

CHARNWOOD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP REPORTING TEMPLATE

ITEM 05

Organisation	Police	Author	Insp Stokes	Date	10/10/2023
Subject Title	<u>Safeguarding Communities from Violent Offences</u>				
Summary <i>(Purpose, background & context for the report update)</i>	<p>It is of paramount importance that we consider two key points during any assessment of this year's performance pertaining to recorded offences, especially violence with injury offences.</p> <p>Firstly, what is violence with injury? The offence is any offence where an assault takes place, where the offender offers any violence. Assaulting an emergency worker is one such offence which was introduced in 2020 which is now used widely in attempt to send a clear message to offenders who assault Paramedics, Nurses, Police officers and so on.</p> <p>Secondly, Home Office recording direction is very prescriptive and Police crime recorders have little discretion on how we record 'violence with injury' offences. This means there is a wider narrative in how such offences are recorded. For example, it was never acceptable for a Police officer to be assaulted in the execution of his or her duty, however unfortunately it is a common occurrence for which there was a specific offence. Now where an officer is pushed, or assaulted during an arrest, it will be captured as a 'violence with injury' offence even if the injury is minor.</p> <p>I Highlight this as my introduction on because crime recording figures may detract from true crime reduction and the hard work that Charnwood Borough Council, Charnwood Police and our CSP are delivering. In short, as Charnwood Neighbourhood Policing commander, it is my opinion that we are making Charnwood a safer place to live and work.</p> <p><u>'Violence with injury' figures</u></p> <p>Currently we are at a 6% increase. The recorded number has increased from 815 to 864, this is during a period where Leicestershire Police has employed Crime recording managers, who are ensuring that Leicestershire Police are compliant with Home Office recording standards.</p> <p>There are two areas of violence offences that are often subject to discussion, in terms of previous Charnwood corporate memory. The Town centre during night time economy and County Lines.</p> <p>The Night time economy picture- Social interaction in the town centre has changed post Covid. Our bars, Pubs and clubs became much quieter and footfall has visually shrunk. The positive news is that we have not reduced our Policing profile and quite the opposite, we now have dedicated night- time patrols which are resourced on a Force level.</p>				

	<p>One of the by-products relating to the change of behaviours in terms of NTE, is that social drinking has moved to private premises which is much more difficult to proactively police, because the socialising has become non-centrally based. It is my professional opinion that as a CSP we should be cognisant of such because we may see an increase in ASB associated to domestic dwellings. It is unlikely that this form of socialising will change during the national economic crisis.</p>					
<p>Recommendations <i>(Any recommendations for the CSP to consider)</i></p>	<p>Recording processes have evolved and whilst we are making Charnwood a safer and better place to live, it may well be ambitious to see a reduction in analytical numbers. As such, it maybe prudent to consider a communication strategy based on 3 points.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The fear of crime is often much more impactive than crime itself. We could be making Charnwood a Safer place to live, without making it a better place to live, because the fear of crime becomes the greater concern within our residents of Charnwood. (2) As a by-product of the cost of living challenges, social behaviour is changing in what is a University town. ASB may increase because tolerance levels in a domestic setting, is much less than in a commercial setting. Students being loud in a Public house garden has little to no impact compared to the same scenario in a residential setting. Education, University consultation, policing profiles and recording practises may need to be reviewed. As a partnership, this may cause us some real challenges with us being in the middle of challenges pertaining to “Victim blaming verses criminal labelling of students. (3) The effectiveness of the CSP may well be challenged if we are not on proactive with our communication strategy. 					
<p>Performance Data <i>(Insert any relevant performance data)</i></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Violence with Injury</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">+6%</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">815</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">864</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">14/15</td> </tr> </table>	Violence with Injury	+6%	815	864	14/15
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<p>Priority 1 – Safeguarding communities from abuse and violent offences</p>						
<p>Update/s - including specific work, initiatives, projects etc. that contribute to priority 1</p>	<p>We continue to employ Operation lexical in support of our University Town. Increased police patrols, education, licensing engagement and enforcement, NTE patrols and CCTV information and intelligence sharing are all part of our Violent offences Policing strategy.</p> <p>County lines update is covered under exploitation. However, alcohol and drug support delivered by the Falcon centre is an extremely supportive arm, in the management of our most vulnerable. That said, there has been an increase of offences linked to the nearby area of the Falcon centre. There is no question about the great support that the centre offers, however the CSP may need to engagement with the Falcon centre and offer and advice and support.</p>					

Priority 2 – To reduce the harm caused by youth ASB and youth crime	
Update/s - including specific work, initiatives, projects etc. that contribute to priority 2	<p>Our policing plan pertaining to ASB, is working, Recorded ASB continues with a reduction. There is currently an increase in Police beat managers which will allow us to provide more focus on the Central delivery groups. That said, as the meetings take place outside of working hours, it may be prudent to consider partner engagement and how we increase attendance at the meetings.</p> <p>CSP purchase of an electric bike. This is a great asset to our PCSO team. It is offering a much more visible policing presence and likewise, a better representation of Police support to our outer villages.</p>
Priority 3 – To reduce criminal exploitation	
Update/s - including specific work, initiatives, projects etc. that contribute to priority 3	<p>As we know, together we have a zero-tolerance relating to County Lines, we are conducting regular enforcement warrants and making Charnwood a toxic environment for those who create vulnerability to our residents of Charnwood. We are developing and using intelligence to identify, locate and convict drug dealers from outside of Charnwood and the County. However, I feel that it is paramount that we do not ease back from this investment and we widen the use of civil powers and tenant partial or full closure orders, which will ensure that we are reducing exploitation by protecting Vulnerable persons from those who they fear, by removing the environment for dealers to operate in.</p> <p>In terms of quantifiably performance, we have recovered more drugs during Police operations this year in Charnwood, than we ever have. We have had some very strong sentencing from the judicial system which had made national news. Intelligence also tells us that illicit Drugs value has risen in Charnwood, because hard drugs has become more difficult to obtain.</p>
Priority 4 – To deliver statutory duties: Preventing Extremism; Community Triggers; Tackling substance misuse; Serious Violence Duty; Domestic Homicide Reviews.	
Update/s - including specific work, initiatives, projects etc. that contribute to priority 4	
Budget / Resource Implications	

<p>Any key risks / issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) One of the by-products relating to the change of behaviours in terms of NTE, is that social drinking has moved to private premises which is much more difficult to proactively police, because the socialising has become non-centrally based. It is my professional opinion that as a CSP we should be cognisant of such because we may see an increase in ASB associated to domestic dwellings. It is unlikely that this form of socialising will change during the national economic crisis. (2) The Falcon centre offers second to none support to our most vulnerable people. That said, we have an increase in reported incidents in the area. As a partnership we must work together to resolve the concern, with a mutual understanding that we value the hard work that the Falcon centre provides. (3) LE11 twockers. We have a policing plan pertaining to the LE11 twockers, however we must continue with a zero-tolerance approach and increase our use of Civil enforcement powers and develop our intelligence picture, from their social media footprint. (4) In terms of Loughborough town centre, as NPA commander I was not convinced that the Public Space Protection Order was necessary, because policing powers and our Policing profile is effective. However, as we have sought and extension, it will raise the question about the issuing of PSPO notices. We the Police have not issued any and this will raise a question in the future. It may also create CBC some challenge, because in other areas it is not the Police that issue the notice, it is civil enforcement officers. We will need a singular strategic view moving forward.
<p>Planned activity in the next Quarter – include any specific work, initiatives, projects etc that will contribute to above CSP themes and priorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Op LEXICAL. (2) The policing of the annual fair. (3) LCDG and LEDG- Increase in attendance and productivity, in line with the increase in Police management. (4) Planning and security for our remembrance parades (5) Preparation and planning for Christmas and new years patrols. (6) Zero tolerance and civil use of powers pertaining to the LE11 twockers. (7) Target hardening pertaining to burglaries.
<p>Any other update, developments, achievements, challenges / opportunities</p>	
<p>Gaps/Support Required</p>	



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