



Crime and Disorder Committee

9th October 2024 at 2.00 pm

Present:

Councillor Aisthorpe (in the Chair)
Councillors Bonner, Brookes, Lindley, Patrick, Silvester, Shutt and Wheatley

Officers in attendance:

- Paul Caswell (Head of Safer Towns and Communities)
- Rebecca Freeman (Community Safety partnership Manager)
- Joanne Paterson (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)
- Eve Richardson Smith (Head of Legal and Governance)
- Charlene Sykes (Service Director, Safeguarding, Youth Justice and Family Help)

Also in attendance:

- Chief Superintendent Paul French (Humberside Police)
- Councillor Shepherd (Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities)
- Councillor Stewart Swinburn (Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport)

CDC.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bonner.

CDC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any items on the agenda.

CDC.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

The committee considered a report that provided an overview of findings of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA) including performance data and emerging threats.

Chief Superintendent Paul French set out some of the key highlights which included crime statistics, anti-social behaviour (ASB) initiatives,

drug offences, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), and the Strategic Plan for 2025-2029. He also touched on the Youth Justice Service (YJS) and drug enforcement success. Furthermore, he referred to the Clearhold Build Framework and how this was being used to address serious and organised crime. He also talked about how they were tackling illicit goods through the CSP.

Mr Caswell noted that significant efforts were being made to reduce crime and disorder in the town centre, referring to the Rock Mastery Initiative and introduction of a passive drug dog.

Members raised a number of queries around the following:-

- A member sought clarification on some of the ASB data within the report. Officers explained how ASB was tracked across all age groups. Youth related ASB was separated to better understand young people's behaviour. Officers encouraged reporting of crimes.
- Members also noted how drug offences had risen by 43%, with 438 recorded cases indicating growing drug use concerns. Officers confirmed that the use of passive drug detection dogs were highly effective during operations and noted that 'proceeds of crime' were being reinvested into enforcement efforts.
- A member voiced concerns with organised criminal gangs noting these were highly organised, making enforcement challenging due to the high threshold for warrants. As such, community frustration was growing. Officers noted that they needed to build on existing neighbourhood policing models, and use of inspection frameworks to guide improvements and ensure consistency. Members felt we needed to improve communications around this.
- The Portfolio Holder for Safer Stronger Communities praised the results of Clearhold Build in South Ward but raised concerns about mini versions of organised crime groups emerging. He also enquired about Operation Yellowfin in particular, addressing nuisance motorcycles. Officers confirmed that Operation Yellowfin was a cornerstone of the ASB strategic plan, with a dedicated officer and tactical motorbikes.
- Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) was discussed with members highlighting gaps in the ANPR network and asked what plans there were to address this. Officers acknowledged the gaps and the need to ensure cameras were strategically located and that responses could be serviced effectively.
- Further concerns were raised around parking enforcement, particularly regarding caravans blocking roads and footpaths. Superintendent French stated that parking was primarily a local

authority responsibility, although the police did intervene in cases of dangerous obstruction.

- The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport highlighted his concerns with ongoing contravention of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)s within his ward area and how this could be better enforced. Superintendent French agreed to respond to this issue separately outside of the meeting.
- In terms of parking enforcement concerns, Superintendent French agreed to review police officers' confidence levels in intervening in parking issues.
- Members touched on burglaries noting that these had dropped in priority over other areas. Superintendent French noted that they were doing a lot of work around cyber awareness and online safety, to tackle some of these concerns.
- Councillor Shepherd suggested increasing the use of Op Snap (online reporting of traffic offences) with an advertising campaign. Superintendent French agreed to review the Communications Strategy for Op Snap.
- Members discussed community triggers and whether these were easy enough to use. Officers explained that the area had an independent chair for community triggers and that a victim champion within the ASB team provides information about the Community Trigger to all referred victims during the first visit.
- The Chair asked about VAWG and questioned whether the drop in reported incidences reflected a genuine decline in violence or a decline in reporting. Superintendent French explained the difficulty in providing a definitive answer and emphasised the need to improve confidence in reporting. He also assured the panel that they were doing a lot around education with schools and colleges to encourage reporting.
- Superintendent French advised that they were encouraging the use of 'My Community Alert' and 'Street Safe' services to push this out further. Superintendent French agreed to provide statistics on the breakdown of My Community Alerts registrations per ward.
- The Chair highlighted the recent increase in reports of bin fires in Granthorold Park and asked whether there was a concern that progress was slipping back. Superintendent French stated that the local teams were aware of the issue and were reviewing trends daily. Officers assured that there were collaborative efforts with the fire service, CCTV, youth services, and police to address the issue.

- A member asked for more information about the role of Designing out Crime Officers. Superintendent French explained that these officers provided advice on reducing vulnerability to crime, both through physical measures and by influencing planning applications.

RESOLVED –

1. That the report be noted.
2. That further statistics be provided to the panel on the breakdown of My Community Alerts registrations per ward.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 15.20 p.m.