

Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel

3rd February 2020

Local Policing Team Update, Ch. Insp. Mark Thorley - Neighbourhood Policing Team Commander

This 12 months compared to the last Year to Date December 2019.

All crime

Moorlands - down 15 %

Force – down 10 %

Last year, following the challenge of moving to a new Policing model I reported a 4% increase in recorded crime, the first rise in crime since I came to the Moorlands policing team.

This year I am pleased to report that I am able to again report crime reductions.

Policing in the wake of austerity continues to be challenging, however the Moorlands Policing team continue to work hard, finding new and innovative ways of reducing crime and ASB, working ever closer with our partners for the benefit of the community, with some notable successes but also the occasional spike in acquisitive crime.

Good news

Less serious violent crime with injury, 40% reduction (290 less crimes)

More serious violent crime with injury, 34% reduction (21 less crimes)

Burglary residential Last year I reported had a reduction of 15%, this year sees further reductions of 12%, (19 less offences).

Criminal damage, 21% reduction, (160 less offences).

Bad news

Theft from motor vehicles, a 40% increase (45 more crimes)

Theft of motor vehicles, a 9% increase which has been increasing since October (6 more crimes)

Crime summary

The past year has again seen travelling criminals target the Moorlands, the nature of the geography will always mean that this as a vulnerability, but the recently created force road policing unit will now support my team by patrolling and targeting our road networks to identify and apprehend those travelling criminals, using intelligence led tactics to provide a tailored and effective response.

As well as the challenge to deter travelling criminals we have seen the actions of a small number of local criminals impact heavily on vehicle crime offences.

Most notably in the Cheddleton and Leek areas where two separate offenders during the summer months targeted insecure vehicles parked overnight.

Both were identified, one recalled to prison the other after a number of court appearance was remanded in custody.

Prior to and upon release from prison we continue to work with prolific offenders to ensure the motivation to commit crime is removed or reduced.

To date neither has yet re offended.

Visibility

Moorlands –73%.

Force –63%

Public Space Violence.

Working with the force and council licensing to target problematic premises and provide effective licensing enforcement, as well as visible policing during peak night time economy periods, significant reductions have again been achieved in all three Moorlands towns.

Moorlands PSV -13%

Force PSV -15%

ASB

Moorlands – 6% reduction (115 less incidents), currently sitting just above the lower exception levels and about to show further reductions having come through the winter period with notably fewer incidents.

Force – 10% reduction.

There have in previous years been issues in locations such as Werrington, Biddulph and Blythe Bridge, my team have worked closely in those areas with schools and our community safety partnership team to both educate and divert those who otherwise may have fallen into ASB

On those occasions when despite this youth related incidents occur, positive action is taken by means of a tiered response.

This would start with advice and support including the parents and school, with arrest and prosecution at the higher level.

Road traffic collisions

As a result of education and enforcement there continue to be reductions in those killed or seriously injured on the roads of the Staffordshire Moorlands with consistent reductions over the past two years.

Currently there is a 2% reduction in collisions classed as Killed or seriously injured, with two less fatal collisions than the previous year.

Resources.

Neighbourhood Police Constables remain at 22.

PCSO's remain at 22.

I have four NPT Sgts

In the coming months I am due to get a civilian Vulnerability coordinator who will work within the harm reduction hub at Leek.

The NPT is led by myself.

Due to a backlog in crime recording the data provided above is extracted from both incident and recorded crime data, recorded crime data being accurate up until Oct 2019.

Ch. Insp Mark Thorley.