
POLICE REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 To apprise Members of the current situation as far as the police action on crime and disorder is concerned.

2 MOBILE CCTV CAMERAS

2.1 Hullbridge

- 2.1.1 Mobile CCTV cameras were set up during October in a residential road to combat regular damage and harassment towards a schoolteacher who resides in the road. Images captured and enquiries in hand in an effort to identify the offenders.

2.2 Clements Hall

- 2.2.2 Mobile CCTV cameras were set up at beginning of December following a spate of thefts from lockers. Two persons have subsequently been arrested after having been found in possession of property stolen from the location so, although cameras are still in situ for the time being, they may be removed if an alternative demand is identified.

3 FIREWORKS NIGHT

- 3.1 There is now widespread community concern over the gradual transition from Fireworks Night to Fireworks Month and the equally disconcerting fact that the fireworks seem to be getting larger and louder. This is giving rise to demands for some type of regulation and current suggestions vary from restrictions on the period during which fireworks can be purchased to an outright restriction on their sale except for public events.
- 3.2 From a policing point of view, there were no serious problems of fireworks misuse brought to our attention and it would be fair to say that "Halloween" tends to present more problems - disorderly behaviour such as egg throwing.

4 HATE CRIME

- 4.1 Up to and including 17 December 2001, there had been 10 racial incidents and 5 homophobic incidents reported as having occurred within the Rayleigh and Rochford Sections. These are low figures when compared with Castle Point and neighbouring divisions. A number of court cases are still pending because offenders have elected trial at the Crown Court but there have still been some successful prosecutions. To single out two:

-
- 4.1.1 In Rochford, a black resident and his family suffered racial abuse from a couple in the same neighbourhood and it culminated in a corrosive liquid being thrown over the victim's car. A male offender, one of the couple mentioned was found guilty and fined £150 with £150 Costs and £580 Compensation.
- 4.1.2 In Rayleigh, damage and racially aggravated threatening behaviour at a fast food outlet. Juvenile offender sent to Young Offenders' Institution for 4 months (included other matters) and an adult offender given 140 hours Community Service with £75 costs and £100 Compensation.
- 4.2 Of the homophobic incidents, none was serious and in most cases, victims simply wanted them logged in case of any further developments. No repeat victimisation has been reported.
- 4.2 Plans are in hand for a scaled-down Hate Crime "Roadshow" to visit Rayleigh, Hockley, Rochford and Wakering around April / May 2002 i.e. when the warmer weather arrives.

5 ALCOHOL

- 5.1 As has become customary, Essex Police were mounting the annual "Christmas and New Year Drink / Driving Campaign" which ran from 1st December 2001 until 2nd January 2002. The results can be made available in due course.
- 5.2 There is increasing opinion that, in the crime reduction arena, alcohol is taking second place to drugs misuse. However, recent national statistics show alcohol as a major ingredient in:
- 44% of all violent incidents
 - 70% of all stabbings and beatings
 - 40% of all incidents of domestic violence

The partnership may wish to ensure that alcohol related crime and disorder remains firmly on the agenda.

6 HOME OFFICE FUNDING

- 6.1 At a recent Home Office Regional Networking Conference, Dr Henry Tam, Eastern Region Crime Reduction Director, expressed his intention to review funding to crime reduction partnerships. For many years, funding has been obtained through competitive bidding but, more recently, unsolicited allocation of Partnership Support, Partnership Development and Communities Against Drugs funding has been so well received that Dr Tam would hope, in the longer term, to see all funding distributed in this manner.

7 DIVISIONAL COMMANDER

- 7.1 Following the re-introduction of the rank of Chief Superintendent within the Essex Police Service, our divisional commander, Jim Noakes, now holds the rank of Chief Superintendent. This formalises seniority that was previously linked to role and pay scales.

8 CRIME STATISTICS

- 8.1 These are attached as [appendices](#). The majority are broken down into beats but a sample of [charts](#) have also been included. Some of these charts illustrate how statistical information can be provided for wards. In this instance the wards of St.Andrews, Roche, Eastward and Grange and Rawreth have been provided. It should be noted that on the other charts beat J11 applies to the Rayleigh section and J13 to the Rochford section.

9 RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 It is proposed that the Sub-Committee **RECOMMENDS**
That this report be noted. (CEX)

Essex Police

For further information please contact Stephen Garland.

Telephone: (01702) 318103
E-Mail:- stephen.garland@rochford.gov.uk