

SPEAR

Northumbria Police



Police Force

Northumbria Police

Project Name

Spear
SULGRAVE burglary PARTNERSHIP by
EDUCATION,
AWARENESS, and RE-ENFORCEMENT

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SULGRAVE burglary PARTNERSHIP by EDUCATION,
AWARENESS, and RE-ENFORCEMENT

The projects aim was to tackle the problem of Burglary Dwelling in the Sulgrave area of Washington. Analysis, surveys of the residents and anecdotal evidence directed the problem to being more complex than just a one-stop shop. It was therefore essential to pull all the agencies and groups together to look and the problem in greater depth and ensure the scanning and analysis were complete.

Agencies & Groups

Northumbria Police (Washington North NRF community Team) Sure Start On Track
Youth Inclusion Project
Sunderland Housing Group Sunderland City Council
Marlborough Park Management
Waterloo & Wellington Management Usworth Grange Primary School Usworth Colliery Primary
School Usworth Comprehensive School Youth Offending Service
Marlborough Road Neighbourhood Watch Bridge
NECA
Healthy Living
JAG (Employment)

The Police were the lead agency and analysis involving information from residents, Census, Crime Records, and other partners (Youth inclusion, Housing etc.) was undertaken.

The problem was complex and diverse, involving over 7 major causes that could not be dealt with by any single body. It was therefore decided not to solve the problem as a single issue. Like the problem of "how do you eat an elephant?" the answer "one bit at a time" The problem was to be solved one piece at a time.

If some aspect of the problem were addressed, over time the collective results would be positive. All the agencies could offer support where their expertise and resources lay. This would not have extra financial implications, and existing resources would be used where available.

Responses

The problem has involved over 20 different activities some are as follows:

Starting weekly meetings with the managers of Waterloo & Wellington and Marlborough Park.

Data Protection Department, protocol exchange of information between partners

Prospective tenant 'checks'/enquiries with their previous landlord.

Starting a Subgroup for Sunderland Housing Group Sulgrave Housing Managers.

Tenancy Enforcement

The Police & On Track have initiated a series of meetings

Resurrect Community Groups within the Community

Target Hardening -Residents are being invited to collect target-hardening equipment from the Police Van on pre arranged evenings.

Youth workers have initiated Detached Youth Work

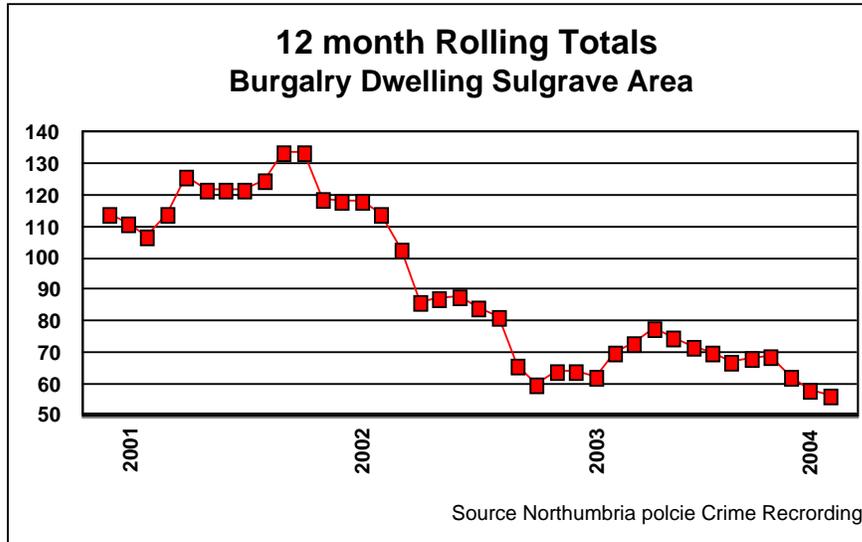
Diversions activities organised

Residents Management Committee Started

Sunderland City Community Safety Officer to work with the absentee landlords.

Assessment

The assessment of these activities has started



There are highs and lows in the totals but there is a dramatic overall fall. The target being exceeded.

The project is continuing

Sustainability is required therefore some of the partners are now involved in the provision of a local focal point that can be used by all the partners to carry on with their activities. A Premises has been secured in the area, It will be used by any agency to benefit the project and carry out it's own, core activities. The project is ongoing.

SPEAR

SULGRAVE Burglary PARTNERSHIP by EDUCATION, AWARENESS, and RE-ENFORCEMENT

PROJECT AIMS

To reduce the number of burglaries in the area of Sulgrave by 10% SCANNING

The scanning process involved the consultation with all interested parties. For example housing have a vested interest, the cost of replacing doors, problem of tenants demanding to be moved as they are in a "high Risk Area", Private landlords not being able to rent property, this list was long endless.

The whole process was backed up with a public attitude survey sent to 1500 homes in the area allowing residents to express their opinions. Only 5% of those who responded stated they were very satisfied with where they lived. (A copy of the findings of this survey is attached at appendix A)

Question 1 *"Thinking about Sulgrave Estate on the whole, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with it as a place to live?"*

Very satisfied	28	-	5%
Satisfied	248	-	46%
Dissatisfied	163	-	30%
Very dissatisfied	93	-	17%
Don't know	5	-	1 %
BLANK	1	-	0%

The scanning process looked at the results of the dissatisfaction and moved to analysing. Why the problems existed.?

ANALYSIS

How the Problem was defined.

Problem Description

Local people, having their homes entered and property taken. In the 12 month period April 02 to March 03 the recorded crimes equated to one in three homes in the area being the victim of crime.

The area was anecdotally known as a crime hot spot / problem area. These feelings were supported by
Crimes Reported
Local Surveys
Police and Community Forum Meetings
Reports to Local Councillors.

The area has a low demographic profile, being the lowest 10% of deprivations factor (Local Authority Measurements)

Burglary Problems in the area also related to:-

- Poor Housing
- Low Academic Achievement
- High resident drug user population
- High Youth Offending totals

Extensive research was undertaken to look at the overall problem of Burglary (Additional Analysis is shown and described in Appendix B)

- The Sulgrave area has a high density of burglary that was rising. –

- How were the offences/incidents committed?

- The premises attacked were often insecure, windows and doors were left unlocked or open.

- What type of property was involved?

- What type of building was involved?

- The homes attacked were mixed, privately owned or rented and Local Authority / Housing group properties. The buildings were predominantly low cost rented premises, including flats within a complex, linked premises constructed in the 1960's and 1970's and a smaller number of private semi-detached and detached homes.

-Who were the victims?

- The age and sex of the victims is shown and what is immediately apparent is the victims of crime in the area are younger in group. Census data indicates that 35 % of the population of the ward area are under the age of 25 however only 22% of the victims are under 25, The offenders appear to be targeting the people in the 26 to 45 year age group.
- 22 % of the victims of burglary were recorded as having no employment and only 1 of nearly 700 victims was recorded as being a student. This was a clear indication that those in employment were the main target of the offenders.

Age and Gender of Victims of Burglary	Females	Males	Both Male And Females
Under 21	4.94%	3.62%	8.56%
21 to 25	8.45%	5.60%	14.05%
26 to 30	5.82%	6.26%	12.07%
31 to 35	7.79%	5.60%	13.39%
36 to 40	4.72%	7.24%	11.96%
41 to 45	5.38%	5.05%	10.43%
46 to 50	4.83%	4.83%	9.66%
51 to 55	3.40%	2.96%	6.37%
56 to 60	2.74%	1.65%	4.39%
61 to 65	1.21%	2.85%	4.06%
Over 65	1.76%	3.29%	5.05%
All ages	51.04	48.96	

-Who were the offenders?

- In Sulgrave 135 offenders were identified as having been previously convicted of burglary and handling stolen goods. 30% of these were known to be involved in the supply of controlled drugs. (of the remaining 70 % over 80% were involved in the used of drugs)
- Over 75% of the offenders were aged 25 or younger.

-When were the offences/incidents committed?

- There was clear analysis evidence that the offences were Daytime and Evening Offences being committed when the opportunity arose. -What were the likely causes?

1. Poor Quality Housing
2. Absentee Private Landlords
3. No Facilities for Youth
4. Poor Estate Design
5. Drugs Misuse
6. Insecure Properties
7. Victims allowing crimes to gaining emergency funds and! or re-housing

RESPONSES

How the Problem Was Dealt with

The problem was not a single problem, and in some respects. Each part of the problem had to be scanned, analysed, responded to and assessed in turn. To record all those procedures is impossible, often they were conducted as a simple logical action without recording all the processes.

Other responses were of a covert nature involving the targeting of offenders and persons involved in the supply of controlled drugs and have therefore not been discussed or made open to publication.

Summary of main Responses

Weekly meetings with managers of agencies and bodies were undertaken, these followed a procedure set up with Sunderland Housing Group Meetings, which had been very successful.

Following communications with the Data Protection Department the Police and other agencies now exchange relevant information and intelligence.

As there are so many specific problems relating to Sulgrave a 'sub-group' of the housing meetings where the Sunderland Housing Group Sulgrave Housing Managers, Tenancy enforcement and Police Staff discuss Sulgrave only. (Historically housing meeting involved a much bigger geographic area.)

The Police & On Track have initiated a series of meetings to initiate work in the Flats Complex involving many of the agencies involved. The ultimate aim is to create Community Groups within the area.

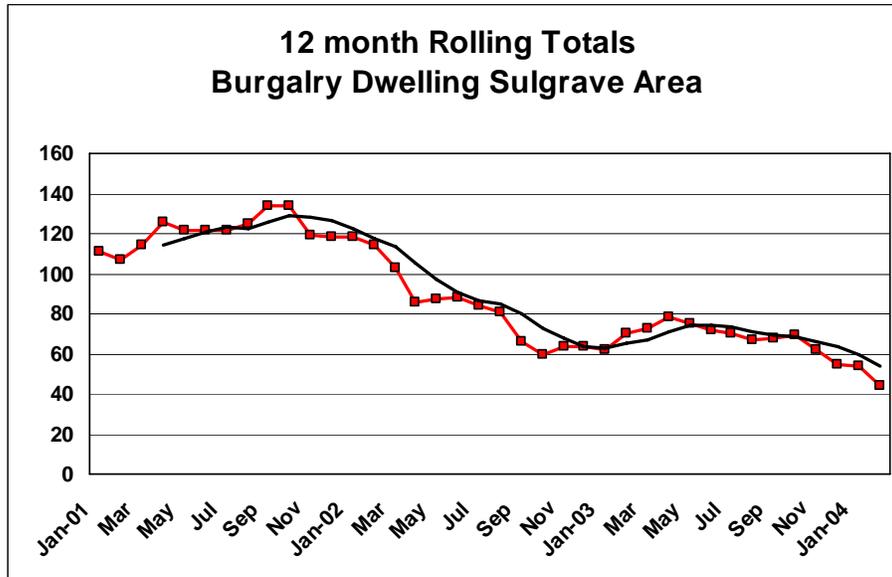
Target Hardening -Residents are being invited to collect target hardening equipment from the Police Van on pre arranged evenings. Over 2 weeks 97 dwellings in the flats and Sulgrave Road have collected Target Hardening equipment.

Youth workers have initiated Detached Youth Work within the area.

Diversionary activities were organised for young people with over 40 activities.

Sunderland City Community Safety Officer liaising with the absentee landlords who are identified.

Assessment How successful was the project ?



Source (Northumbria Police Crime CPAS ICAS Crime Analysis System)

The project is not completed -success? .
The number of Burglaries has now been reduced by 50% in 3 years

Sustainability

How to keep the project going.

The partnerships that have been forged are not going to disappear (in the past once the targets have been met the partners drift apart) This project has made a capital investment in the area. The Project has an office for use freely by all agencies in the centre of Sulgrave Estate.

Approved Targeting hardening devises support this property. It now provides a focal point where all the agencies concerned with the project can provide a point of contact to the communities they serve.

The development of this focal point is in it's early stages, the one stop shop that was dismissed during the initial scanning stages is beginning to appear as a real possibility.

Conclusion

Problem solving is cyclical process and the scanning stage has been revisited we now see that new problems are now being identified in other areas.

The problems identified with the Area are not just burglary, the links created in this project now need to move onto the other issues that include Criminal Damage, Youth Disorder and domestic Violence.