

FORCE RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED BY POLICE AUTHORITY NEIGHBOURHOOD PANELS IN C DIVISION

INTRODUCTION

1. This report seeks to inform Committee Members of the Humberside Police response to:
 - Community concerns raised by the Police Authority Neighbourhood Panels in C Division, and;
 - The impact of any local Force and/or partnership initiatives as a consequence of these concerns; and

KEY LOCAL ISSUES RAISED

2. The key local issues raised by the community at Police Authority Neighbourhood Panels (PANels) were;
 - National and local policing restructuring
 - Resourcing and staffing levels
 - Call handling and contacting the police
3. In order to avoid duplication, the issues of national policing restructuring, call handling and contacting the police are being addressed at the full Police Authority Committee, 21 March 2006. Local policing restructuring, resourcing and staffing levels are being addressed by Operation Triton, as outlined below:

INFORMATION

Operation Triton: Restructuring C Division

4. The restructuring of C Division is required to enable the adoption of the Force's Volume Crime Model and the National Neighbourhood Policing Model, in addition to the third pillar of policing; Incident Resolution. The organisational structure and operating framework should be in place across C Division by November 2006.
5. The purpose of the Volume Crime Model is to focus on dealing with the investigation of volume crime as efficiently and effectively as possible for the purpose of improving performance in investigation and maximising the number of sanction detections.
6. The purpose of the national Neighbourhood Policing Model is to increase visibility and accessibility for the police in local communities; there will be regular contact with the same local officers, the local community will have

more of a say in local policing because of more effective ways of identifying and responding to what local people see as priorities. There will also be an improvement in local police accountability because the public will know who is responsible for reducing crime in their area. There will be dedicated police officers for each area and, as far as is reasonably possible, the officers will not be abstracted for other duties.

7. In the mid to long term, the Neighbourhood Policing Model will maximise the contributions of the wider policing family. In addition to police officers, who will be named Neighbourhood Officers, Neighbourhood Teams will include Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), Special Constables, and wherever possible, volunteers and Neighbourhood Wardens.
8. Within C Division the Neighbourhood Policing Model will be branded as Safer Neighbourhoods Policing, to reflect the neighbourhood aspect of the national model, and compliment the existing Safer Communities Partnership. It is hoped that the identification with the CDRP will help develop the partnership working in the area.
9. Implementation of the Models will see changes to resource allocation; however staffing levels have not yet been established. The Volume Crime Teams (VCT) will be located in three primary locations, and will be the responsibility of a Detective Chief Inspector who will monitor staffing levels at the locations on an on-going basis, to maintain performance levels. Neighbourhood Policing will be lead by five Neighbourhood Inspectors, responsible for Goole/Howden/Pocklington, Beverley/Hornsea, Bridlington/ Driffield, the Central Cluster of Cottingham, Haltemprice, Hessle and Hunsley, and Withernsea/Hedon. Incident Resolution Teams (IRTs) will cover the entire BCU area. The officers based at rural stations will be part of the Divisional IRTs and will be the responsibility of six IR Inspectors.
10. Neighbourhood officers will not carry reactive crime investigation case loads, except for cases that agreed by the officers and their supervisors. Generally speaking, these will be the cases that are directly relevant to the neighbourhood problem solving work that the officers are engaged in and the arrests will be an integral part of the intended solution to the problem.
11. Neighbourhood Inspectors will allocate their officers to serve identified neighbourhoods and each officer will perform the role of the neighbourhood policing manager for their designated neighbourhoods. The intention is for Neighbourhood Officers to be the 'known face of the police' for their allocated area and establish good community relations. Neighbourhood officers will lead on local problem solving and will play a key part in the development of local community intelligence. Neighbourhood Inspectors will, in consultation with partner agencies, develop local neighbourhood plans, which are responsive to community need and have emphasis on community engagement and the targeting of issues that matter to the community.
12. The main function of IRTs will be to respond to calls for service, attendance at scenes and the initial investigation of reported offences. This includes the completion of all appropriate initial enquiries and the gathering of any evidence available, which, whenever possible, should the

early identification and apprehension of suspects. IRTs will also be responsible for targeted patrols, as identified by the National Intelligence Model.

13. As a rule, IRT officers will not carry a reactive crime investigation case load. There will be exceptions, in a small number of cases where the IR supervisor asks for a case to be retained for an officer's personal development or, exceptionally by agreement by members of the Divisions Senior Management Team.
14. With the exception of a small number of cases, as above, the VCT will be responsible for the reactive crime investigation case load for the Division.
15. Neighbourhoods are 'geographical areas which are the size and character that best serves the needs of the community'; they are defined through local agreement of the police, its partners the local community. The Divisional Commander is working with the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership to reach an agreed definition of the neighbourhoods in C Division by 1 November 2006.
16. Building on the experience of other areas that have introduced Neighbourhood Policing, the Division has the following key objectives to develop Neighbourhood Policing:
 - Ensure leadership at every level
 - Build strong links with key personnel in partnership agencies
 - Develop a robust problem solving approach
 - Integrate neighbourhood policing with the National Intelligence Model
 - Keep well known, well informed officers in place
 - Involve the extended police family
 - Set up good local communications, both internally and externally

RECOMMENDATIONS

18. It is recommended that the Consultation and Partnership Committee:
 - i) Discuss the content of the Report
 - ii) Continue to refer matters of operational policing to the Chief Constable for appropriate action

TIM S HOLLIS
CHIEF CONSTABLE

Contact Officer: Chief Inspector Mark Summer, C Division Operations. Ext. 5885