

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR: PROBLEM SOLVING AND PERFORMANCE - COMMUNITY PROTECTION

West Area Committee Report; January to March 2015

Uniformed Services is the uniformed frontline services and processing teams within Community Protection. It also covers, CCTV, fines processing, residential and blue badge permits.

The core purpose of the service is public safety through the regulation and enforcement of Council functions.

Community Protection is commissioned by Nottingham City Council and hosted by the City Division of Nottinghamshire Police. Community Protection contributes to the long term vision for the City of Nottingham for 2030; Go ahead Nottingham, Safe, Clean, Ambitious, Proud. It does this through the alignment of its business and activity to the priority headings within the Sustainable Communities Strategy, particularly but not exclusively Safer and Cleaner Nottingham.

The purpose of Uniformed Services is to deliver a Safer Nottingham for our Citizens through the provision of a single, integrated, uniformed compliance and enforcement function.

The outcomes of Community Protection, in line with the Council's priorities are.

- Delivery statutory services in line with legislation to ensure public safety.
- Support the Nottingham offer through compliance and enforcement to ensure public safety.
- Making lawful and proportionate use of monitoring and surveillance to ensure public safety.
- Supporting a safer transport network.
- Provision of services to support the night time economy to contribute to wider public safety
- Discharge the Council's statutory functions in relation to Public Safety, Protection and Wellbeing.
- Responsive to customer and Councillor Needs

Deliver CP's core values

Community Protection has five over-arching values which emphasise the expected work- ethic of its organisation:

- We do what's right, not what's easy - We're fair, this isn't about quick fixes
- We're proud of ourselves and we're proud of Nottingham - First impressions matter
- We constantly innovate to get quicker and fitter - value for money and getting things done
- Whatever we do, we always do our best
- We're here to make life better - this is what drives us

This report will deliver a brief overview of Community Protections work in relation to the Safer aspect of Nottingham City Councils agenda. Below you will find figures, broken down into ward areas, which cover the last quarter of the 2014-2015 business year in relation to the West Area constituting Aspley, Bilborough and Leen Valley.

The figures have been drawn from the Weekly Respect figures that Community Protection Officers produce, that demonstrate the types and numbers of the most commonly occurring issues that we encounter via proactive patrolling, intelligence and the priorities of our Citizens and Councillors.

Ward	FPN	Dog Op	Scrap	LBA	Noise	Intel	Casework
Aspley	24	18	6	34	259	119	305
Bilborough	22	77	2	33	478	180	297
Leen Valley	18	20	3	26	104	54	119

Definitions

FPN – Fixed Penalty Notice, these are issued to offenders to allow them a chance to discharge the offence that FPN was issued for by way of a fine. The majority of the FPNs issued for each Ward were for littering offences with 1 (one) on Aspley and Bilborough issued for someone failing to clean up after their dog.

Dog Op – Dog Fouling is a priority for many of our Citizens and the CPOs perform regular Dog Fouling Operations both ad hoc and intelligence led basis at Hotspot areas where Dog Fouling has been identified as a persistent issue.

Scrap – This refers to checks on Scrap Metal Dealers, the CPOs will approach people they see collecting scrap metal and check that they have the requisite licenses and transfer notes, in an effort to tackle illegal scrap metal dealing and theft.

LBA – Letters Before Action are issued by CPOs when they identify an Environmental Issue, such as a property or area with a large accumulation of waste. The LBA gives the owner of the property a specified amount of time to rectify the issue. Whilst this may not at first glance appear to relate directly to the Safer agenda, we can see from the Broken Window theory that ‘run down’, ‘unkempt’ and neglected areas and properties can attract anti-social behaviour and so as well as improving the general appearance of the Neighbourhoods, tackling this issue also helps reduce the likelihood of ASB.

Noise – or Noise Intervention Visits. Noise has been an emerging priority now for some time and whilst we have a robust system in place to address this issue it does require a period of evidence gathering, whilst the issue can potentially continue. As we seek to offer continuing support to our citizens and also to assist in the evidence gathering process, we encourage those people who feel they are suffering from Noise Nuisance to call us every time. Therefore whilst these figures may seem high some will represent repeated visits to the same addresses.

Intel – This figure represents Intelligence submissions entered by the CPOs on to the Police Intelligence system in relation to known and/or suspected offenders and suspicious incidents. Intelligence submissions can often form the final piece of the jigsaw to secure action against an offender and the CPOs being street level front line officers are ideally positioned to interact with communities to gather such intelligence.

Casework – This is a combined representation of the number of interventions the CPOs have undertaken in response to incidents reported to our ASB Line, through Councillor Case Work or our other internal systems. Casework runs the gamut from people reporting untidy gardens to Noise complaints to other forms of Anti-Social behaviour and aside the CPOs proactive work represents the majority of our day to day work.

Following is a small selection of the good work that has been carried out by the CPOs of the Broxtowe Team over the quarter:

Leen Valley

Kennington Road became a priority on the ward; CPO Siddons worked hard with NCH to tackle a wide range of issues (overgrown alleyways, messy gardens and ASB). CPO Siddons and CPO Johnson tackled the bins on street problem and between the two of them issued 17 FPN’s. To date over 20 have been issued by other members of staff and there has been a vast visible improvement on Kennington as well as the surrounding areas.

CPO's Johnson and Siddons attending a dog chipping event set up by DCO Barber on Melbourne Park on the 30/04/15 during the event they raised awareness, handed out free goods and obtained Intel which was then used to plan future Ops in and across the wards.

Aspley

In April CPO's Butler and Johnson were called to a job where a Royal Mail bag full of opened and unopened post were discovered for addresses in the Broxtowe area. On attendance they recovered the Royal Mail bag and got in touch with the RM fraud and internal investigations department who collected the bag and thanked us for our efforts as this related to a job that occurred at Christmas. They also discovered a pair of illegally copied VRM plates that came back to an address in Broxtowe who were terrified to find out that they had had their plates cloned and thanked us for making sure that they would not be used for criminal activity. The VRM plates were surrendered to Police and submitted them as exhibits.

CPO's Johnson and Butler attended a job in the Aspley ward where the people involved were all identified as a group that had been causing a lot of ASB theft and criminal damage in the Aspley ward. They have since been heavily monitored by Police and CP. CP and NCH have conducted joint tenancy warnings on some of them to restrict their behaviour and as a result this group has been improving through these limitations.

Bilborough

CPO Butler and Ratcliffe attended a job that was called into both Fire and Police for a house fire that trapped a vulnerable older woman. CPO's Butler and Ratcliffe attended with fire conducting crowd management and scene press for Fire to stop people walking through unless they lived nearby once the fire was maintained. On entry the Fire foreman informed the CPO's that there was a cannabis grow inside the address. The CPO's flagged this up to control that sent the cannabis dismantling team out who discovered and removed 40+ plants from the address. An excellent result for CP and the Police.

Priority tasking – Due to all the hard work from all members of the team and the intelligence they've provided the priority tasking for the Bilborough and Leen Valley wards have been closed off, tenancy warnings have also been issued by Ruth Norman off the back of all the hard work.

Enforcement Officers

Our Enforcement Officers that deal with the wider ASB and Environmental Legislation supported by the CPOs have had the following results recently in Broxtowe area. There are several other cases currently with our legal team.

1x Injunction secured against a male on St Michaels Ave; Cannabis Grow.

1x 5 Year Suspended Possession against NCH tenant on Fenwick Road; Cannabis Grow.

1x PDPA against address on Withern Road.

1x on-going Possession action against tenant on Coleby Road; Cannabis Grow.

2 x on-going Possession orders in Aspley and Bilborough for undisclosed reasons

Emerging Issues

Alongside our normal duties and continuing dedication to tackling Dog Fouling and reducing the impact of nuisance noise, the Broxtowe team are also currently working on a Partnership approach to tackle the increase in Anti-Social Behaviour on Broxtowe Country Park. The ASB reported in this area is mostly related to Off Road Motor Bikes and we intend to implement a robust plan using all the tools at our disposal to tackle this issue.

Other

Following a recent restructure within Community Protection the position of Senior CPO for the Broxtowe team is vacant. We are currently recruiting for a new full time replacement but in the interim, SCPO Simon Whalley will be running the day to day management of the team. The new structure reduces the number of supervisors but looks for greater integration with parking enforcement which is often a cause of issues in an area.

Also our former base at Aspley Housing office has been closed and the CPO Team has been displaced to the Bulwell and Oxclose Lane Police Station whilst Broxtowe Police Station undergoes refurbishment. Cars have been provided to make sure that officers displaced during building work are able to get to the area quickly; the new Night Car service is having a real impact on both noise calls and general ASB. Simon is the SPOC for all councillor issues in the area and we are recruiting to fill both vacancies in the SCPO rank and front line colleagues.