

**22 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**REPORT OF THE NORTHUMBRIA POLICE**

**1. Purpose of Report**

The following report provides a community update and key performance information in relation to Sunderland West area between the following period (July-August 2020)

**2. Background**

Providing a report has been agreed by key leaders submitted ahead of any committee meetings. The report is in line with the Neighbourhood and Policing Priorities.

**3. Key Updates**

**3.1 Problem Solving:**

Motor cycle disorder continues to be a priority for the community. Along with other successes we have recently secured a conviction upon a teenage offender who has been banned from the roads and given a criminal record after injuring an on-duty officer in the Sandhill Ward when dealing with him for motorcycle ASB. The officer tried to prevent the offender from making off and as he did so the offender became aggressive and drove away dragging the officer 20 metres down the road with his arm trapped. Thankfully, the officer avoided serious injury but suffered bruising as a result. I hope this serves as reassurance that where opportunities arise to take positive action then we will do. Community intelligence is also vitally important to identify and take positive action against those responsible. We had experienced an increase in incidents certainly during the lockdown period however this has reduced of late. We continue to have a motorcycle ASB operation in place across Sunderland West with numerous tactics included to try and address this problem. Please be mindful that Sunderland West has very large open spaces around existing residential estates and work is being undertaken at identified hotspots whenever the opportunity presents.

Due to the current climate we have been unable to undertake partnership walkabouts, however it is hoped that in the near future this can be resurrected to address any identified issues at the earliest opportunity.

In the absence of school attendance we have worked with local youth groups and outreach workers to identify youths involved in ASB and to encourage positive behaviours and address the ASB itself. It is encouraging to see the youth provision in this area.

Work has also been undertaken around Silksworth Ski Slope in relation to vehicle ASB. Police deployed over a number of weeks to try and curb the behaviour and took positive action against identified offenders. A request was made to the Local Authority to consider perimeter fencing as a longer term solution and I understand the aim is to have this in place by September.

Work is ongoing in the Barnes Ward to address vehicle/youth ASB reports as well as the St Anne's ward re youth ASB around the Metro station.

The Sandhill Ward has seen the use of youth outreach workers also to aid with youth engagement whilst Police have been working on specific families and individuals across Thorney Close and Grindon.

### **3.2. Targeted Offender Management:**

We have been actively executing warrants and arresting offenders along with making efforts to secure convictions to reduce the pain these individuals cause to our community; wherever possible we utilise tenancy enforcement to support this also. We have undertaken recent work with partners in addressing problematic families and individuals. This has occurred and is occurring in every Ward across Sunderland West. To compliment this positive action wherever possible we have also compiled, secured and served numerous prohibition orders of varying types along with the relocation of some individuals in efforts to eradicate the issues. This together with installation of CCTV has led to reduced incidents.

We have seen burglaries fluctuate through this uncertain time however we have also been actively involved in pursuing offenders responsible. This has resulted in offenders being further charged, some remanded and convicted or awaiting trial. It is reassuring to know that these crime types have reduced again following the apprehension of a number of offenders.

We continue to consider, prepare and execute a variety of prohibition orders and warrants across Sunderland West this is to target offenders of different crime types and to protect those directly at risk or the wider community.

### **3.3. Community Engagement:**

Again due to the current climate it has not been business as usual where we are afforded the opportunity to become involved in direct community engagement initiatives. We have been active in Sunderland West engaging with and supporting victims together with targeting offenders and making efforts to reduce crime and disorder. To support this work we have been updating social media and issuing press releases where possible to maintain some form of engagement with our communities. Where resourcing and demand allows we will look at other options where possible.

### **3.4. Protecting Vulnerable People:**

We continue to prioritise the safety of our most vulnerable people within the community and Sunderland West team will continue to safeguard the vulnerable in a variety of ways.

Orders and positive action taken upon offenders as outlined in 3.2 affords protection to our vulnerable. In addition victims are supported in a range of ways to help them stay safe. We are seeing positive results through the management of many orders that we have secured.

We have also been successful in targeting problematic families and individuals in certain residential estates which has seen some curb their behaviour and some have moved on also.

## **4. Key Crime and Anti-social behaviour Performance:**

### **A3 – Sunderland South (St Chads/Silksworth/Doxford/Moorside/Tunstall/Ryhope)**

Total Crime – Decreased by 2%

Youth ASB has decreased slightly however overall ASB has increased. Again some of this increase is due to the unprecedented change in behaviours and environment with Co-vid restrictions in place.

### **A4 – Sunderland West - (Sandhill/St Annes/Pallion/Barnes)**

Total Crime – Decreased by 2%

Youth ASB is stable in A4 however the overall ASB has also increased during this period; again some of this increase can be attributed to the change in behaviours and environment due to Covid restrictions.

#### **5. Forward planning matters of note:**

Plans for a World Café style initiative at St Anne's Ward will be reviewed as and when the opportunity in the current climate will allow.

Partnership working with schools around ASB and youth related vulnerability  
Darker Nights planning to take place

The report demonstrates how Sunderland West Neighbourhood Team is visible within our community. Visibility occurs in different ways for which the above mentioned situations are a few of the many examples of our work.

**Inspector 7013 Pollock**