern re human trafficking and child sexual exploitation. With this in mind it is felt that taxi drivers may well witness things that are suspicious and I have written a letter which has been sent to all 200 taxi drivers across the district, telling them a bit about each topic, what to look out for and what to do.
- I funded room hire enabling the South West Grid for Learning to put on a mornings workshop at Honiton recently re internet safety. Some 68 delegated attended.

Gerry Moore

23rd September 2015

Mid Devon Community Safety Officer's Report **For 24 Sept 2015**

The Creedy Local Action Group next meets 22 Oct 2015

Crime Prevention

- Update – Crediton NH Police Team and Fire Service are working on a young drivers initiative for end of November. This will be held on a Saturday and based at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre and will be attracting young drivers by offering a free burgers/hot dogs.

The Culm Local Action Group met on 8 Sept 2015

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.
- Street Pastors recently had their first anniversary celebration and PC Johnny Haynes reported 14% decrease in ASB calls to the police over last year when the Street Pastors were on duty.

DVSA

- Street Pastors advised that St Andrews Church are picking up on DVA issues and signposting people to support agencies.
- Migrant PCSO will address this too through her new role with Eastern European families where there is often a difference in cultures and what is deemed acceptable behaviour.

Scams & On-line Safety

- The Inform group is hosted at Cullompton Community College and is still going well. There are 2 sessions of CEOP training for professionals working with children and young people which has been arranged by the Inform group. The first course is full and the second filling up.
- Concerns were raised over Year 6 Pupil accessing inappropriate images via YouTube.

Crime Prevention

- The police are organising a series of multi-agency community events across Mid Devon. The Cullompton event was held at the Fire Station on 17 September between 6-8pm. Unfortunately no members of the public attended.
- Advanced Driver Challenge – DSFRS, CSP and a local driving instructor are organising an event for 17-24 year olds which will include a driver awareness input and using the DSFRS simulator. This will be a 2 hour event with pre-booked places. Provisional dates are 15 October and 25 November. There is a link to the Devon Travel Academy.
- Love Cully weekend was held two weeks ago and they tidied up areas of the town.

The Exe Local Action Group last met on 19 May 2015

ASB

- **Smashed windows and increase in graffiti** – the police have put out a press release appealing for information re: graffiti tags. Police are planning to do some graffiti removal this coming weekend. CSP have a graffiti kit available to loan. ASB Officer is using Name That Tag poster and police linking with Tiverton High School.
- Tiverton town centre experiencing a rise in shop windows being smashed on quite a regular basis.
- Increase in ASB in Multi-storey carpark including damage to vehicles.

Substance Misuse

- Workshops are now agreed to run in Tiverton and Honiton and have been publicised to potential delegates.
- A further workshop for EH & Housing staff around identifying types of drugs and the physical affects is planned and will be funded by SDP.

Scams & On-line Safety

- Issues of group chat on Facebook messenger was raised by DYS. This is about closed groups of 300-400 people and often leads to online bullying and sharing inappropriate photos which isn't being reported; some of the young people just leave the group when they have had enough but others become wrapped up in the bullying behaviours. It is becoming a big issue with 8/9 cases over the summer across Devon

Crime Prevention

- Fire have attended 4 fires in last month including a bin fire at back of Halfords, a grass fire at Gornhay Orchard, and incidents at the rugby club and Amory Park.

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 22 June 2015.

- A questionnaire via Survey Monkey will be circulated to all secondary and primary schools in order to try and gather data regarding current trends, time spent on social media and issues of concern. Tiverton High School and Cullompton Community College will definitely completing the questionnaires and it's hoped that some of the other schools will also follow suite.
- A representative from a primary school attended and gave some insightful information and the group will work at continuing to improve engagement with other primary schools in both districts.
- The CEOP training takes place for 60 delegates next week at Tiverton High School. A second training event will take place at Cullompton Community College in October.
- A SouthWest Grid For Learning presented an On-line Safety Briefing at Honiton (St Rita's) last week and was well attended.
- 9th Feb is Safer Internet Day so planning some activities around that week. May include some cross presentations at assemblies between schools.
- YouTube is a growing trend with children as young as 9 and 10 years filming and posting themselves online.

Other Work/Updates

- **PREVENT – WRAP training** is to become an integral part of staff Safeguarding Training at MDDC. The Learning & Development Team will work with Cullompton Community College to deliver this to their staff during October if possible.
- The Mid Devon Safety Advisory Group has met 23 July to look at some events for next year and planning for the Christmas based events in the District.

Julia Ryder
Community Safety Officer, Mid Devon CSP