

TILLEY AWARD 2003

Project Title : *ALERT COMMUNITIES IN ACTION'*

Category 3 : *PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS*

Name of Police Force (and CDRP for Partnership entries) :

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Endorsing Chief Officers :

*AVChief Superintendent D Cotton, District Commander, Foyle DCU
Mr Sean Mackie, Area Manager, Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Mrs Mary Lynch, Project Manager, Rural Community Estates Programme
Mrs Kathleen Doherty, Chairperson, Foyle Community Forum*

Contact Details :

*Inspector Milton Kerr
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Tilley Award 2003 Format for summaries


(For guidance on preparing summaries please see the brochure, and guidance on the website)

Project title

Name of Police Force (and partnership for partnership entries)

Contact person: name and telephone number/email address

The nature of the problem addressed

 The evidence used to define the problem

The response to the problem

The impact of the response and how this was measured

TILLEY AWARD 2003

Project Title : *ALERT COMMUNITIES IN ACTION*

Name of Police Force (and Partnership for Partnership entries) :

POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Contact Details :

*Inspector Milton Kerr
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BT47 5QZ*

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Nature of Problem to be Addressed

Crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Evidence Used to Define the Problems

Statistical information from our Crime Analysts, including background, crime patterns analysis, location profiles, victim and offender profiles, intelligence, analysis of the problems and proposals for future action.

Response to the Problems

This came from our commitment to a partnership approach with local Community Forums, to address community safety issues and improve the quality of life for all. A decision was made to pilot an 'Alert Communities in Action Project' in the Eglinton and District area. A community safety audit was conducted and the project commenced with a high profile launch on 15 April 2003. A decision has since been made by the 11 Community Forums operating in the Derry City Council area and the police to expand the project through the Foyle District Command area.

Impact of the Response

This is measured in qualitative terms by:-

- Increased awareness of community safety
- Increased awareness of personal safety
- Increased levels of well being
- Increased linkage and liaison with local statutory/voluntary agencies
- Crime pattern analysis is also used to examine the success of the project

Attached at Appendix 'A', please find a description of the project, which includes:-

- The objectives of the project
- How the problems were defined, including crime pattern analysis for domestic burglaries, criminal damage, vehicle crime and youths causing annoyance
- Methods to deal with the problems

Attached at Appendix 'B', please find a description of the pilot project carried out in the Eglinton and District area, which has greatly increased awareness of community safety issues in general and has encouraged a considerable number of local people to become involved in their local community forum.

Also attached is a press release in relation to the launch of the Eglinton project, the presentation given by Inspector Kerr and Mary Lynch at the launch.

Attached at Appendix 'C', please find letters from the endorsing Chief Officers.

Attached at Appendix 'D', please find details of our aims and objectives to deliver the goal of making 'Policing with the Community' the core function of the PSNI in Foyle District Command Unit.



M KERR
Inspector
Sector Policing Manager
Foyle DCU

☎ 40754

TILLEY AWARD 2003

Description of the 'Alert Communities in Action'

Project for the Derry City Council Area

**ALERT COMMUNITIES IN ACTION –
A COMMUNITY SAFETY PROGRAMME FOR THE DERRY CITY COUNCIL AREA**

- a) The 11 community forums, which exist in the Derry City Council area, collectively known as the 'Foyle Community Forums', first came together as a chairperson's group on 14 November 2002 as a result of an initiative by Inspector Kerr, the Sector Policing Manager for Foyle DCU. They are now a Community Safety Partnership. This structure has been formalised with a constitution and business plan.

The key partners in this project will be the Foyle Community Forums and the Police Service of Northern Ireland, together with other statutory/voluntary agencies.

The project is proposed by the PSNI Foyle District Command Unit (Inspector Milton Kerr, Sector Policing Manager for Foyle District Command Unit – 028 71 367337, extension 40754 or mobile telephone number 07764 638385).

- b) Community safety issues to be addressed. Statistical information and crime pattern analysis are included in the programme.
- c) Information on how this project will address the problem is also included in the programme.
- d) **Funding**

Estimated cost of the project for year one –

Launch of project and publicity	£5,000
Administration and development support	£5,000
Leaflets/posters on community safety	£4,000
Flyers/information cards	£4,000
Alert community signs (to include erection, replacement and insurance)	£20,000
Security packages	£10,000
Installation of packages	£6,000

Total amount of financial contribution from other funding sources to be researched.

Estimate of 'in kind' funding from partner organisations to be researched.

Amount applied for – £50,000 in first financial year. A total of £150,000 over a 3 year period.

Arrangements for financial control and accountability – the accounting system will be manual. The project will be overseen by the management committee and monitored financially by a sub committee. This will be reviewed bi-monthly. The organisation will be financially accountable and will provide audited accounts. It is proposed that the management committee will consist of the Foyle Community Forums Partnership, the PSNI and other relevant agencies.

e) ***Monitoring and Evaluation***

The project will be measured in qualitative terms by topics such as:

- Increased awareness of community safety
- Increased awareness of personal safety
- Increased levels of well being
- Increased linkage and liaison with local statutory/voluntary agencies and the PSNI

The project will be monitored and evaluated using the voluntary activity unit method of evaluation.

Signed:

M. Kerr Inspector
Police Service of Northern Ireland

ALERT COMMUNITIES IN ACTION

A community safety programme for the Derry District Council area

*A project proposed by the PSNI and the 11 community forums
which exist in the council area
(Foyle Community Forums Partnership)*

1. **Future Forum** (Rosemount/Creggan)
2. **Shantallow North Forum** (includes Galliagh/Ballymagroarty)
3. **Culmore Rural Forum**
4. **Fountain Forum**
5. **City Centre Forum** (includes Bogside)
6. **Waterside Urban Forum**
7. **Waterside Rural Forum** (Newbuildings/Tullyally/Currynierin/Drumahoe/
Prehen/Strathfoyle)
8. **Eglinton and District Forum**
9. **Claudy and Learmount Forum** (includes Park)
10. **Foyle Youth Forum** (citywide)
11. **North West Forum of People with Disabilities**

BE ACTIVE, BE ALERT, BE INVOLVED

BACKGROUND

Eleven community forums now exist in the Derry District Council area. They were formed at different times from interested bodies of local people, some of whom had previously participated on community police liaison committees. Their first joint meeting was held on 14 November 2002 and they now meet every 2 months.

The aims and objectives of the Foyle Community Forum are:

- To make sure that the needs and views of all sections of the community are taken into account as fully as possible on community safety issues.
- To improve community safety by involving local people in finding solutions to local crime and associated problems.
- To improve relations between the police and the community.
- To formalise links with other organisations with a vested interest in public safety, to develop working relationships with them and in particular the Police Service.

The above objectives relate to ongoing community development programmes in the Derry District Council area.

In order to address these objectives and responding to needs assessment already carried out in some areas, the issue of community safety has been identified as an area of concern for local people living in the Foyle Community Forum areas.

These concerns have been identified by consultation with members of the older residents in the area, members of the 11 community forums and by regular meetings/consultation with the local PSNI in Foyle District Command Unit.

The project will be based on evidence obtained from 2 pilot projects currently operating in the Eglinton and Tullyally areas of Derry. These are demonstration projects being conducted following community safety audits, which are currently being carried out by NIACRO in consultation with the community. Both of these projects have been highly publicised in the local press, radio and television and through public information evenings. They were showcased at high profile launches attended by NIO officials, local Myles/councillors and other representative bodies.

This project will initially target 900 local people from each of the 9 geographical community forums in Derry City Council area. These will be disadvantaged persons as identified under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Equal Opportunities Act. These persons will be identified through the Foyle Community Forums or by referrals from the PSNI and other statutory or voluntary sector agencies.

This project will in the first year, provide signs promoting each area as an 'Alert Community Area'. Leaflets and posters will be produced promoting a 'Good Neighbour Scheme' and put in place practical assistance with home security measures for those identified in need ie door lock, door viewer, personal alarm and front door camera linked to television where necessary. Further initiatives will follow in years 2 and 3.

The 3 year project will create a partnership approach to community safety issues in Derry City Council area and will evidence the need for further work in creating an active alert community.

SAFE IN THE COMMUNITY

The concept of community safety and the need to feel secure within your own home is particularly necessary for the elderly, vulnerable and persons with disabilities. The project will seek to create a sense of well being and community participation among its participants. It will also strive to create a partnership approach to the issues of community safety, particularly crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

WHAT IS AN 'ALERT COMMUNITY'?

In community development terms an 'alert community' is defined as follows:

- *An 'alert community' project is a scheme organised by voluntary/community groups in association with the PSNI and other relevant local statutory/voluntary agencies.*
- *A scheme which aims to increase the safety of older and vulnerable persons.*
- *Reassurance for the targeted groups living in the City Council area that their neighbours/community are concerned for their well being.*
- *A project which ensures that 'good neighbours' are alert to suspicious activity in the area and report same to the Police Service as necessary.*
- *Foster better relations between the local communities and the Police Service and other statutory agencies.*
- *Develop a 'good neighbour' ethos*
 - *Get to know your neighbours, particularly those living alone*
 - *Call in and visit, run an errand – it's something like human contact that counts*
 - *Be alert – if you see any persons/vehicles acting suspiciously, call the police at any time*
 - *Keep an eye on your property and that of your neighbours*
 - *Be aware of safety initiatives.*

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU – PLAY YOUR PART

BE ACTIVE, BE ALERT, BE INVOLVED

Name of CSP or Lead Applicant	PSNI/Foyle Community Forums Partnership
Contact Name:	Milton Kerr, Inspector
Contact Address:	Waterside PSNI Station 51 Richill Park Waterside Londonderry BT47 5QZ
Contact Telephone Number:	028 71 367337, extension 40750 Mobile: 07764 638385
Brief description of the proposed project, including its main aims;	An Alert Community Action Project – Main aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve community safety • To formalise links with relevant statutory/ voluntary agencies • To produce and implement a community safety action plan
District Council area:	Derry City Council covered by Foyle DCU
Total Project Cost:	£150,000 (over 3 years)

CHAIRPERSONS LIST

CLAUDY & LEARMOUNT

CHAIRPERSON – JACK McAULEY

EGLINTON & DISTRICT

CHAIRPERSON – DESSIE RODGERS

CULMORE & RURAL

CHAIRPERSON – CHARLIE McDAID

SHANTALLOW NORTH

CHAIRPERSON – MARION QUINN

WATERSIDE RURAL

CHAIRPERSON – TOM McCLELLAND

WATERSIDE URBAN

CHAIRPERSON – DREW THOMPSON

FUTURE FORUM

CHAIRPERSON – CATHLEEN DOHERTY

YOUTH FORUM

CHAIRPERSON – DEANE O'DONNELL

CITY FORUM

CHAIRPERSON – GERALDINE DONAGHY

FOUNTAIN FORUM

CHAIRPERSON – PAM MITCHELL

NORTH WEST FORUM FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

CHAIRPERSON – CATHY RAFFERTY

FOYLE FORUM CHAIRPERSON PARTNERSHIP

CHAIRPERSON - CATHLEEN DOHERTY



Domestic Burglaries in Foyle DCU

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Produced by Police Analysts
Foyle DCU
Ext 57076, 16/05/03

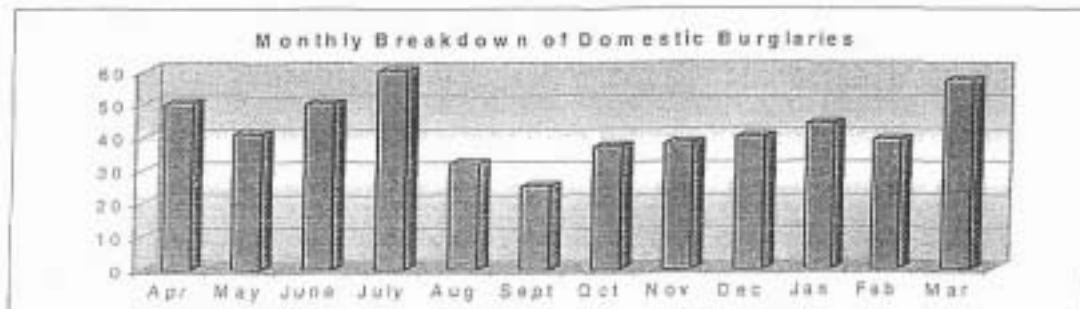
Background to Problem

- Domestic burglaries in Foyle DCU have been on an increasing trend since October, and have rose to the highest levels in eight months during March 2003, with 57 recorded offences. Domestic burglaries accounts for approximately 10% of all recorded offences in Foyle DCU.
- In the time period 01/04/2002—31/03/2003 there were 513 reported domestic burglaries in the DCU—equivalent to approximately 43 domestic burglaries per month
- 65% of domestic burglaries occur in the Cityside, with 25% occurring in the Waterside and the remaining 10% occurring in the rural areas of Claudy and Eglinton.
- In the 12-month period examined, the estimated value of items stolen at domestic burglaries (01/04/02 – 31/03/03) was £192,756
- The clearance rate for all domestic burglaries in 02/03 in Foyle DCU is 9% (based on figures from Saturn). This is compared to 11% clearance for North region.
- Domestic burglary did not meet the Policing Plan target (Oct – Dec 02) which was 42.8 burglaries per month, and is unlikely to meet the targets for the last quarter (Jan – Mar 03).

This report aims to identify hotspot locations and likely victims, profile likely perpetrators (based on characteristics of previous offenders), outline the perceived causes of the problem and suggest some proposals for further action. The report should be used as an aid to planning for a Domestic Burglary Reduction Strategy in Foyle DCU.

Overview of Domestic Burglaries

There has been a total of 513 recorded domestic burglaries in Foyle DCU in the period from 01/04/02—31/03/03—equivalent to approximately 10 domestic burglaries per week. The graph below gives a monthly comparison of recorded domestic burglaries in the DCU for the 12 month period. The graph shows that domestic burglaries were at their highest in July, before falling to their lowest in September, although the graph highlights that burglaries have been on an increasing trend since October, rising to the highest number of incidents in 8 months during March.



Crime Pattern Analysis

Crime Pattern Analysis has been carried out on all domestic burglaries in the DCU from April 2002—March 2003, to identify areas which are most likely to be targeted and key times in which incidents occur.

Analysis shows that 65% of domestic burglaries occur in the Cityside, with 25% occurring in the Waterside and the remaining 10% occurring in the rural areas of Claudy and Eglinton.

Incident Detail Breakdown

MO

MO information recorded on domestic burglaries in Foyle DCU is poor, with information provided lacking detail. One third of all domestic burglary incidents did not have any MO information recorded on ICIS.

Almost half of all incidents (with MO information available) involved forced entry to property. Of these 70% involved forcing a door or door lock. 15% of forced entries involved window frames or glass removed or tampered with.

Almost 30% of incidents were opportunistic, with the culprit walking into an unlocked house.

There were 25 creeper burglaries in the DCU, half of which involved the actual theft of the vehicle.

There were 9 recorded bogus caller incidents which resulted in burglaries taking place. The majority of these involved 2 males. Intelligence received regarding these culprits, coupled with various descriptions from IP's resulted in detailed descriptions and names being released to DCU personnel.

Victim Profile

Analysis has been carried out to build up a profile of the victims of domestic burglary in the DCU—this is to aid targeting of crime prevention advice to those most likely to be victims.

Age of victim was analysed in order to identify any age groups which are more vulnerable to domestic burglary i.e. elderly, students. Results indicated that no one particular age group is more likely to be targeted.

In all bogus caller incidents in which a burglary took place, all victims were over the age of 70.

The Occupation of the victim was only recorded in 25% of cases—this poor recording makes it difficult to adequately assess whether particular groups are more at risk than others. Of those recorded, 37% were unemployed, 11% retired and 10% medical professions.

Analysis of Problem

- The high number of students living in the City contributes to the high volume of burglaries, particularly in areas such as Rosemount and Lower Strand Road. Both these areas have been identified as main hotspots in the DCU. Although analysis indicated that no particular group is more likely to be identified as victims, this may be due in part to poor recording on crime forms. Due to the high numbers of students living in both these areas, it is likely that students are the victims in these areas. Research has previously highlighted the fact that students are likely to be among the most at risk of burglary. Their age, income, hours leaving property empty, and they usually arrive at their university accommodation with the most popular goods taken at burglaries. Source: Mirrlees-Black et al 1998 in Burglary Prevention, Home Office.
- Poor data recording on Form 38's within Foyle DCU hinders further analysis being carried out. Firstly, in relation to victims, only 25% of cases had the occupations of victims recorded. This lack of detail makes it difficult to adequately assess whether particular groups of people or occupations, students for example, are more at risk than others. Secondly MO information was not recorded in more than 1/3 of all cases. This makes it difficult to tie certain prolific burglars known in the DCU with similar MO's to the crime, therefore reducing the number of potential clearances. Clearance levels in Foyle DCU were 9% for domestic burglary, compared with 11% for North region.
- There were 30% of all domestic burglaries in Foyle DCU that were opportunistic with burglars entering residences that had unlocked doors and insecure windows. This clearly illustrates the fact that many residents are not security conscious, often leaving their doors unlocked or windows open when they left their property for periods of time.
- The most popular items stolen in domestic burglaries are jewellery, cash, audio and electrical equipment and telecom equipment. The majority of these items are small in size, quick to access in the dwelling and could easily be carried on foot, without the help of a vehicle. Home Office research also found that the most commonly stolen items in burglaries were cash, jewellery, videos and audio equipment. The cost of items stolen in burglaries in Foyle DCU for the stated time period was £192,756, which averages almost £400 per household. This does not include the cost of damage caused in burglaries.
- The distance travelled to commit crime has proved significant in the analysis. 98% of all offenders accused of burglaries in Foyle DCU in the time period stated live in the City. This is supported by Home Office research which states that most criminals tend to commit crime in areas local to where they live. This finding indicates that when investigating burglaries in the DCU, it is most likely that one of the local prolific burglars may be involved.

Proposals for Further Action

- Multi-agency approach with Council, Housing Executive, Housing Associations re. upgrading dwelling security, and access paths etc.

In order to try and reduce the domestic burglary problem in Foyle DCU, a multi agency approach could be set up with Crime Prevention and the Housing Executive and various Housing associations in the City. The problem could initially be addressed at a meeting, highlighting the main problems relating to domestic burglaries in the City. Various suggestions for reducing the problem could be highlighted including:

- Produce the facts and figures that highlight the reduction of burglaries in residences that have security measures fitted. Chula Vista Police Department carried out an extensive study on domestic burglaries and they found that they could have the greatest impact on domestic burglaries by promoting environmental design characteristics as 'built in' features for new housing developments in the City (Source Excellence in Problem-Oriented Policing, COPS). This could be suggested for any new developments planned throughout the City. Measures that could be incorporated include doors with deadbolt locks, secure locks on windows etc.
- Suggest the introduction of a scheme aimed at making available certain categories of householders who may be eligible for free security upgrading on their property. Those eligible may live in certain hotspot areas, for example. All previous victims of burglary could be offered this scheme. A similar system called the KeepSafe Scheme was set up in Cambridge and those eligible included burglary victims, pensioners, people receiving benefits. These people received free door locks. (Source: Preventing Residential Burglary in Cambridge, Trevor Bennet & Linda Durie). Local businesses could be approached in order to see if they would provide funding for this scheme.
- Suggest a scheme aimed at providing and fitting gates etc. to access ways, paths and alley ways at the side and rear of properties, particularly in housing estates where domestic burglaries are a problem. The aim of this is to prevent access to the side and rear of properties by potential offenders.

- Community Forum groups setting up Neighbourhood Watch Schemes
Neighbourhood watch schemes could be set up in conjunction with Community forum groups in the City. Up until recently Police had little or no contact with many areas within the City. Now that the majority of areas have community forum groups police involved could arrange various talks in providing advice on house security, setting up an effective neighbourhood watch scheme and provide advice on the successful running of these schemes.

- Targeted Patrolling

Targeted patrolling of hotspot locations and times highlighted in the Sector analysis provided earlier in the report should be used and built into routine patrolling patterns. Problem locations should be visited a number of times during the hotspot

times identify in order to try and identify any culprits in the area, and to provide a deterrent for committing crime due to the police presence in the area.

- **Introduction of CCTV in Hotspot Areas**

Discussions with the C.C.I. could take place in order to highlight the various hotspot locations for domestic burglaries and discuss the possibility of the provision of cameras in some of the hotspot areas. The provision of CCTV in these areas may reduce the fear of crime for residents in these areas and may help identify culprits if they are caught on camera.

- **Media Campaign Regarding Home Safety**

A media campaign could be introduced in conjunction with the local papers and local television giving crime prevention advice on securing properties and various preventative measures in order to deter burglars.



Criminal Damage in Foyle DCU

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Produced by Police Analysts
Foyle DCU
Ext 57076, 16/05/03

Background to Problem

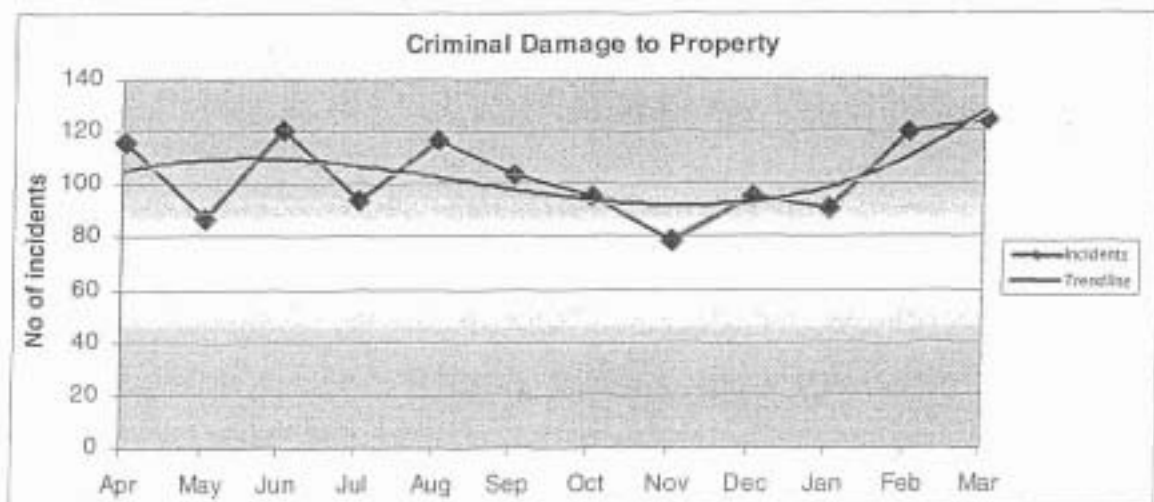
- In the last two months Criminal Damage to Property has risen to a comparable level to Offences Against the Person in Foyle DCU – making it the highest volume crime in the DCU for the first time in 2 years. In March, Criminal Damage to Property accounted for 22% of all recorded offences in Foyle DCU.
- In the time period 01/04/2002 - 31/03/2003, there were 2229 reports of Criminal Damage in the DCU—equivalent to 6 reports per day
- 56% of all reported Criminal Damage in this time period was Damage to Property – a total of 1246 incidents, equivalent to 24 cases per week. The remainder is Damage to Vehicles (19 cases per week)
- 71% of all Criminal Damage to Property is Damage to Private Property, 17% is Damage to Commercial Property, and 12% is Damage to Public Property (such as schools and hospitals)
- In the 12-month period examined, the estimated value of Criminal Damage to Property in Foyle DCU totalled almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million pounds (£747,425)
- The clearance rate for all Criminal Damage in the DCU for 02/03 is 11.6% (as at 11th March 03), compared to a clearance rate of 15.0% for all of North Region (Source: Saturn)

This report aims to identify hotspot locations and repeat victims, profile likely perpetrators (based on characteristics of previous offenders), outline the perceived causes of the problem and suggest some proposals for further action. The report should be used as an aid to planning for a Criminal Damage Reduction Strategy in Foyle DCU.

Overview of Criminal Damage Problem in Foyle DCU

There have been a total of 2229 recorded incidents of Criminal Damage in Foyle DCU in the period from 01/04/02—31/03/03, 56% of which were damage to property. There are currently 24 cases per week of Criminal Damage to Property in the DCU. Criminal Damage to Property accounted for 22% of all Volume Crime in Foyle DCU in March 03.

The graph below gives a monthly comparison of recorded Criminal Damage to property in the DCU for the 12-month period. It shows that over the last 4 months criminal damage to property has been on an increasing trend (shown by the black line).



Breakdown of Criminal Damage to Property

	To Private Property	To Commercial Property	To Public Property
Number of incidents	890	211	145

The table above shows a breakdown of the type of property which was damaged in the DCU in the 12-month period.

Analysis of problem

- ◊ **Broken Windows Theory**
The Broken Windows Theory suggests that vandalism in a neighbourhood indicates disorder and neglect, encouraging further damage and neglect, and is seen by residents as a sign that crime in their neighbourhood is rising. As residents perceive there to be more crime, their level of fear is increased. Clearly preventing vandalism is important in improving people's quality of life
- ◊ **Fear of Crime and Cost to Victim**
Findings from the Fear of Crime in Northern Ireland NIO Crime Survey in November 2002 showed that respondents who had recently been victims of crime expressed greater levels of worry about crime and personal safety than did non-victims. This directly impinges on quality of life. In addition, those worst affected by Criminal Damage to property are often poorer individuals/families who are least able to move away or bear the cost of the Damage.
The cost to the Victim is not just that of the actual damage but also includes high/rising insurance premiums in areas of high crime. There is also the cost to Housing Associations of moving families and to renters of loss of rent from vandalised homes. An additional cost is the cost of police time in dealing with these incidents and the cost of prosecuting.
- ◊ **Problem around arterial routes out of City at pub closing times and Offenders often under influence of alcohol**
Many incidents of criminal damage to property take place when the offender is under the influence of alcohol. In addition, damage often occurs on arterial routes out of the City in the early hours of the morning, particularly along the Strand Road, Northland Road, Spencer Road and Clooney Terrace. Analysis has also revealed that 61% of offenders are under the influence of alcohol at time of offending. The provision of night-buses out of the City might help alleviate this problem.
- ◊ **Link to YCA**
Home Office research has proven the overlap between anti-social behaviour and youth crime. Analysis of incidents in Foyle found that 26% of offenders in the DCU were aged between 11 - 18. In addition, many of the hotspot areas identified are also areas where YCA is high, and the timing of offences is largely in the evenings. In addition one in three was under the influence of alcohol

when they committed the crime, again highlighting the underage drinking problem in the DCU. The question is whether this is due to lack of facilities for young people in these areas, or whether something in the area is attracting young people there to congregate.

- 3. **Difficulty in targeting large proportion of offenders**
Home Office research has found that disengaged young men (those not in stable employment or without qualifications) are almost twice as likely to be an offender for Anti-Social Behaviour than other young men. This is borne out in our situation, with unemployed males aged 19-35 being one of our most prominent groups of offenders for Criminal Damage to Property in Foyle DCU. The difficulty is how to target this group to discourage this behaviour.
- 4. **Housing allocation policies and lack of multi-agency approach**
Studies have found that the number of children housed in an area can be a good predictor of an area's rate of criminal damage. Since 26% of all offenders in the DCU in the last year were youths, these findings could probably be applied here. Also since attitudes to actions of youths will vary according to age, and behaviour which is acceptable to one age group might not be acceptable to another, a number of factors will probably contribute to an area's criminal damage problem. These include different layout designs of an area, social make-up of area, interactions of inhabitants in an area and the overall management of an area.
- 5. **Low detection rate and reporting for insurance purposes only**
Almost half of all incidents are reported for insurance purposes only, with no police attendance requested – this often means incidents remain uncleared, reducing clearance rates while crime rates increase. In addition, lack of information from the IP means detection of offenders is virtually impossible.

Proposals for Further Action

- 6. **Multi-agency approach with Housing authorities re. Tenancy agreements and housing policies**
 - ⇒ In attempting to tackle the Criminal Damage problem in the DCU, it is necessary to work with other agencies whose legal powers can complement/add to those of the PSNI. Housing Associations have powers to deal with tenants involved in anti-social behaviour. They should be encouraged to have tenancy agreements, which should also include sanctions available for use against tenants whose children commit Criminal Damage/YCA in an area. In return police could agree to provide evidence to organisations to assist civil proceedings where nuisance/criminal tenants had been identified (i.e. act as witnesses/evidence gatherers).
 - ⇒ Another suggestion is that an arrangement could be made between Housing Authorities and Community Groups that a proportion of any reduction in the cost of Criminal Damage in a particular area for the next year, will be passed back to that area in the form of funding for projects devised by that Community – this could be, for example, improvement of facilities for young people, or of lighting, or provision of a youth worker for x hours per week in that area. This

gives ownership of the problem to the local community, and may result in peer pressure being applied within the area for young people to 'clean up their act'

⇒ The final suggestion is that consideration should be given to Housing Authorities policies in relation to placement of families. If an estate has a high number of families with teenage children, there is more likely to be reports of youths congregating, leading to an increase in Criminal Damage and YCA. This will be compounded if the area lacks social and recreational provisions for young people. Wider dispersal of families with teenage children throughout the DCU may help to reduce the problem. Things to be considered in housing policies include the combination of features of design and layout, the social make-up, interactions of inhabitants and the overall management of the area (Source: Preventing Vandalism: What works?, Police Research Group)

○ Criminal Justice System – mediation between victim and offender

A recent study (Attitudes to Crime, Crime Reduction and Community Safety in N.I, March 2000) found that around half of people in N.I think that the police and courts do not have enough ways of dealing with young offenders. It also found that ¾ of people would be prepared to participate in a meeting to help decide what would happen if a young person was to commit a petty crime against them. Four out of five people questioned in the 1996 British Crime Survey believed the most effective solution to crime lay outside the criminal justice system and in the home, the school and the workplace.

Some form of victim-offender mediation might be beneficial in tackling the criminal damage problem, so long as all parties consent and the offender has admitted guilt. Reparation by the offender in the form of service or payment to the victim or the local community could then be agreed.

It is also necessary that potential offenders know some form of action will be taken against them – encouraging officers to be positive and to consistently intervene at a low level, should result in an increase in public confidence in the police, diminish general fear of crime, and effect changes in the public's behaviour. (Source: Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Home Office Publication)

○ Target hardening in hotspots, and use of CCTV

Target hardening measures should be considered in hotspot areas, and in particular, at locations of repeat victimisation. This might include using polycarbonate for windows (which is resistant to smashing but looks like glass), increasing perimeter security, improving lighting, and restricting access to certain areas or opening up hidden areas vulnerable to vandalism to improve sight lines. Surveillance from residents should also be encouraged – this could be in the form of neighbourhood watch type schemes, promoted through community forums. Research has shown that offenders will often be deterred if they think the environment is controlled by its users and residents.

The addition of a PA system to the CCTV cameras in hotspot locations in the City Centre, and in the commercial area of the Waterside, could also help with the problem. People monitoring the CCTV could activate a pre-recorded message telling would-be offenders that they are now being monitored, if suspicious activity is observed. This would be a simple way to deter likely offenders without infringing on Human Rights Legislation.

Relationships with young people and involvement of parents

In a recent study (Attitudes to Crime, Crime Reduction and Community Safety in N.I, March 2000) increased discipline in the family is both the most commonly suggested crime reduction measure and the one rated most important by the greatest proportion of people in N.I. The attitude and behaviour of parents/partners is likely to have an effect on the likelihood of re-offending. Some police forces in England have developed a formal letter system to parents of identified perpetrators, to inform them of their child's behaviour. This includes notification if alcohol has been confiscated from a youth. If a first letter is ignored/not acknowledged, parents would be asked to attend the police station for a meeting. A Juvenile Nuisance Register is also maintained. If approaches to parents are ineffective, police can show details of the child's incivilities to the Crown Prosecution Service and police could prosecute.

Another approach is one of diversion of young people, by providing other means of entertainment rather than stoning houses/cars in the evenings – this depends on provision of social and recreational facilities, and will require police and youth workers to work together to ensure aims aren't conflicting and to inform each other of any street-based outreach work. It is also important to consult young people in what they want and tap into their creativity for providing solutions.

Targeted high-profile patrolling

Hotspot locations and times in each Sector have been highlighted in detail in this report. This information should be used and built into routine patrolling patterns, using high-visibility policing methods. Problem locations should be visited three to four times during each 'hot' time, dispersing crowds, moving people on and confiscating alcohol from underage drinkers.

A standard guidance note should also be produced for all officers identifying possible scenarios and legislation which can be used in these circumstances, and evidence required. It could also provide guidance on handling queries from members of the public about what police intend to do in certain situations. This will ensure a consistent approach from all officers, and increase chances of successful prosecution.

Media campaign for Criminal Damage Reduction Strategy

If an initiative is devised and implemented in the DCU it is important that the media are brought on board and used to publicise the aims of the initiative, so that the general public can be informed before it begins. This should generate local support and by giving an early warning of the tougher approach to criminal damage to come, minimise possible subsequent complaints about police 'heavy-handedness on soft targets'.



Vehicle Crime in Foyle DCU

' This information is based on incidents reported from a variety of PSNI sources and is believed to be current at the time of publication. These figures refer to incidents only and do not represent official crime figures. This information has been provided by the PSNI and must not be quoted without express permission of Foyle DCU Commander.'

Produced by Police Analysts
Foyle DCU
Ext 57076, 16/05/03

Background to Problem

- TADA Offences doubled in January 2003, compared to December 2002. It is now at it's highest level in the DCU in 12 months. TADA also peaked in January 2002
- More than 1 car a day is now stolen in the DCU, in addition to attempts to steal cars
- The majority of stolen cars are recovered (87.5%), and the majority are recovered within 24 hours, suggesting cars are stolen for joyriding/fun, as opposed to being stolen to order
- Joyriding and Car Crime is perceived to be a problem in most of the Northern Estates and Ballymagroarty
- Although some random operations have been carried out to deal with Car Crime, a combined approach by all units in the DCU has never been formulated

This report aims to identify hotspot locations, outline the perceived causes of the problem and suggest some proposals for further action, to be used as an aid to planning a Strategy to reduce Car Crime in Foyle DCU.

HOTSPOTS

The main hotspots are:

- Elaghmore Pk/Capall Court/Cashelhill Pk/Racecourse Rd area for TADA and Damage to Vehicles
Most likely to occur: Late shift into early hours from Thursday to Sunday
- Fergleev/Ferdale/Knockalla/Ederowen/Bloomfield area of Shantallow West for TADA and Damage to Vehicles
Most likely to occur: 18:30—early hours from Thursday to Sunday
- Collon Lane/College Glen/Carnhill area for TADA
Most likely to occur: overnight at weekends
- Ballymagroarty for Damage to Vehicles
Most likely to occur: during late shift at weekends

The attached maps shows locations where Car Crime occurred in January in the Shantallow West area and in the Ballymagroarty/Springtown areas. These should be used as an aid to planning Operations.

Vehicles most likely to be targeted

The 2 main categories of cars targeted for theft in the DCU in January were:

- 0 Older cars—seen by offenders to be less secure, it is also likely that knowledge of how to steal these cars is more widespread than for newer models
- 0 Familiar cars—mainly Vauxhall and Ford

MO

MO information recorded on ICIS on car thefts in Foyle DCU is very poor. The following is known:

- ◊ Older cars: Door is usually bent/forced open, steering column is damaged and vehicle is hot-wired
- ◊ Newer models (post-1997): In the majority of thefts of newer cars (14 of 20 cases), the keys have been stolen in creeper burglaries or they have been dangler thefts—keys have been left in the vehicle outside business premises/homes.

Possible interception points for locating stolen vehicles before they've been abandoned

The CIOs, Strand Rd have identified the following locations as likely places where cars are rallied around/for 'joyriding', and these should be viewed as *possible interception points* for locating stolen cars being driven before they are abandoned

- ◊ Lonemoor Road/Creggan Estates/Border Roads Sector B/Northland Road —should be considered as possible location to look for vehicles which have been stolen from Ballmagroarty/Hazelbank/Lower Rosemount
- ◊ Glengallagh Road—should be considered as possible location to look for stolen vehicles from Galligh/Fergleen/Moss/Bloomfield Parks, Lower Ballymagroarty, and Carnhill Estate
- ◊ Lower Strand Road, using roundabouts at each end as turning points—should be considered as possible location to look for stolen vehicles from side streets of Lower Strand Road
- ◊ Crescent Link/Clooney Road, particularly around Caw—should be considered as possible location to look for vehicles stolen from Sector F and from Strathfoyle

Proposals for Further Action

OPERATIONAL RESPONSE

- § Covert presence in the hotspot streets during the key times identified may help to identify culprits involved.
- § Where high visibility patrolling is undertaken in hotspot areas the use of a roof mounted camera may help to identify any likely offenders in the area. The submission of CI1's on any likely offenders/culprits should be encouraged.
- § The use of a stinger device should also be deployed in the pursuit of stolen vehicles and in operations in areas where joyriding is reported to be high
- § More use of forensics, particularly more and better use of fingerprint evidence should be encouraged, to make more identifications of offenders
- § Consideration should also be given to how information on these incidents is recorded, particularly with regard to specific locations (stolen and recovered), specific times incident has occurred, MO used in the theft, and state of vehicle at recovery. This information would help improve the accuracy of any further analysis
- § Production of Subject Profiles on TADA suspects in the City, particularly those highlighted in the attached chart, may help to focus officers on likely offenders

CRIME PREVENTION RESPONSE

- § Implement an Education Program to advise potential victims in hotspot areas on how to minimise the risk to their vehicles, including:
 - Parking in well-lit areas, or in driveways/garages, where possible
 - Removing keys from vehicle, even if it's just outside the house/business premises
 - Not storing car keys near the door when in the house
 - Not leaving valuables in view in parked cars
 - Use of security products - use of Crime Prevention Car in Shopping Centres to raise awareness

- § Use of traffic wardens to provide natural surveillance, by increased patrolling in areas of on-street parking which have been identified as hotspots

- § Liase with DVLA to locate and target unlicensed vehicles, aiming to immobilise/remove/dispose of them. This would also help reduce the problem of youths rallying around in scrappers, which currently adds to the number of Hit & Run RTC's in the City

- § Liase with Derry City Council to ensure the speedy removal of burnt out or abandoned vehicles from housing estates—this should discourage youths from coming into/congregating the area and prevent reports of YCA and further crime. The speedy removal of scrappers would also reduce opportunities for arson by groups of youths, 'just for fun'

- § Liase with D.o.E to improve Car Park security in the City, including improved surveillance, limiting pedestrian access, use of cameras to monitor exit points etc. Also liaison with local Health Board/Altnagelvin Hospital to improve car park security. The introduction of a flat rate parking fee could help to finance this. Increased security or surveillance by car park attendants could also help reduce other crime in the Hospital area



YCA in Foyle DCU

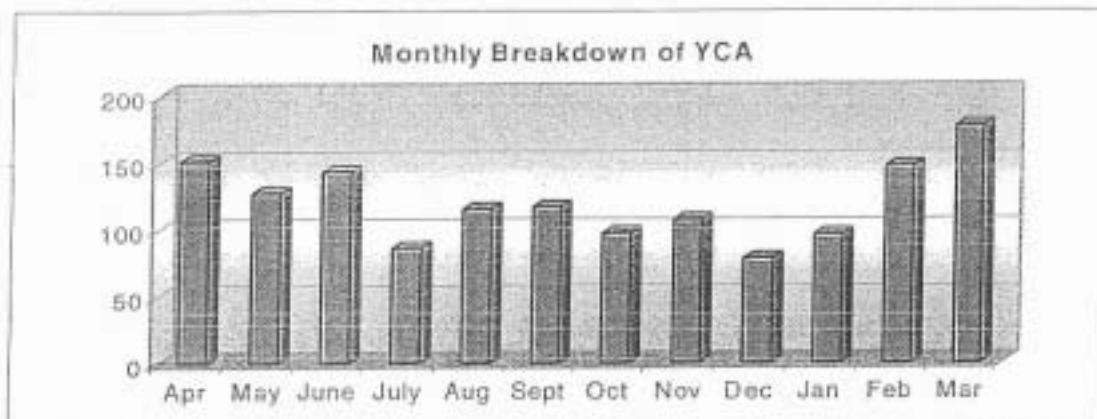
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Produced by Police Analysts
Foyle DCU
Ext 57076, 16/05/03

Background to Problem

- In the time period 01/04/2002 - 31/03/2003, there were 1541 reports of YCA in the DCU—equivalent to 4 reports per day
- Incidents are most likely to occur during Friday – Sunday, particularly between the hours of 17:00 – 03:00.

The graph below provides a monthly breakdown of YCA incidents in Foyle DCU



The table below gives a Sector breakdown of all YCA incidents in Foyle DCU

Sector	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
YCA Incidents	289	92	147	196	321	266	52	177

The main Sector areas where incidents of YCA are occurring are The Diamond area, Ebrington area, Culmore area and Strathfoyle area.

Analysis of Problem

There are various causes regarding youths causing annoyance in Foyle DCU. These are:-

- Few activities for young people in various areas of the City
- Insufficient leisure facilities in the City
- Underage drinking
- Known locations where youths gather to drink alcohol – i.e. City Walls
- Decline in visible police presence due to the decline in numbers of Sector personnel

- There has been a sectarian element to some of the reports of YCA, particularly in the Fountain and Irish Street interface areas
- Reports of YCA has shown a strong link between YCA and criminal damage incidents. Various initial reports of YCA often result in criminal damage occurring

Proposals for Further Action

- Patrols should pay particular attention to hotspot areas at the peak times identified.
- Consultation with various youth/community leaders in the various areas as to the provision of activities for youths in their areas, various clubs, activities could be organised
- The owners of various off licenses in the hotspot areas should be spoken to in order to remind them of the rules and regulations involved with serving alcohol to underage persons
- Home Office Research highlighted that Police on the mainland have implemented a policy of 'parental enforcement' to deal with YCA and anti-social behaviour. If the children are identified as carrying anti-social behaviour then the parents are contacted in an informal manner. If this fails to reduce the behaviour of these children then a more formal approach towards the parents will take place persuading parents to take responsibility and exert control on their children. This more formal approach involves showing video coverage of their children causing annoyance.
- Consideration may be given to adopting a 'restorative justice' programme where youths involved in anti-social behaviour, when identified are required to repair the damage they cause. Similar schemes to this in the mainland have had some success in deterring youths from re-offending.

TILLEY AWARD 2003

Description of the Pilot 'Alert Communities in Action'

Project Conducted in the Eglinton & District Area

ALERT COMMUNITIES IN ACTION

A Community Safety Programme for Rural Communities

A Demonstration Project by Eglinton & District Community Forum

BE ACTIVE! BE ALERT! BE INVOLVED!

BACKGROUND

Eglinton & District Community Forum

Eglinton & District Community Forum was formed as an association on Tuesday 26th March at the White Horse Hotel, Campsie. The association, known as the Eglinton & District Community Forum, was formed from an interested body of local people who had previously participated on a community police liaison committee. Following a series of workshops and information sessions and the design and implementation of a business/action plan, the forum was formally constituted on the above date.

The aims of the forum are as follows:

- To improve community safety by involving local people in finding solutions to local crime and associated problems.
- Improve relations between the police and the community.
- To formalize links with other organisations with a vested interest in public safety to develop working relationships with them and in particular the Police Service.
- Produce a Community Safety Action Plan for the Eglinton area in partnership with the relevant authorities.

The above objectives relate to the ongoing community development programme in Eglinton. In order to address these objectives and responding to a needs assessment, the issue of rural community safety has been identified as an area of concern for local people living in the Eglinton, Lettershandoney and Campsie areas.

These concerns have been identified by consultation with members of the older residents in the area, members of the community forum and by regular meetings/consultation with the local PSNI officers from Eglinton.

Following this identification of need an application for funding for a Community Safety Project was made to the Rural Community Network for a small grant to undertake a pilot project on these issues. It is expected that this funding will be in place by October 2002.

Eglinton & District Community Forum is currently in the process of developing a demonstration project on rural community safety. The project will involve up to 30 local people who have been identified through the Eglinton Community Forum or have been referred by the local community police officers from Eglinton PSNI. The project will in the first year provide village signs promoting the area as an Alert Community Area, leaflets promoting a 'Good Neighbour Scheme' and, subject to funding, put in place practical assistance with home security measures for those identified in need. A funding application for the project has been made to the Rural Community Network and The Awards for all grant.

It is hoped that the one year demonstration project will create a partnership approach to rural community safety issues and will demonstrate the need for further work in developing the need for the creation of an active alert community.

SAFE IN THE COMMUNITY

The concept of community safety and the need to feel secure within your own home is particularly necessary for residents who live in a rural community. This project will seek to create a sense of well being and community participation among participants. It will also strive to create a partnership approach to the issues of community safety. The demonstration project will be in the first year, targeted at the elderly, disabled and those who have been identified as vulnerable. As a result of the demonstration project, it is hoped that the project can be further developed into an 'Alert Community Scheme' or 'Good Neighbour Scheme'.

WHAT IS AN ALERT COMMUNITY?

In community development terms, an alert community is defined under the following terms:

- An Alert Community Scheme is a scheme organised by voluntary/community groups in association with the local law enforcement agencies.
- A scheme which aims to prevent attacks on elderly and vulnerable people by criminals.
- Reassurance for the elderly etc living in the locality that their neighbours/community are concerned for their well being.
- A scheme, which ensures that 'good neighbours', are alert to suspicious activity in the area and make contact with the local PSNI officers where necessary.
- Foster better relations between the local community and local police.

A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

What can a good neighbour do?

- Get to know your neighbours, particularly those living alone.
- Call in and visit, run an errand – it's the small things and human contact that counts.
- Be alert – if you see any persons or a vehicle acting suspiciously in your area, call the police at any time.
- Keep an eye on your property and that of your neighbours – help to prevent vandalism and theft.
- Be aware of safety initiatives.

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU – PLAY YOUR PART

BE ACTIVE! BE ALERT! BE INVOLVED!

Title	Eglinton & District Community Safety Project
Description	A Rural Community Safety Project
Performance objectives	Develop and establish a Community Safety Project for the area of Eglinton & District. Agree roles and responsibilities for project promoter. Ensure involvement of statutory agencies and voluntary organisations in a partnership approach. Access funding for one year demonstration project.

Objectives Part 1	Performance Indicators
Establish a Sub Group/ Steering Group and related administrative/ partnership agreements	Initiate and develop a steering group of representatives from Eglinton & District Community Forum, local PSNI officers and representative from local Health Trust. Actively recruit up to 30 participants from the identified target group by the method of consultation with the forum or referrals from PSNI/Health Trust staff. Agree management responsibilities, partnership agreements of all involved in project. Agree terms of reference for the ad hoc group, including responsibilities, frequency of meetings, chairing, minute taking and financial accounting. Agree a constitution for the Initiative (forum constitution).
Secure funding for project and put in place financial procedures	Open a bank account with agreed signatories. Keep record of income and expenditure relating to the project, backing these items up with invoices and receipts. Plan 2 information sessions targeted at firstly prospective partners in the venture and secondly aimed at the wider community. Secure additional funding from other funding sources/ statutory bodies. <u>Target</u> 1. Steering group established by 2 September 2002. 2. Constitution in place by 30 September 2002. 3. Funding for project accessed by 7 October 2002.
Agree content of Community Safety Project	Seek advice from similar projects on the role and skills involved in community safety projects. Agree detail and programme of activities for one year pilot project.

<p>Organise public launch of project</p>	<p>Agree timescales and organise public launch of project. Proactively publicise project by methods of public launch, flyers, newsletters etc.</p> <p><u>Target</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake 2 visits to similar community safety projects. 2. Launch and publicise project, date to be agreed.
<p>Increased community participation in community safety activities</p>	<p>Agree a programme of work for the Community Safety Project, based on community development principles and in response to community needs. Publicise the programme within the area and invite ideas and views from local people. Carry out the programme taking account of any views expressed and involving other relevant organisations as required. Encourage community involvement in the planning and carrying out of community safety activities and events. Review the implementation of the programme on a regular basis and make adjustments as required. Establish a self-help group on aspects of community safety based on identified community needs. Compare participation based on original estimation with records for participation at 6 monthly intervals.</p> <p><u>Target</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 25 people from the area will take part in community safety activities during the programme. 2. Establish a self-help group/Good Neighbour Scheme in the area to address community safety issues.
<p>Increased awareness of community safety in the local community</p>	<p>Complete a survey of a representative sample of local people on awareness about a range of community safety programmes/issues. After the first year is complete, complete a further survey of the sample group on their awareness of rural community safety needs. Compare findings in both surveys.</p> <p><u>Target</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A marked increase in awareness of rural community safety issues and improved information access/ support among the survey group during the duration of the programme.

<p>Involvement of statutory agencies and voluntary organisations in meeting rural community safety needs</p>	<p>Encourage the involvement of statutory and voluntary bodies in delivering the Community Safety Programme.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for local people and groups to engage with agencies such as PSNI and Health Trusts on addressing community safety needs.</p> <p>Indicate further actions by statutory and voluntary bodies as a direct or indirect result of the programme.</p> <p><u>Target</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A marked increase in co-ordination of community safety provision within the area. 2. A tangible increase of community input into statutory and voluntary agency provision of community safety services in the area.
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<p>Budget</p>	<p>Part 1</p> <p>Rural Community Network Grant Award (applied for, awaiting decision) Funding application to Awards for All for £5,000, awaiting decision) £1,000 donation by Inter Churches Group TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF ONE YEAR DEMONSTRATION PROJECT - £6,000,</p>	<p>£3,000</p>
<p>Additional support needs</p>	<p>Support in designing a survey questionnaire. Group should seek support to identify rural community safety needs and to develop the programme.</p> <p>Seek support on conducting and designing/delivering community safety programme (liase with community safety unit, cross border contact with An Garda Siochana and PSNI).</p> <p>Suggest external mentoring and support from relevant support agency.</p>	
<p>Project management</p>	<p>Eglinton & District Community Forum</p>	

EGLINTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

1	DESSIE RODGERS 7A St Canices Park, Eglinton CHAIRPERSON	71811597
2	JAMES DIXON 32 Main Street, Eglinton VICE CHAIRPERSON	71811926
3	DR RICHARD MANNING 32 Mallory Park, Eglinton TREASURER	71811490
4	NOEL MCILFATRICK SECRETARY	71860780 71810493 71810217
5	MARY LYNCH 10 Cammoney Park, Campsie	71810255
6	ROBIN GRAHAM 18 Coolnafinny Rd, Eglinton	71811637
7	REV JOHN BLAIR The Rectory, Main St, Eglinton	71811667
8	UEL SMYTH 67 St Canices Park, Eglinton	71812413
9	REV JAMES GRAY The Manse, Ballygudden Road, Eglinton	71810244
10	JACQUELINE MCCREADY 9 Durverne Gardens, Eglinton	71810206
11	EAMON DOHERTY 53 St Canices Park, Eglinton	71301445
12	SEAN LYNN 46 St Canices Park, Eglinton	
13	DR RAY HETHERINGTON	
14	KEN CURRY The Happy Landing, Eglinton	
15	BARBARA FLEMING 125 Lettershandoney Avenue, Drumahoe	

Dated 10 02 03

CONDERRY

ENTINEL here are parents?

near to be held many of the
the planning interface areas at the

at the lives of so many young peo-
is adversely affected that they think
big stores or even petrol bombs at
if people, simply to lure police into
an attack them.

many of these youngsters, but it
sely consequences both for their
incedents.

admitted fact that the IRA, through-
s, mainly encouraged youngsters
so they could draw security forces
an areas where they would then
it from snipers.

is threat of the gun has largely - but
on, yet the young people have car-
aggressive behaviour.

the Fountain Interface and Irish
often, and police have confirmed
a 12-year-old was arrested in recent
in an attack by youths from Top of
as at Irish Street.

who have an influence on children
specially the parents - there will be a
sely give a little foresight and disci-
we have swished.

ve soldiers iting in Iraq

Community safety project launched in Eglinton

By Amanda
Williams

EGLINTON and District Community Forum have received £1000 from the Housing Executive to help support a community safety project.

Alert Communities in Action is a new and exciting initiative aimed at creating a sense of wellbeing and community participation for residents in Eglinton, Letershadowney and the surrounding area.

Speaking on behalf of Eglinton and District Community Forum Chairperson Dessy Rodgers said:

"We are delighted that this community safety project is now underway and welcome the support of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. As a community driven project one of our aims was to encourage the involvement of statutory agencies as partners in this programme. We have been successful in attracting not only the support of the Housing Executive but also the PSNI and other voluntary agencies."

Housing Executive Area Manager Sean Mackie, who handed over the £1000 cheque, is involved in helping

with the development of the project.

"This project, involving the Eglinton and District Community Forum, the Rural Community Network, Rural Housing Estates Project and the PSNI, is an excellent example of what can be achieved through partnership working," he said.

"The Alert Communities in Action project comprises several different aspects of community safety such as the erection of signs promoting the area as an Alert Community Area, a community safety audit, leaflets promoting a Good Neighbour Scheme, as well as practical assistance with home security measures. Particular attention will be given to the elderly and vulnerable."

Mr Mackie also highlighted the invaluable work of the Housing Executive's two neighbourhood Wardens, Rosalyn Colbourn and Ronnie Thompson, and the recently appointed Rural Housing Estates Project Support Worker Mary Lynch.

All three will be involved in making this work and promoting the important aspects of community safety to rural communities and other agencies.

Commenting on the project Sector Policing Manager of the Foyle District Command, Inspector Milton Kerr said: "There are many examples of sound com-

munity safety practices and initiatives throughout Northern Ireland and the Eglinton District Alert Community Good neighbour project is one such

scheme. The involvement of the community and their support is essential so that limited police resources can be targeted in priority areas. When the police and the community work together it makes it very difficult for criminals to operate. I commend this scheme because community safety is a very realistic goal which can only be achieved through partner-

ship."

The project will be officially launched next month.

Owen is a star pupil

OWEN McConnell, in primary 7 at the Fountain Primary School, has recently been presented with an award by the Primary Mathematical Association after winning a mathematics challenge.

This shows that he is

many schools. Over 62,000 pupils aged up to 11 took the PMC in November.

The best 1214 pupils were invited to take part in the harder challenge at www.M.A.Org.uk.

BUDGET

POLICING WITH THE COMMUNITY IN FOYLE DISTRICT COMMAND UNIT THE EGLINTON AND DISTRICT 'ALERT COMMUNITY' SCHEME

1. There are many examples of sound community policing initiatives and practises across Northern Ireland. The proposed Eglinton and District 'Alert Community' project is one such scheme. The Independent Commission on Policing in Northern Ireland recommended that 'Community Policing' should be the core function of every Police Sector.

The Chief Constable has approved a policy which describes the philosophy and aims of community policing. It is a framework within which local policing services can be tailored to meet local needs.

The policy is built on 5 key principals -

1. Service Delivery
2. Partnership
3. Problem Solving
4. Empowerment
5. Accountability

These principals are mutually dependent, taken together they will shape how we approach policing issues as individuals and as a service. The term 'Policing with the Community' describes what most people want to see - the police participating in the community and responding to the needs of the community and the community participating in its own policing and supporting the police. It will be seen as the police service's contribution to community safety and will be delivered in furtherance of the statutory duties of police officers.

2. COMMUNITY SAFETY

The philosophy of community policing has been recognised in many parts of the world as a valid approach to improving community safety and this also applies to policing in Northern Ireland. The many developments in community safety across the public, voluntary, community and private sectors must also be taken into account.

The Criminal Justice Review 2000 recommended that a community safety strategy be developed for Northern Ireland and that statutory obligations be placed on public bodies to work together in this important area. Community safety is about making communities safer places to live and improving the quality of life for local people by working together with them and other agencies to find solutions to local problems. The key elements to improve the quality of life in communities are:-

- Reducing crime
- Reducing fear of crime
- Tackling anti social behaviour
through
- Interagency partnerships
- Community involvement
- Problem solving to find sustainable solutions

Community policing establishes direct accountability between the community and the police at a local level as a result of the partnership. On the one hand accountability rests on the transparency of the police and on the other hand on the responsibility of the community to assist the police in preventing and combating crime and disorder. There is therefore a joint responsibility and accountability.

3. PARTNERSHIP

The Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 provides legislative guidance on the establishment of District Policing Partnerships. These should be broadly representative of the community so the service provided reflects local needs and concerns.

The objective of this partnership is to determine community needs and policing priorities.

Other partnerships include local community forums to address local problems.

The partnership we have with Eglinton and District Community Forum has decided to introduce an 'Alert Community' programme to address local problems. Consultation has taken place with other groups with similar schemes and I would ask that you embrace the scheme in an effort to enhance community safety in the Eglinton and district area.

4. EMPOWERMENT

It is important to create a sense of joint ownership for addressing crime and community safety among the community and the police. There is therefore a need to raise community awareness of the issues affecting community safety.

There is a need to empower local officers to determine their own local priorities and set down their own objectives in consultation with community representatives and community forums. The community should also be empowered to identify problems in their areas and play a part in the solution, together with police and other agencies.

The 'Community Alert' project is a scheme designed by the Eglinton and District Forum in partnership with the police and other agencies, to promote community safety and consequently the quality of life in the area.

5. ACCOUNTIBILITY

Accountibility will be realised by creating mechanisms through which the police can be made answerable for addressing the needs and concerns of the community they serve. Such mechanisms already exist such as the Eglinton and District Community Forum.

Community Policing creates great opportunities for partnership and problem solving by working more closely with the community, thus accountibility becomes a natural consequence.

If a police officer is tackling a problem identified locally in partnership with the community and other agencies he or she should be in a position to account for what can and cannot be done.

6. CONCLUSION

The Eglinton and District 'Alert Community' project is a sound example of a community initiative to enhance community safety and improve the quality of life for all sections of the community.

Community policing, while a matter of style, is also an attitude of mind, both for police officers and for the public. It is as much a matter of philosophy as it is of method and it amounts to a profound shift in police and community thinking with an underpinning recognition that "Policing is much too important, much too impactful on all of our lives, to be left the police alone".


The involvement of the community and their support is essential so that police resources can be targeted at priority areas. Crime and anti-social behaviour and fear of crime bring misery to vulnerable people as well as impacting on the entire community. All sections of the law-abiding public have a role to play in making their communities safer through inclusive partnerships that support and inform policing and interagency activity.

The Eglinton and District 'Alert Community' project is a scheme designed to improve the quality of life for all and will specifically target a number of elderly and vulnerable persons during the pilot.

From a policing perspective, I would commend the scheme to you. Community safety is a realistic goal and can be achieved through community partnership. The police contribution to building a safer area will be through Community Policing.

1

Policing With the Community in Foyle District Command Unit




The Eglinton & District "Alert Community and Good Neighbour" Project

Inspector Milton
Sector Policing Manager
Foyle District Command

2

Chief Constable's Policy on Community Policing




5 Key Principals

- Service delivery
- Partnership
- Problem solving
- Empowerment
- Accountability

3

Community Safety



- Statutory obligation on public bodies work together to improve "community safety"
- Working together to find solutions to local problems

4

Key Elements



- Reducing crime
- Reducing fear of crime
- Tackling anti-social behaviour
Through
- Interagency partnership
- Community involvement
- Problem solving

5


Partnership:



"The collective effort of the police, community and other agencies to problem solve".

6

Empowerment



- Encourage local people to actively participate in policing
And
- Empower local officers to do the job

7

Accountability



Police officers at all levels to be assessed
and responsible for the service they deliver.

8

Conclusion



"Policing is much too important, much too
on all our lives, to be left to the police alone."

The Eglinton & district "alert community and good
neighbour" project is a scheme designed to
improve the quality of life for all and as such,
local police give it their full support.

**EGLINTON AND DISTRICT
COMMUNITY FORUM**



**“Working in
Partnership
for a Safer
Community”**

The Old Railway Bus, Eglington

**EGLINTON AND
DISTRICT COMMUNITY
FORUM**



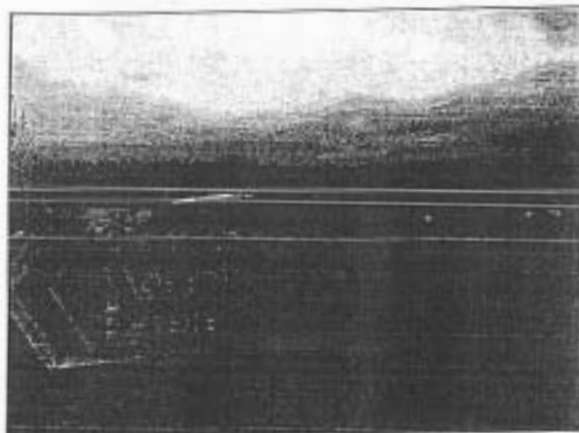
MARY LYNCH
Project Manager
Rural Community
Network

The Old Railway Bus, Eglington

**EGLINTON & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY FORUM**

WHO WE ARE:

- * The Forum was formally constituted on 26 March 2002
- * Members of the Forum reside or work in the area
- * Members share a common goal to improve the quality of life for all residents
- * Meet locally on a regular basis





Lettershandoney



EGLINTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

Aims and Objectives:

- * To improve Community Safety by involving local people in finding solutions to local crime and associated problems
- * To formalise links with organisations who have a vested interest in Public Safety and develop a working relationship with them
- * To produce and implement a Community Safety Action Plan for the Eglinton area



EGLINTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

The Project

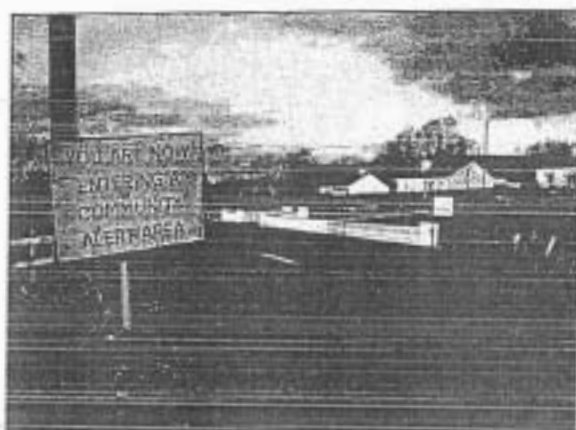
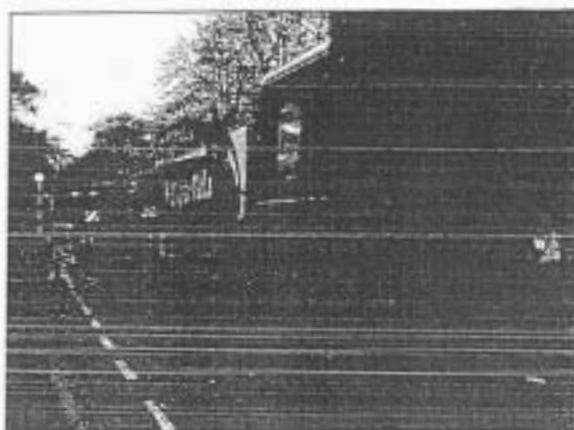
- * 30 Older Persons identified by the Forum or referred by Statutory Organisations - Police, NIHE
- * Provide village signs promoting an 'Alert Community Area' and Leaflets promoting a 'Good Neighbour Scheme'
- * Practical Assistance and Home Security Measures for those in need



WHAT IS AN 'ALERT COMMUNITY' SCHEME


- * It is organised by Voluntary and Community groups in association with the local law enforcement agencies
- * Aims to prevent attacks on older persons and vulnerable people
- * Reassurance for the Elderly, e.g. Neighbours and Community should be concerned for their well-being





WHAT IS AN ALERT COMMUNITY

- * 'Good Neighbours' are Alert to suspicious activity in the area and notify Police
- * Foster better relations between the Local Community and the Police



WHAT CAN A 'GOOD NEIGHBOUR' DO?

- * Get to know your Neighbours - particularly those living alone
- * Call in, Visit or Run an Errand - It's the small things and human contact that makes a difference
- * Be Alert - Notify the Police of Suspicious Activity at any time
- * Keep an eye on your Property and that of your Neighbours



EGLINTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

The project will:

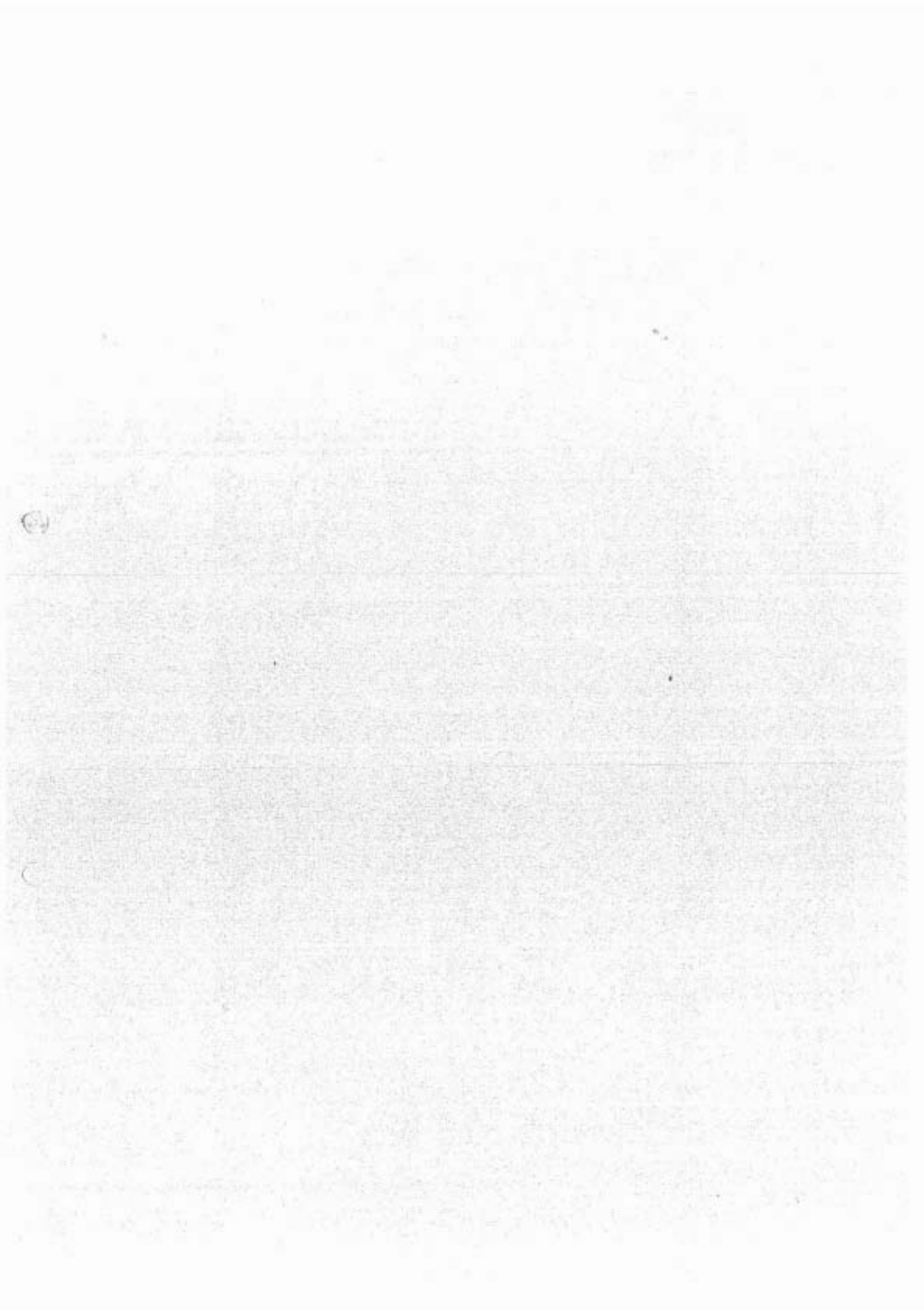
- * Target
 - Older persons
 - Disabled people
 - Vulnerable people
- to provide Support and Reassurance
- * Create a Partnership Approach to Rural Community Safety Issues
 - * Demonstrate the need for an 'Active and Alert' Community



YOUR COMMUNITY

NEEDS YOU TO PLAY YOUR PART

- *BE ACTIVE!
- *BE ALERT!
- *BE INVOLVED!



TILLEY AWARD 2003

*Letters from the Endorsing Chief Officers for the
'Alert Community in Action' project*

Housing Executive

Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Waterside District Office
2 Glendermott Road
Waterside
Londonderry BT47 1AU

Telephone: 028 7131 1490 : Fax 028 7134 3651
Textphone: 0845 6504381
www.nihe.gov.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Inspector Milton Kerr
Foyle District Command Unit
Police Service of Northern Ireland
51 Richill Park
Lisnagetvin
Londonderry BT47 5QZ

Your Ref:
Our Ref:

24 February, 2003

Dear Inspector Kerr

Thank you for the opportunity to join with yourselves and the Rural Community Network in submitting a bid for funding under the Community Safety Challenge Competition.

A growing element of our work is to contribute to community safety which is the responsibility of a number of agencies as well as involving the community itself. The recent appointment of Neighbourhood Wardens by the Housing Executive helps us link better between communities and the District Offices in dealing with problems of crime, anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood nuisance.

This particular initiative with 'Foyle Community Forums' has the capability of reducing crime and the fear of crime on many of our estates, both urban and rural, hence our willingness to come on board as a partner.

The Housing Executive would like to provide practical assistance to the project which will take two forms.

- a) the assistance of 5 Neighbourhood Wardens throughout the District for a minimum of 2 hours per week on issues related to the project. This equates to approximately £4,000 per annum.
- b) The installation of approximately 300 home security packages in Housing Executive properties at an approximate cost of £4,500 per annum.

I am also investigating the possibility of making a financial contribution to the project but due to the short timescale, I have not received confirmation of this. I will be in contact in due course.

I look forward to continuing the relationships we have developed over the years and wish you luck with this bid.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Mackie
Area Manager

Housing Executive

Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Waterside District Office
2 Glendermott Road
Waterside
Londonderry BT47 1AU

Telephone: 028 7131 1490 : Fax 028 7134 3651
Textphone: 0845 6504381
www.nihe.gov.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Inspector M Kerr
Foyle District Command Unit
PSNI
51 Richill Park
Lisnagelvin
L'Derry
BT47 5QZ

Your Ref:
Our Ref: AMcA/OH

6 March, 2003

Dear Inspector Kerr,

I am pleased to confirm that the Housing Executive will be in a position to contribute £3,000 p.a. towards the project submitted for the Community Safety Challenge Competition should the bid be successful.

I trust you will keep me informed of progress with this bid and I hope we can develop a successful partnership approach in dealing with important aspects of our work.

I would also advise, for your information, that we are contributing £1,000 to the Eglinton & District Community Forum to assist with their alert communities project and will be presenting a cheque to them in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Arvil McAllister
District Manager

c.c. Ms Mary Lynch



POLICE SERVICE of NORTHERN IRELAND

INSPECTOR MILTON KERR

FOYLE DCU

51 Richill Park, Waterside, Londonderry, Northern Ireland, BT47 5QZ

Tel: (028) 7136 7337

Please reply to: The undersigned

Your reference:

Our reference:

Date: 13th May 2003

To whom it may concern

Police in Foyle District Command Unit have been working closely with all the community forums operating in the Derry City Council area since April 2001. Prior to this our main source of contact with the community was through the community police liaison committees.

In October 2002 the chairpersons of all the forums came together to discuss community safety and share best practise. This was so successful that they decided to form this group into a constituted community forum under the name "Foyle Community Forums Partnership". The police and other statutory and voluntary agencies are currently working in partnership with the forum to develop a community safety project for the council area under the heading "Alert Communities in Action". Support for the project has been expressed to me by numerous people including MLAs, local councillors and members of the policing board. The application for funding to run the project from the Community Safety Challenge Competition has the full support of the police in Foyle DCU. I am also aware that funding and funding in kind has already been offered to the partnership to assist them with the project.

From a policing perspective, I believe the project will go a long way to developing "Policing with the Community" and will undoubtedly improve community safety and the quality of life for all. The partnerships application is therefore strongly recommended.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M. Kerr'.

M KERR
Inspector
Sector Policing Manager
Foyle DCU

Ext 40754

FOYLE COMMUNITY FORUM PARTNERSHIP

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

As the Chairperson of the Foyle Community Forum Partnership which includes the Chairpersons of 11 Community Forums in the Derry City Council area, I am pleased to be working in partnership with a number of statutory and voluntary agencies. It is our intention to carry out a community safety initiative under the title of 'Alert Communities in Action'. This project has already been piloted in Eglinton & District area and has proved to be a great success.

I am pleased to be working in partnership with the Police Service in Derry on this project, which I have every confidence will reduce crime, the fear of crime and anti social behaviour.

K DOHERTY
Chairperson
Foyle Community Forum Partnership

TILLEY AWARD 2003

Foyle DCU Aims and Objectives Regarding

'Policing with the Community'

In Foyle District Command Unit our aim is to deliver the goal of making 'Policing With the Community' the core function of our service. We introduced Sector Policing on 1 April 2001 by forming 8 sector areas, such with dedicated community policing teams. Each team has a Sector Commander (*Sergeant*) and the DCU has a Sector Policing Manager, whose purpose is to manage the service delivery of sector policing and community safety in accordance with the Patten Report and the Oversight Commissioner's Report. Each dedicated policing team has responsibility for policing its own area in accordance with the Chief Constable's Policy which describes the philosophy and aim of community policing. The key principals of this are service delivery, partnership, problem solving, empowerment and accountability. These principals are shaping how we approach policing issues as individuals and as a DCU.

We have recognised that we cannot be truly effective when working alone, that the community and other agencies are needed to ensure effective problem solving. Our community police currently work in close partnership with 10 community forums, with representatives from every area of the DCU in addition to the majority of statutory, voluntary and private sector agencies. They are encouraging local people to actively participate in policing and we have empowered local officers to determine their own local priorities and objectives in consultation with them.

All our community officers have undertaken to serve at least 3 years in their sector, circumstances permitting, however, the wearing of names and the area of their responsibility has yet to be introduced.

All our probationary police officers undertake operational phases of their training, doing team policing in the community and under the guidance of a Tutor Constable.

The community officers, when practicable, patrol on foot wearing high visibility jackets. The amount of their time spent on beat patrols is measured weekly.

Our officers use a problem solving model to study crime and disorder problems in a structured way to identify underlying causes and offer solutions. Their performance can be monitored by the number of solving folders opened/resolved. To quality assure their work and as a reference for best practice, a central registry of solved problems has been established, to which each community officer has access.

In conclusion, Foyle DCU, at all levels, has recognised that the involvement of the community is essential to reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. To that end, we are accessible to the community and responsible for the service we deliver.

Our officers are working in partnership with the community at local level to solve local problems, improve community safety and enhance the quality of life for all.