

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

OFFICER REPORTING: BRIAN MARTIN, COMMUNITY SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the forum on recent developments in Community Safety.

2. OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Crime and Disorder Forum notes:

- The Designated Public Places Order has been sealed
- The draft on the Community Safety Partnership Plan – Action Plan (2009 -10)
- The implications of the NI 21 Target in the Local Area Agreement
- General progress on Community Safety.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Designated Public Places Order

The above order relating to alcohol free zones has now been approved and sealed following Council on 21st April. The new zone comes into operation in early may once it has been advertised in the local press. The number of locations covered has increased from 64 to 111.

3.2 Community Safety Partnership Plan Action Plan (2009 – 2010)

At the Forum's last meeting the strategic assessment which forms the basis of the above plan was considered. The attached plan (Appendix 1) details the proposed actions for 2009-10.

3.3 Implications of the NI 21 target

Last year it was agreed that NI 21 should be adopted as a priority target. The target is perception based and relates to the extent to which the public are satisfied that local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime are being dealt with by the Council and the Police. The target was negotiated in February / March during the Local Area Agreement Refresh and looks for a significant improvement by the next place survey in autumn 2010. All sorts of factors affect perceptions on crime and disorder and unfortunately really positive consistent performance reported on crimes such as criminal damage and anti-social behaviour can be seriously impacted by negative press. This means that the police, council and other partners need to make a big effort to let residents and victims of crime know what is being done to support them. A detailed plan is to be developed on taking this forward, but it will clearly mean an emphasis on customer focus.

3.4 Community Safety General

3.3.1 Community Safety Staffing

We have just appointed a new Senior Community Warden, Andy Aldridge, who joins us from Thames Valley Police and has been working in Old Windsor.

3.3.2 Communications

There has been considerable communications activity in recent months, but this note focuses on forthcoming events. In the future we will be focusing on:

- Communications around the work of Trading Standards
- Communications around noise awareness week
- National Tackling Drugs Week 8th-12th June – local events linked to this
- 'Too much bling give us a ring' campaign – local events linked to this
- U-tube videos (Day in the life of....) - working with partners to increase the no. of U-tube videos. This will help to support the perceptions target (NI 21)
- Application for a public reassurance award (already submitted)

4. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

There has been and will be extensive consultation on the Designated Public Places Order – see item 3.1.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There main financial implication in this report relates to Designated Public Places Order, because of the wide nature of the order advertising is costly. The funding for this will be met from within existing funds and a small grant from the Home Office.

5.2 Legal

There are legal implications for the designated public places order (see item 3.1) which will be covered in the relevant papers to Cabinet / Council.

5.3 Human Rights Act

None of the Human Convention Rights will be affected by this decision.