



APRIL 2008

NORTH & WEST SECTORS

March has been a busy month with a number of operations and warrants being executed to target and disrupt those in our community who commit crime.

Week of Action - North and West Sector NPT's

The following is a summary for the 'Week of Action' on North and West Sector, which took place from 3rd March 2008 to 9th March 2008. The following is a numerical break down of activities that took place during the week.

The week is designed to concentrate on each area's concerns and priorities identified by the community.

The following is a breakdown of our results:

Warrants

6 warrants were executed on North and West Sectors. This resulted in 7 arrests, primarily for serious drug related offences.

As a result large quantities of cash were seized along with Class A drugs with a street value of approximately £25,000.

School activities

During the week of action 21 assemblies were attended, as were 53 lessons across 17 schools on North/ West Sector relating to underage alcohol use, bullying, violence and criminal damage.

A campaign initiated by PS Andrew Carr to prevent bullying secured £30,000 of funding. This money was used to produce a DVD and various forthcoming media campaigns by the schools and North NPTs to be included at relevant times during the curriculum.

Engagement of persons in public

The stop checking of 74 suspicious persons in public resulted in some valuable intelligence being submitted by our PCSOs. As a result this allowed us to build a better picture of some of our known suspects.

Arrests

A total of 15 arrests were made by the North and West NPTs during the week. These included drug related offences, offences that commenced as Anti-social Behaviour and also Criminal Damage.

We also dealt with a number of persons who were in possession of cannabis.

Traffic related matters

A number of our communities highlighted traffic related matters as a priority, the main one being speeding in built up areas. We ran a number of operations with the assistance of the ANPR department from Headquarters (Automatic Number plate Recognition), which resulted in nearly 8,000 vehicles being screened.

We concentrated on the North of Swindon during the week to consolidate our efforts.

The results below concentrate on Haydon Wick, Pinehurst and the Thamesdown Drive area:

5 x £30 tickets issued for vehicle related offences (tyres, defects).

2 x £60 tickets for speeding.

3 x persons given 7 days to produce documents at a police station.

17 persons were given the opportunity to comply with a vehicle defect scheme (they have a max of 14 days to rectify fault).

1 x arrest for driving whilst over the legal alcohol limit.

9 persons in vehicles were of police interest and suspected to be involved in crime.

As with other weeks, we ran a joint operation to target those individuals who fail to have current vehicle excise licences. This resulted in 27 vehicles being clamped, a number of which will be seized in the immediate future if the owners do not pay current and backdated funds.

Consultation Exercise.

As in other weeks, we ran a number of consultation exercises to find out the thoughts, concerns and opinions of our communities we serve. This is absolutely vital to make Swindon one of the safest places in the country to live and work. This resulted in over 350 persons being consulted about their area and, as a result, we will review a number of priorities.

Commercial Burglaries

Last year, North Sector saw an increase in the number of building sites broken into and items stolen such as tools, building materials and metals (lead, copper).

As a result we targeted our actions during the 'Week of Action' and this resulted in some of our locals being caught in the act in Westfield Way.

PCSO's James FOX and Lee HARE were flagged down by an alert member of the public who was concerned about a white van and an interesting noise coming from the building site on Westfield Way, Haydon Wick. This is where a new play park is being built. James and Lee arrived within minutes to find two people cutting their way into a metal container with a disc cutter, with the intention of stealing building tools from within. As a result both were arrested, charged and are due to appear in court.

Had it not been for the alert member of the community, this crime may not have been detected so quickly and the offenders could have gone on to commit more crime.

Housing Initiatives

North and West currently have fortnightly Housing and Anti-Social Behaviour Meetings.

A number of key people attend these meetings; including the police, staff from SBC, representatives from private landlords and local councillors (Steve Wakefield and Nick Martin for West Swindon)

If tenants commit crime or ASB, they generally breach their tenancy agreements. We will be heavily targeting these individuals. If they continue to commit crime they could ultimately lose their home.

We have already been successful in evicting one family who inflicted ASB on their neighbours in Penhill. We have a number of planned evictions in the pipeline in West Swindon.

Each NPT on North and West Sector produce monthly bulletins as of March 2008.

The March issue gives an overview of the area, the priorities and the Police Staff assigned to those areas.

We are currently developing a distribution list. You will be able to find them in key locations such as schools, community halls, doctor's surgeries and other key locations.

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