

## **1. Three Year Crime and ASB trends**

In terms of total crime across the ward per month, there is an average of 230 reported incidents. This will rise and fall as the year progresses taking into account the different seasons, term time etc.

These peaks and troughs are different in nature this year compared to the previous 12 month period which is particularly surprising in the Summer months where in the previous period there was a spike with it reaching over 260 crimes in August, this current 12 month period reported crime has sat on or just below the average with this period having an unusual spike in May where nearly 300 crimes were reported.

In comparison to the other wards on the NPA, along with Beaumont, this ward has significantly more reported crimes being recorded.

Obviously the above relates to all reported crime and can be a bit misleading if looked at in isolation. We will therefore look to break this down a bit more in the following paragraphs.

There has been a noticeable improvement in relation to residential burglaries over this current period compared with the previous 12 months. Of note, in one particular month last period there was over 29 reported burglaries compared to the same month the following year, there is a reduction to almost a 1/3<sup>rd</sup>. In fact, the whole current period is noticeably under the average which demonstrates a consistent improvement throughout the year.

My professional opinion is of a significant problem relating to drugs being of concern across the ward. Despite this, it has not been reflected in the recorded figures with the average being 4 reported drug related crime a month. Thinking wider, this will relate to the fact that a lot of other reported crimes will have drugs as a precursor. An example of this is theft related offences to which it is often the case that offenders commit these crimes to fund their drug addictions. Of note, in May 2019 there was a huge spike in recorded drug offences. However, this was at a time when the Force was carrying out Operation Lionheart, a massive Forcewide operation to tackle offenders linked to drug supply and county line concerns.

With regard both robberies and offensive weapon offences (i.e. carrying of knives), these figures are relatively low especially when you consider the public perception around knife crime for example. These offences can often also be linked with threat of violence often being made either with a knife seen or the threat of its existence.

Offensive weapon figures the previous years are recorded on average at 2 a month. In the last 12 months, to view on a graph, the recording is more erratic in peaks and troughs with noticeable spikes being in both June and December however, to add perspective, these spikes only hit 5 recordings. These type of figures are similar when looking at robberies, again with the average from previous years being 2 recording per month. In the most recent 12 months this has been the same except from one anomaly month in June when it spiked at 6. This is not part of a pattern or forecast as previous years registered zero.

With regard knife crime it is widely recognised both locally and across the force, the impact knives can have in the community. To support and combat this, the NPA provides designated staff to patrol recognised hot spots for knife crime to which certain areas of NW01 apply, more specifically on

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Aikman Avenue, in and around the shops and fire station. We also attend a number of the educational establishments to provide information, advice and support. Lastly, we also identify certain people to target and disrupt. These people are labelled as habitual knife carriers (HKC).

As referenced previously, ASB is a recognised problem of concern for the community. We combat this through a variety of means. These are, but not limited to, high visibility patrols, local engagement and working with housing for example to issue relevant warnings should previous attempts to resolve an issue not be successful.

Over the last few years there has been an average of 40 reports a month being made. It will come as little surprise that during the summer period these reports rise to 60+ a month and in the colder winter months this reduces to under 30. The main area where the issues occur is in and around St. Oswalds Road which is the location of a number of community, youth and leisure centres. We work closely with the establishments to identify the people causing the problems. We then work to engage, educate and divert them from offending. Should these attempts not work, we then explore the criminal justice route. An excellent recent example of work carried out by the team has been to set up a youth café at the community centre involving a group of 10+ youths who have been identified as repeat ASB offenders.









