



Open Session

Police Authority Meeting

Friday 5 February 2010

LOCAL POLICING UNITS

BLAENAU GWENT LPU

ABERTILLERY

Community Involvement and Initiatives

Every Friday throughout November between 11am and 12 noon, crime prevention advice has been given on the local radio station (BRFM) on crime reduction relevant to that week.

On the 27th November 2009, 100 crime prevention packs were distributed to members of the public at Tesco's in Abertillery.

On the 1st December 2009, at the switching on of the Christmas lights 300 plus crime prevention packs were distributed.

Each Friday throughout December between 11am and 12 noon, crime prevention advice has been given on the local radio station (BRFM) on crime reduction relevant to that week.

Throughout December all the Local Authority owned sheltered accommodation premises in the Abertillery area have been visited and a presentation given to residents regarding security and bogus callers.

On the 17th December 2009, the Crime prevention trailer was taken to the Town Market where over 100 crime prevention packs were distributed to members of the public and mobile telephones post coded.

BRYNMAWR

Community Involvement and Initiatives

Every Friday throughout November between 11am and 12 noon, crime prevention advice has been given on the local radio station (BRFM) on crime reduction relevant to that week.

On the 24th November 2009, 240 crime prevention packs were distributed to members of the public at the switching on of the Brynmawr Christmas lights.

Community Involvement and Initiatives

Every Friday throughout December between 11am and 12 noon, crime prevention advice has been given on the local radio station (BRFM) on crime reduction relevant to that week.

Throughout December all the Local Authority owned sheltered accommodation premises in the Brynmawr area have been visited and a presentation given to residents regarding security and bogus callers.

On the 18th December 2009 (bleak Friday), officers gave out Santa hats, water and lolly pops in an attempt to reduce incidents of public order later in the evening.

EBBW VALE

Officers were engaged in high visibility foot patrol in and around known areas where ASB occurs on Bonfire night. In addition, along with the Fire Service they organised and policed a family fireworks display at Ebbw Vale Rugby ground, which allowed the public to enjoy the fireworks in a safe and secure environment. As a result there was a decrease in ASB in Ebbw Vale on this night.

Operation BASIC was run in Cwm throughout November to combat low level criminal damage offences and ASB. The operation involved all members of the NPT team including PCSOs and traffic warden. There was also involvement from the Out-Reach workers of BGCBC. High visibility patrols were conducted and know areas were targeted. As a result there were prosecutions for public order offences, motoring offences and confiscation of alcohol. In addition PACT areas were targeted and there was a reduction in ASB and a number of repeat victims were reassured by our actions. Also, the amount of low level crime reduced significantly in the area.

A leaflet drop was conducted both prior to and after the operation with updates on our actions. Indications are that the operation has had an effect, as the number of youths in the area at the relevant times that ASB usually occurs appears to have decreased, as has criminal damage offences.

Crime Prevention Panel

Ebbw Vale Crime Prevention Panel carried out a crime prevention event at the Tesco store giving away Nominate A Neighbour packs as part of 'Not In My Neighbourhood Week'.

The Detached Youth Team and Street Games

The Detached Youth Team patrolled Ebbw Vale in November and Street games were introduced in the ward areas on a weekly basis from the 9th November. As part of 'Not In My Neighbourhood week', "street games" was deployed in the town centre area.

Football Coaching

Officers have continued to run the highly successful football coaching scheme involving 30+ local children, aged between 7-11yrs.

TREDEGAR

Crime Prevention Panel

Tredeggar Crime Prevention Panel carried out a crime prevention event at the Morrisons store giving away Nominate A Neighbour packs as part of 'Not In My Neighbourhood Week'.

A six week operation was carried out in Tredeggar to address the escalating levels of anti-social behaviour in and around the town centre. The Neighbourhood Policing Team, supported by Response and Neighbourhood Support officers, as well as the Detached Youth team carried out a period of engagement and enforcement to impact upon the issue. Officers worked afternoon and evening shifts to ensure the appropriate level of resources where available to police the area.

The operation was extremely successful, resulting in a reduction of anti-social incidents by 10%. This was the highest within the Local Policing Unit and one of the best with Heddlu Gwent Police area.

In this and other ward areas, the NPT are working with Partner Agencies, including youth organisations, to assist a group of young people to gain access funding to re-locate and improve the facilities provided by the skate park in the town centre. This was successful and funding has already been obtained.

LPU WIDE

Neighbourhood Support

On the 9th December, the Neighbourhood Support Team was involved in Operation Resolve, which was a “Crime Clear Up day”. Fifteen outstanding offenders were arrested and dealt with.

Partnership Team

‘Not In My Neighbourhood Week’

During ‘Not In My Neighbourhood Week’, the Partnership Team worked with Trading Standards in developing crime prevention packs for members of the community. A “Cold Calling Door Sticker” was produced and included in the packs for residents to advertise that they did not want any cold callers.

Meals on wheels delivered 500 packs to their clients and another 500 packs were distributed by Crime Prevention Officers, Crime Prevention Panels and Communities First areas.

Funding was provided to Communities First areas to arrange diversionary activities, including discos during the week. Funds were also provided to the Youth Services in Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to provide equipment and venues for the start of “Street Games”.

Multi-Agency, high visibility visits/patrols were carried out in Abertillery and Brynmawr on the 6th November, in the hotspot areas where complaints of under age consumption of alcohol and the associated anti-social behaviour had been received. Due to the inclement weather, the areas visited were quiet and only a small quantity of alcohol was seized from a small group who had braved the wind and rain. The Partnership Team, Neighbourhood Team and BGCBC Trading Standards were involved in the initiative.

A public house in Abertillery was visited and the premises licence holders spoken to. They were made aware of the complaints received and that the quality of life of residents is being affected by the number of persons using the exterior of the premises to smoke. The conditions on the licence were reiterated to them and they were suitably advised on how to prevent disorderly conduct on their premises, including the external area.

On the 27th November, assistance was given to the Neighbourhood Policing Team by the Cadros and Licensing Officer. High visibility patrols were undertaken in and around the town centre to complete PACT surveys, carry out patrols outside Abertillery Comprehensive School, with regard to illegal parking and locate youths drinking alcohol under age. During the evening the weather was severe and a small hardcore were found taking shelter underneath the foundations of the Old Foundry Bridge – Health and Safety referral made to BGCBC to prevent this re-occurring.

Due to the non-availability of response officers, Licensing and Cadro Officers attended an immediate response 999 call relating to an attempt suicide in Alma Street, adjacent to the town centre area. On arrival, it transpired both persons at the premises had mental health issues. The male was falsely claiming that his sister had taken an overdose. As the Ambulance service were not in the position to attend immediately, PC 950 Evans remained with the female in order to re-assure her until a paramedic was able to confirm that she was not in danger and able to remain at home. Due to the mental health issues, PC Evans’ actions prevented a violent domestic incident between brother and sister.

Operation Street Safe

This operation commenced in November 2009 and involved a number of organisations, including St Johns Ambulance, Blaenau Gwent Domestic Abuse Service, Hafan Cymru, the Domestic Abuse Co-Coordinator, Trading Standards, Environmental Health and Blaenau Gwent Licensing. Police Officers from Response, Support, Neighbourhood, Special Constables, Youth Offending, Schools Liaison and the Partnership Team all worked together. The aim was to increase high visibility patrols in the town centres of Blaenau Gwent and in doing so reduce the levels of anti social behaviour, violent crime and to provide reassurance to the communities. During December it also involved a concentrated effort on the National Drink Drive Campaign.

All LPU Officers were provided with the Home Office Summary of Alcohol Related Police Powers 2009. The Neighbourhood Policing Teams, licensing officers and BG Partnership Team and Trading Standards from BGCBC, visited specific licensed premises, to distribute promotional material including- SIA High Visibility Arm Bands, Rape Awareness Campaign Posters and Stickers, Drink Wisely Posters, Cab safe Posters, House Party Leaflets, Drink Safe, Be Safe and Street Safe Posters . In addition, newsletters were provided to all DPS with crime prevention advice and to remind them of the responsibilities of SIA door staff over the festive season.

Staff from Blaenau Gwent Domestic Abuse Service and Hafan Cymru worked weekends and were briefed every Saturday and Sunday, in relation to incidents of domestic abuse. Staff then either contacted the victims, or arranged for joint visits with Officers to provide advice and implement safety plans when necessary.

Funding was provided to St Johns Ambulance, who were able to allocate a “fast response vehicle” and an ambulance, to provide a mobile triage service throughout Blaenau Gwent during the busiest evenings. At least four injured people per night were provided with first aid, or transported to the local hospitals.

The service enabled officers to be released to continue with their patrols, injured parties did not have to wait for ambulances and received treatment within minutes of sustaining the injuries. Feedback from those involved was that this initiative was one of the most cost effective and efficient partnership operations that the staff had been involved in. The staff from St. Johns Ambulance also thoroughly “enjoyed” the opportunity.

Preventing Violent Extremism

During November and December the Partnership Team arranged two ‘ACT Now’ desk top exercises, which provide members of the community with an opportunity to work together to decide upon a response to a possible terrorist attack.

The Prevent Group for Blaenau Gwent and the Public Services Course in Coleg Gwent were involved. One of the local Councillors was extremely complimentary about the opportunity to be involved in the exercise and the pupils from Coleg Gwent said that it was the ‘best lesson’ that they had received this year.

A number of presentations, including the Operation Fairway DVD, have also been provided to Councillors, Heads of Service in Blaenau Gwent Council, Schools and Social Services.

Community Cohesion

Blaenau Gwent has introduced a Community Cohesion Forum, and membership consists of a number of organisations throughout the area. A workshop was arranged in November to discuss the main issues for the Forum. As a result, a funding group has been arranged, along with an action plan and a Case Review Group, to ensure that the appropriate level of support is provided to vulnerable members in the community.

Young Dragons/Police Cadets

The 'Young Dragons' group, including all the uniform voluntary services, have held meetings during November and December 2009. Arrangements have been made to hold a 'Speed Dating' event on the 18th February, to increase the number of adult volunteers in all voluntary uniform organisations in Blaenau Gwent. A second event will be held at a later date, aimed at the younger people in the area.

Blaenau Gwent has now "recruited" 20 Police Cadets, who attended Police Headquarters in December for a familiarisation visit and a presentation from the Chief Constable. It is anticipated that uniforms will be available in February and the Cadets can then be deployed to work with Neighbourhood Teams, in the community.

CAERPHILLY LPU

BARGOED

Operation Cassowary Tackles Off Road Vehicles

During November Bargoed NPT, in partnership with the Local Authority, ran 'Operation Cassowary', an enforcement initiative responding to continuing complaints of off-road vehicle nuisance. A number of Fixed Penalty Notices and warning notices were issued. This sent out a clear that this matter is taken seriously. In addition, a new proposal has been submitted to the Community Safety Partnership seeking the implementation of an innovative diversionary project aimed at young people.

Test Purchasing of Licensed Premises

Trading Standards and Police carried out underage test purchase operation on 9th December. The following premises were checked: Plasnewydd, Bargoed - No sale made. Dyffryn Newydd, Aberbargoed - Sale made and Fixed Penalty Issued. Ruperra Arms New Tredegar - Sale made and Fixed Penalty issued.

Anti Social Behaviour Tackled in Bargoed Town Centre

Due to increased levels of anti-social behaviour in recent months in and around the Cleopatra Nightclub, Bargoed, the Neighbourhood Team together with Response and NSU staff, have targeted the area with increased high visibility patrols, particularly on weekends. The current licensee is on an action plan and meets monthly with the local Inspector. Their co-operation with police has been pleasing and there has been a marked reduction in the number and seriousness of calls. This plays an important part in reducing the fear of crime and deterring offending behaviour.

Local Rugby Club Targeted For Anti Social Behaviour

Bargoed Rugby Club has been targeted by the Neighbourhood Team and licensing Officers, due to increased levels of anti-social behaviour associated with the premises and public concern. This has included several licensing checks and a meeting with the committee. Suggestions have now been proposed to better supervise the young people attending the club and the sale of alcohol to underage. The combination of the agreed action by the committee and the increased foot patrols in the area in recent weeks has helped to reduce the number of calls concerning the premises.

Operation Vintage Tackles Crime

During November 2009, an operation took place in Caerphilly LPU with a focus on Bargoed and Rhymney. The aim of the operation was to reduce the high level of vehicle crime being committed and target those responsible. The operation was successful in that arrests were made and vehicle crime was reduced. A prolific vehicle crime offender was arrested, charged and is now on remand.

On 18th November a Peugeot vehicle was stop checked as a part of the operation and the two occupants, from out of the force area, were arrested for going equipped as the vehicle was found to contain plastic fuel containers, siphon & bolt croppers.

Town Centre Burglaries – Bargoed

During November a number of retail burglaries occurred in the Bargoed town centre area where premises were entered by forcing rear doors or windows. Large quantities cigarettes and toiletries were stolen. Offenders were identified and arrested. One remains on remand at this time and the offences have ceased.

Serious Assault in Aberbargoed

In November a serious assault occurred at the Spar Store, Commercial St, Aberbargoed where a male sustained a serious slash wound to the arm. Two suspects were quickly identified and arrested which help to allay community concern about the incident. Enquiries are ongoing at this time.

BEDWAS

Warrant Recovers Pedal Cycles

During December after information was received from a member of the public a warrant was executed at an address on the Lansbury Park estate and over 25 pedal cycles as well as numerous parts recovered. A male was arrested on suspicion of theft of the property and enquiries are on going to trace the owners.

Jail for Breach of Anti Social Behaviour Order

On 8th December 2009 a man who was subject of a 5 year anti social behaviour order was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment at Caerphilly Magistrates Court after breaching the order on 7 occasions. The main offences were targeted at neighbours and their severely disabled daughter. The family had suffered at the hands of the offender for over 2 years.

'Back on Track'

During December 2009, Bedwas NPT, in partnership with Communities 1st and Halfords, commenced the project titled 'Back on Track'. One of the main problems raised at local PACT meetings is off-road motor cycles. The aim of the project was to offer a Halfords voucher to anyone surrendering their off-road motor cycle. They could then use this to be able to obtain a brand new mountain bike and accessories. The project has turned out to be a great success and so far 14 off road bikes have been surrendered.

The funding for this project was from the Community Cash Back fund, which is managed by the Criminal Justice Board. It is made up from money that has been seized from previous offenders and is used for community projects. The team secured £4000 for the project.

'Not in My Neighbourhood Week'

During December, 'Not in my neighbourhood week' road safety awareness days were held with pupils from Primary Schools in the Bedwas NPT area. Officers attended at the schools with the DSD (Digital Speed Display) and the children monitored the speed of traffic passing their school. There was also a talk and a competition on road. Twelve winners won a day out to South Wales Police's mounted and dog sections in Bridgend.

'Hamper Pamper Day' for Local Women

During December's 'Not in my neighbourhood week' a project called 'Hamper Pamper Day' was held at the resource centre at Graig Y Rhacca to highlight the problems of domestic violence on the estate. The day was attended by over 35 women who were given access to various beauty therapy treatment and health checks, as well as advice on domestic violence if it was required.

BLACKWOOD

Arrests For Burglaries

Following a series of commercial breaks committed in the Bargoed and Blackwood areas in October / November, two local men were charged and remanded for court. The outcome of the investigation is that one male has been imprisoned for 8 months and the other male given a probation order for 24 months in addition to a community order.

Arrest for Burglaries

Two travelling criminals from Newport and Pontypool who targeted secluded dwellings in the Blackwood area have been charged for 3 burglaries and are due to appear in court in January 2010. The males were using a silver BMW, which was followed by an ANPR officer. This led to the recovery of high value jewellery and property from the vehicle which related to 3 separate burglaries. Between the two, they are also linked to a further 10 dwelling burglaries through footwear.

Car Cruiser Operation Blackwood

This operation continues and has led to a dramatic improvement with substantially lower numbers of cruisers attending Blackwood Town centre.

Anti Social Behaviour Order

A local male from the Pontllanfraith area, who had caused substantial community fear and concern, was made subject of a 2 year ASBO at Caerphilly Magistrates Court on 23.11.09. A Local councillor assisted the Police at Blackwood in gaining the order by providing a community impact statement.

Interim Anti Social Behaviour Order

A local male who had caused harassment to his neighbours in the Blackwood area was made subject of an interim ASBO through civil proceedings on 17/11/09. This male has subsequently been charged with criminal offences of aggravated harassment and wasting police time.

Damage to Graveyard at Penmaen

A male from the Wattsville area who was carrying out a community order at a local graveyard was arrested and charged with several offences following a substantial amount of damage to graves and headstones. This male appeared in court in November and was given a 16 week suspended sentence for a period of 18 months.

Possession of CCBC Property

Through joint working with CCBC tenancy enforcement, a well known family in the Pontllanfraith area have surrendered their property prior to eviction. The eviction proceedings were instigated as a result of the tenant's son being involved in several criminal matters.

Acceptable Behaviour Contract

In November 2009, a local male who had made numerous nuisance calls to the police has been made subject to an acceptable contract under the ASBO process. This has led to a dramatic decrease in calls to the police.

Community Crime Fighter's Event

On 15th December 2009, the Ward Officer and PCSO for the Pontllanfraith area attended the above event at the Penllwyn estate. Officers provided crime prevention materials and advice etc.

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators Conference

On 4th December 2009, the CADRO arranged a meeting for Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators in the Blackwood and Ystrad Mynach area. The purpose of the meeting was to re-invigorate NHW and to define the role of NHW in tackling issues of crime and disorder. The meeting was well attended with 15 coordinators present.

Beauty and the Beast Play

Members of Blackwood NPT and Special Constabulary arranged the above event at Blackwood Primary school on 8th December 2009 as an event to break down barriers between the police and local children. This was a total success.

CAERPHILLY

Arrests of Scrap Metals

The Old Saw Mills in Senghenydd, Caerphilly has had a spate of thefts during the last month in which persons were cutting live copper cables and stripping them in order to sell them as scrap. This presented a significant danger to themselves and others.

On the 12th December, a Police Operation was put in place and consequently a 32 year old male was arrested for Burglary at the site. He is currently on police bail.

From Sunday 13th December a plain clothes police team were situated inside the compound and on Monday 14th, with assistance from a police dog and handler, two males were caught inside the compound stripping copper and both were arrested for Burglary. They later admitted the offence and will appear at Caerphilly Magistrates court charged with Burglary.

Up until the operation and arrests, the owner was changing the Saw Mills into a processing plant. The constant damage had resulted in numerous setbacks and worry for him. He is now extremely delighted with the police action.

'Jingle Bells' Operation Targets Shoplifters

During December 2009, Caerphilly NPT have been running Operation 'Jingle Bells', targeting shoplifters and pick pockets in Caerphilly town centre. As well as increased covert and overt patrols, members of the public were issued with purse bells, that attach to purses and indicate to the owner if anyone tries to tamper with it.

Successful Warrants

In early November, 2 search warrants were executed on 2 addresses in the Pwll Y Pant area of Caerphilly. Both warrants were successful and 2 males arrested for cultivation of Cannabis.

Litter Collected by Local School Children

During 'Not in my neighbourhood week' officers from Llanbradach, in conjunction with 'Keep Wales Tidy', held a litter pick with 2 classes of children from Coed Y Brain Primary School.

Anti Social Behaviour Targeted

The area of Penyrheol has been highlighted as a force priority due to the increase number of calls relating to anti social behaviour. As a result Caerphilly Neighbourhood Team conducted an operation to target the youths causing the majority of the problems on the estate. To date over 100 ASBO referrals have been submitted, resulting in 8 youths signing Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. One person has been put forward to the Caerphilly Partnership Problem Solving Group after he breached his ABC the day after signing it.

Crime Prevention Day

During 'Not in my neighbourhood week' a crime prevention day was held at B&Q in Caerphilly, which targeted the elderly members of the community. It was held on a Wednesday this is the day B&Q offer discounts for the over 65's.

Truancy Patrols

On the 3rd and 4th of November a truancy operation was held in the Caerphilly and Bedwas areas involving Police Officers and Education Welfare Officers. Over 25 pupils were identified as being absent from school without permission.

Medieval Market

On the 12th and 13th December members of the Caerphilly NPT were involved in the Policing of a Medieval Market in the centre of Caerphilly, which involved the closure of all the roads in the town. Over 20,000 visitors attended the market which passed without incident.

Rodeo Night

On the 5th November, as a diversionary activity for youths during bonfire night, a 'Rodeo Night ' was held at Caerphilly Leisure Centre for the four wards of Caerphilly. Local businesses, Police and partner agencies provided food and entertainment to bring the communities together for a night of entertainment.

'River of Light Parade'

In December the Caerphilly NPT were involved in helping to organise the 'River of Light' in Caerphilly town centre. This attracted around 2000 children and adults marching with candles and a further 4000 watching. This culminated with a fireworks display at the Castle.

DAMEC Patrols

During November officers from Caerphilly and Bedwas NPTs took part in public order patrols for the Autumn Rugby Internationals and during December were involved in the DAMEC operation for each weekend during that month.

RHYMNEY

Vulnerable Adult – Rhymney

During November, threats were made against a vulnerable adult with mental health issues, living in the Phillips Walk area of Rhymney. Concerns were raised by the local community about his criminal history and a suggestion was circulated that he was a serious sex offender. As a result, his home was being targeted by unknown persons from within the community. He was subsequently reported to be in possession of a hand gun in his home and it was clear that the level of risk to him and other members of the local community were rising. The male was known to have committed serious offences previously. Due to the excellent work of the Rhymney NPT in partnership with Housing and Probation Service, the male was re-housed away from the Rhymney area.

RISCA

Bonfire Treat for Youths

On 5th November Risca NPT officers escorted approximately 40 youths, along with local Youth Workers, to "Sparks in the Park" in Swansea - a firework display with entertainment. The trip was funded by Gwent Police. The Youths aged between 11 & 17yrs were well behaved and thanked Gwent Police for the opportunity to attend the show as they would not normally be able to afford attendance to the venue or transport.

Vehicle Offenders Targeted

On 11th November a joint operation between Risca NPT and Capita Symonds targeted motorist who were using their mobile phone or failing to wear their seatbelts whilst driving. The drivers were given the option of receiving a fixed Penalty Notices or attending the local Fire Station where they viewed a short DVD highlighting the dangers of their actions.

The operation was well received and further operations will be arranged in the future.

Persistent Offender Targeted

December saw a warrant being executed at a persistent Offenders home address. He was subsequently bailed pending further enquiries. Working in partnership with Tenancy Enforcement, the Council are now on board looking at evicting the person from their home address following breach of tenancy conditions

MONMOUTHSHIRE LPU

ABERGAVENNY

Special Constabulary

During November 2009, the input of a particularly active Special Constable in Abergavenny led to the arrest of four individuals in possession of controlled drugs over two evenings. The drugs recovered were ketamine and cannabis and the officer worked closely with regular colleagues to interview and process the arrested persons.

CHEPSTOW

Vulnerable Female

In November 2009 a distressed woman attended at Chepstow Police station having been the subject of a violent domestic abuse incident. The only person at the police station was a male Station Enquiry Officer who provided immediate support and reassurance. This event led to a letter of appreciation and positive feedback from domestic abuse officers for dealing with a vulnerable person in such a sensitive and caring manner. In fact the victim said 'he spoke to me like a human being, as if he really cared'.

Shoplifters Detained

Saturday 28th November 2009, two Police Community Support Officers were on patrol in Chepstow Town Centre and they saw two young women who were acting suspiciously in High Street. The officers decided to follow the women and, becoming increasingly suspicious of their behaviour, decided to stop and detain them. Using good communication skills, they escorted both women back to Chepstow police station. It was later found that they were in possession of stolen goods and they were arrested for shoplifting. Both were later cautioned for theft.

Observations Lead to Arrest

Thursday 17th December 2009, while on patrol in Chepstow Town Centre an Officer identified a woman who he suspected of theft. He carried out further observations and actually witnessed the individual committing a crime and arrested her. As a result of his efforts four crimes were detected and the woman was recalled to prison.

Drug Dealer Arrested

On 18th December 2009, two officers observed a number of male persons in the area of Chepstow library, one of which is known to be heavily involved in drugs. Through careful observations, they witnessed a transaction take place between two of the males and an exchange of money. After detaining and searching the males, one was found in possession of fourteen separate wraps of white powder believed to be cocaine. The man was arrested for possession with intent to supply.

MONMOUTH

Observations Lead to Arrest

On Wednesday 16th December 2009, while on foot patrol in Monmouth Town Centre during the early hours of the morning, a Response Officer located a man in the lane behind Iceland. Being aware that there had been a number of offences committed in the area in recent weeks, the Officer carried out follow up checks and a search of a vehicle. This led to the man being arrested for Going Equipped to Steal. Crime in the area has decreased dramatically since this intervention.

Successful Partnership Work on Town Centre

A Monmouthshire Police Community Support Officer has been closely involved with Town Council and traders in the development and implementation of Store/Nite Net in Caldicot. This is a radio system that links shopkeepers and public houses to enable them to provide support to each other and the police regarding suspicious incidents and individuals. The system has already proved beneficial, with reports received of lost property and shop lifters in local shops. Future developments include linking store net with the town CCTV system. This same officer has received a very complimentary letter of gratitude from a local councillor, praising the difference that has made in the Rogiet community due to his/her hard work.

Successful Intelligence Gathering

A Monmouthshire Police Community Support Officer has been congratulated for the excellent quality of research when submitting intelligence logs. The content of recent logs has resulted in the recovery of stolen property and controlled drugs from various addresses in Abergavenny. The well written, high quality intelligence submitted is detecting and reducing crime by allowing our Intelligence Officer to enforce the intelligence with warrants. It is an example of how intelligence should be done and is a credit to his professionalism. In November and December, two officers from Monmouthshire formed a proactive team with the aim of reducing crime across Monmouthshire in the lead up to Christmas. Their role was to act swiftly on intelligence received and focus on prolific offenders who cause the most harm to our communities. Their efforts resulted in a total of 67 people arrested, the execution of 14 warrants and the detection of more than 70 crimes including dwelling burglaries, drugs possession and thefts from motor vehicles.

NEWPORT LPU

Newport Central Neighbourhood Team

Allt-yr-Yn Ward

Vehicle Crime

Due to an increase in Vehicle Crime in the ward a Partnership Initiative was put together with the local Youth Offending Team (YOT). The hotspot area was targeted and patrolled and Crime Prevention leaflets and advice was given, this was done in company with Young Offenders. The initiative was successful with a heightened awareness of Crime Prevention and a good rapport between the officers and rehabilitating offenders.

Operation BANG

Operation BANG is a Force Wide Campaign to deal with the issues around Bonfire Night. This was utilised in all Wards, not only just on the night but also in the build up, with the Ward Team working closely with schools and shop premises.

Not in my Neighbourhood Week

Not in my Neighbourhood Week saw the team give a presentation and talk to NACRO who work with offenders in varying stages of offending. This is a continuing relationship which has produced positive results.

Gaer Ward

Operation BANG

Operation BANG is a Force Wide Campaign to deal with the issues around Bonfire Night. This was utilised in all Wards, not only just on the night but also in the build up, with the Ward Team working closely with schools and shop premises.

In addition to this the local ward team organised a night of entertainment for local youths which had a positive impact on ASB matters for the area.

Not in My Neighbourhood Week

Not in My Neighbourhood also saw activity in this area with the execution of a successful drugs warrant and a clean up operation involving partners in the Maesglas Area.

The ward team continue to work closely with youth workers to develop a diversionary initiative for young people.

White Ribbon Day

White Ribbon Day saw all members of the Team have a stall all day at Tesco in the Harlech Retail Park. This was allowed with the close working relationship developed by the team with the retailers.

PC Debbie Duggan has also furthered the good relations with the Retail Park by dealing with an emerging issue of ASB and low level crime related matters. Four offenders were dealt with and a number of outstanding reports were cleared. The levels of incident have dropped dramatically as a result of this intervention.

Shaftesbury Ward

Anti-bullying in Schools

The Ward Team have recently concluded a successful schools initiative around the theme of 'bullying'. A poster campaign was launched and a winning poster identified. This competition linked in with a current campaign running in the school. The competition received good media coverage in the South Wales Argus.

Drink Drive Campaign

The team also co-ordinated the wider teams drink drive campaign with planned road checks across the area.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The team are also working on an emerging problem of ASB in the Brynglas area, which is a PACT priority.

Stow Hill Ward

Anti-Social Behaviour

The McDonalds area on High Street, Newport continues to be the number 1 ASB hotspot for the whole of the Force. However, the team continue to work on initiatives to deal with the problem. Recently the team have worked closely with McDonalds itself, making regular visits and having greater visibility at key times. This has proven to be successful. A recent visit and review with the local manager has provided positive feedback, this relationship will continue to be built upon in the future.

Operation City Centre Safe

Operation City Centre Safe is an indefinite operation with a dedicated night team working each Friday and Saturday night. This dedicated team is an example of the Team Gwent spirit as it is made up of 6 officers – 2 x dedicated NPT, 2 x NSU Officers and 2 x Response Officers. Their visible presence is having a positive impact on the City Centre.

The Festive Period

The Festive Period, as normal, presented several challenges to the local team. However, numerous operations which were run over the period, assisted with what is always a busy time for us. Examples of those are;

- Street Pastors working other key dates.
- Teen Challenge Bus – working with vulnerable 'clubbers'.
- Taxi Marshals – employed by the Partnership to manage the taxi ranks which are often a flashpoint for trouble.
- The re-introduction of NCC Wardens to the City Centre, working alongside the team being briefed by the team.
- Positive Action approach dealing with Aggressive Beggars.

General

The team has also worked closely with the Lower Dock St Action Group who had concerns over drugs and prostitution. As part of this approach, the team utilised the services of Community Payback to raise the profile of some of the problem areas with a clean up Campaign.

The City Centre held a launch in early December of 'anti-purse theft' lanyards; this was done in association with partners at Newport Transport. From victim profiles we were able to target vulnerable individuals to promote the campaign to. Use of Bluetooth technology was

also used to raise awareness. This campaign was very popular and received good coverage in local radio and papers.

A passive drugs dog operation was also run during this period based on intelligence and funded by the local SMAT group. There were a number of arrests and searches. However the greatest success was the message that was being sent out to the whole of the night time community regarding our approach to drug offences.

CAERLEON

Anti Social Behaviour

We have had an ASB operation running on a Friday and Saturday evenings. Officers have changed their shifts to meet the needs of the area. We have been pro-actively patrolling the hotspot areas. We have stopped 25 people and have asked them to account for themselves. We have stopped and searched 13 people within these areas also.

Speeding Issues

We have also had action days, to combat our other problem of parking and speeding within the village of Caerleon. 26 people have been issued with £30 fixed penalty notices due to them being illegally parked within the village. We have conducted speed checks using a handheld speed gun and 27 motorists were stopped due to their speed and advised accordingly.

RINGLAND

Operation Collateral

Operation Collateral is conducted on Friday and Saturday Nights and its aim is to reduce Anti Social Behaviour & Criminal Damage offences. Over the past few months high visibility patrols have conducted by NPT officers throughout specific areas which are based on intelligence provided by members of the public. Patrols include bicycle patrols, foot patrols, mobile patrols and the proactive use of stop & search powers.

Operation Carousel

Operation Carousel targets drug dealing on the Ringland and Always estates. Numerous drugs warrants have been executed on the estates with great success. Pro-active use of stop and search powers has also proven successful in targeting street dealing.

Anti Social Behaviour Issues

There have been numerous reports of on-going anti-social behaviour relating to a family living in Hendre Farm Drive. This behaviour has affected their immediate neighbour's lifestyle. A multi agency meeting was called by Gwent Police and action has been taken by partner agencies. An injunction was obtained against the tenant and the children at the address. They are now subject to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. There have been numerous reports of improvement in quality of life by the neighbours.

Similar reports have also been received about a male on the same estate, affecting his neighbours. Environmental Health Department were contacted due to the poor condition of his premises and an order was served upon the male that required him to rectify issues, and which banned him from living at the premises until the issues were resolved. This male has since left the premises. He has been charged with an offence of possession of drugs with intent to supply. A CRASBO application has been made which, if successful, will ban him from Hendre Farm Drive.

Bad weather management

During the bad weather, reassurance visits were conducted to elderly and vulnerable people throughout the Milton Court complex and the Treberth and Bishpool estates. Newsletters were delivered which contained contact emergency telephone numbers and details for them.

LLANWERN/LANGSTONE

Over the past months a number of action days have been carried out across the Ward's area in relation to complaints of speeding vehicles. A *speed scope* was sourced from the safety camera partnership and officers and PCSO's have changed shifts to be seen in the areas at times complained of. Over these days 49 drivers have been stopped and education given about their manner of driving with 4 drivers prosecuted by way of fixed penalty tickets also a person being arrested for an offence of driving whilst disqualified.

Operation UTAH was run in the Langstone ward area around the Coldra in a joint work between other force areas and VOSA officers from the Langstone/Llanwern ward being used on this operation.

The ward team have attended at the Langstone School in company with the roads policing department to look at improving the road lay out and markings and have further approached the school with a view to starting up a mini PCSO scheme which would involve the children at the school.

A warrant has been executed on the Underwood estate in relation to misuse of drugs where a small number of cannabis plants were taken and a male dealt with by way of a formal caution.

PILL

PACT priority addressed in Tredegar Park ward

Tredegar Park Neighbourhood team utilised the LTI Speed device at various hot spot speeding locations upon the estate. Over 500 vehicles stopped and verbal warnings issued. Warning literature was also given to all drivers.

Joint road safety initiative with Duffryn Fire Station was used where drivers were given an option to attend a course at the fire station where a DVD and discussions were given in relation to the dangers of Speeding. This course was attended by over 20 drivers.

LLISWERY/BEECHWOOD

Operation Cracker

Operation Cracker took place at Newport Retail Park, Spytty Road from the 11th December 2009 to 31st December 2009. The Operation was conducted on a much smaller scale than last year, mainly due to available resources. However there were no recorded calls or crimes relating to shoplifting or theft during this period, compared to one call received during last year's operation which was held over a longer period.

Operation Bang

Operation Bang was conducted during November whereby patrols by NPT officers were conducted throughout the areas to reduce ASB in the area, the operation proved a success and less calls were recorded from previous operations.

Operation Residue

Operation Residue was revisited, whereby NPT officers made contact with hair salons and retail outlets informing them of the issues surrounding sale of Sodium Chloride. NPT officers asked shop owners to inform the Police if regular amounts were being sold to specific people and to make them aware if they are suspicious of anyone purchasing large amounts.

Bad weather management

In an attempt to reassure elderly residents during the bad weather we experienced, leaflets were printed with useful contact numbers and details for them. NPT officers distributed them to known elderly and vulnerable people to give them reassurance. A number of nursing homes were visited and officers cleared pavements and entrances in order to make it safer for them.

NEWPORT WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Results - Operations Prudent & Dynamic

- 151 Stop Searches (running total now 578 from Aug – Dec)
- 443 Intelligence submissions (running total now 753 from Aug-Dec)
- 80 Arrests
- Action Days4

- Possession of Firearm x 2
- Possession of Class A with intent x 5
- Possession of Class A x 18
- Possession of drugs Cautioned x 2
- Cultivation of Cannabis :x 1
- Possession of Cannabis, issued with FPN x 8
- Burglary x 6
- Escape lawful custody x 1
- Attempt Rape x 1
- TUMV x 3
- Theft x 8
- Assault x 3
- POA x 8
- Warrant x 9
- Obstruct police x 3
- Assault police x 1
- Recall to prison x 3
- Breach of Court Order x 3
- Traffic Offences x 26
- Drink Driving and Unfit x 4
- Traffic FPN x 98

Warrants

3 warrants have been executed in Pill, This resulted in x2 persons given fixed penalty tickets for possession of Controlled Drugs, Class B

'Not in My Neighbourhood Week'

Newport West Neighbourhood Team conducted multi agency operations with Newport City Council Waste Management Team, Pride of Newport, Keep Wales Tidy, South Wales and Gwent Fire Service Arson Reduction Teams and Probation - Community Payback Scheme Volunteers & DVLA. D.V.L.A - Resulted in

- 5 X Vehicles being clamped,
- 2 x persons paid at the time £260.00, per vehicle.

ANPR Lockdown

This was the first Operation of its kind in Gwent held on 6th November 2009.
It involved more than

- 35 uniformed Police Officers
- 7 ANPR Marked Vehicles
- 7 Marked Intercept Vehicles
- Local Unit Marked Vehicles

Units who took part in operation:

- ANPR Unit
- Roads Policing Unit
- Armed Response Unit
- Dog Section
- W099 (Helicopter)
- Newport West Neighbourhood Team
- Special Constabulary
- Prudent Investigation team – CID, Intelligence Officers, Crime Team (GPV)
- VOSA – on patrol
- Department of Work and Pensions - phone
- DVLA – on patrol/phone
- Trading Standards - phone

During the course of “Lockdown” intelligence was received that a known male target was in possession of a handgun. Following a stop within the radius of “Lockdown” the male was located in a vehicle and, after a search at his home address, a live firearm was recovered.

Other arrests and process are detailed within the overall figures listed above.

TORFAEN LPU

Tackling anti social behaviour

During November's 'Not in My Neighbourhood Week' there were a range of activities including a Neighborhood Watch recruitment drive and engagement events. Licensed Premises checks were conducted throughout Torfaen. The high visitor levels to Cwmbran Shopping Centre enabled us to run engagement activities where we consulted the public, utilised local questionnaires and made use of the force communications caravan. A Community Day was organized by officers at the George Lansbury Community Home in Pontnewydd. This was coupled with local activity under the Force Wide initiative "Operation Resolve", where more search warrants were executed and positive results obtained.

As part of a joint approach to encouraging sensible drinking and reducing anti social behaviour, a series of patrol operations took place in Cwmbran during November. Hot spots received additional high visibility patrols and a number of people were referred into the Torfaen Community Safety Partnership's anti social behaviour process. New Acceptable Behaviour Contracts were agreed with 8 people, who were having the greatest impact throughout the town. Work continued to develop the Pub Watch scheme and other work streams were involved in the checking of key premises.

A full review of The Square Inn, Gwent Square in Cwmbran was requested by the local police and the hearing in front of Torfaen Licensing Authority was conducted on the 16th and 17th December 2009. The hearing lasted for two days and culminated in a full revocation of the licence when overwhelming evidence of violence, crime and anti social behaviour was presented. This will have a huge impact on offences of violence, anti social behaviour and volume crime in the centre of the Town.

Excellent partnership work has continued throughout the year with Torfaen youth services in a team effort to tackle youth related disorder problems in our hotspot and PACT priority locations. On the 31st of October (Halloween) and the 18th of December 2009 (bleak Friday), two critical dates for Anti Social Behaviour reporting, funding was obtained to take around 200 young people to Thorpe Park and Winter Wonderland, Cardiff. This allowed an enhanced engagement opportunity with a large amount of young people from the Torfaen area and also to divert their energies and efforts elsewhere at these busy times for emergency services. This action no doubt contributed to the low level of calls and problems encountered on both evenings relating to youth anti social behaviour. Our partnership work is continuing to grow in the New Year with a Youth Services/Police Detached project about to commence, which will involve more focused joint patrols in our known hotspot areas.

Pontypool Neighbourhood team carried out a disorder operation in November 2009 as a result of a steady increase in the reports of anti social behaviour and also the anticipated problems linked to the Autumn Rugby Internationals. Officers and PCSOs worked closely with partners in Torfaen CCTV, local licensees and trading standards during the course of the operation. Some of the activities carried out included raising awareness of the campaign and potential offences with staff and visits to our on and off licensed premises. Persons were arrested for assault, 1 person was issued with a fixed penalty notice for disorder and as a result of officers pro-active patrolling they were able to detect the offence of sale by proxy of alcohol to young persons. This is quite a significant offence to detect in relation to youth disorder as it is widely recognised that the purchase of alcohol by adults, which is then passed onto young persons on the street is the main source for young people to obtain alcohol which often results in disorder.

Test purchase operations were also carried out at off-licence premises throughout the Pontypool area. The funding was also utilised to carry out joint patrolling with detached youth workers targeting our hotspot locations.

An example of the kind of work we have been doing can be found in the Talywain area of Abersychan where we have been tackling the issue of anti social behaviour, in particular in relation to the use of vehicles. The issue has been a PACT priority in 2009 and a great deal of work was carried out with partners in dealing with gatherings which result in anti-social behaviour. The team had experienced a level of success at that location, however the young drivers involved found another location in the Abersychan area and continued to cause similar problems. In December 2009, in an effort to focus on the 'offender' aspect of the problem, the team organised a public meeting and invited a number of the young drivers to attend. They spoke with them and highlight the issues and complaints that had arisen as a result of their behaviour. Roads Policing Unit Officers gave a thought provoking and powerful presentation on a number of issues including road safety and the possible dangers connected to anti social use of vehicle. The meeting resulted in a positive engagement with the young drivers, who provided some very good feedback. Some were visibly shocked by the effect their driving could have on the community and themselves. Since the date of the meeting, engagement has improved and complaints have noticeably reduced.

Citizen engagement

We took part in the Remembrance Day Parades throughout Torfaen laying wreaths at the dedicated sites of Remembrance. The Mayor of Torfaen took the time to personally write to the team thanking them for their assistance in such important occasions

The Ezeeplay Fun Bus was used by the NPT in the first week of December as an idea to promote engagement opportunities with young families and opportunities to get resident's thoughts and opinions were conducted.

Pontypool Neighbourhood Team was pro-active in providing a significant contribution to the annual Christmas drink drive campaign this year. Torfaen LPU provided the highest level of breath-tests out of the five Plus. PS 1340 Elliot's and PC 1225 Martinson's efforts in particular were recognised and commended by a member of the public who had in fact been stopped by them. The member of the public were so impressed by the officers attitude and Gwent Police's efforts in tackling drink driving that they contact the Chief Constable direct to offer praise for both the officers and Gwent Police.

Pontypool Neighbourhood Team had introduced a joint Police & School Discipline Panel to Abersychan Comprehensive. The panel is managed by the school discipline manager who identifies issues and arranges for joint meetings involving Police, Deputy Head, the pupil and their parent(s). The panel allows the opportunity for Police to explain criminal justice implications arising from the identified behaviour and then, in partnership with the school, decide whether or not formal action needs to be taken or if referrals to additional support agencies would be more beneficial. Each pupil is asked to sign a 3 month school 'Acceptable Behaviour Contract', which is reviewed at a follow up meeting. As the 'School Beat Policy' has achieved positive results, the school invited Insp. Williams to meet with the Estyn School Inspectors to discuss the panel and the Partnership's work.

School Community Police Officers and members of the LPU management team were involved in Torfaen County Borough Council's 'Respect Showcase'. This was a finale event as part of the 2009 anti bullying week. A local strategy has been developed and officers who work with schools are playing a role in responding to these issues. The 'Respect Showcase' involved children and young people from across the Borough and enabled wider engagement and promotion of our role in communities to take place. Young people from many schools and disability groups attended the event.

Dealing with things that matter locally

Anti Speed campaigns have continued in Cwmbran. Officers and PCSOs find the LTI speed guns useful when gathering data and having up to date relevant information that can be fed back to the Communities, particularly where speed is a PACT priority.

Officers and PCSOs were utilised in Operation Cassowary in November where the team are supported by the Gwent Police Off-Road motorcycle section in trying to combat anti social use of motorcycles. In November 24 warning notices were issued, together with 4 motorcycles seized for being used in such a manner. The operation was continued in December and on one Sunday alone, 12 warning notices were issued and 2 motorcycles seized. Further activities are planned for the New Year.

New ways of joint working were developed in two areas. Firstly protocol was revised in relation to how we respond to illegal gypsy traveller encampments and how briefings were delivered jointly with the lead officer for Planning and Public protection for Torfaen County Borough Council. This followed an encampment which was dealt with during the summer of 2009 and some follow up from the local community, where constructive feedback was received.

Secondly, a joint protocol with the five registered social landlords (Bron Afton, Melin, Linc, Ty Hafan and Seren) who provide properties in Torfaen was launched and the first senior level meeting held. This protocol cements the existing work taking place on the ground, will enable even closer working and builds upon some of the experiences gained through the Thornhill Neighbourhood management Exemplar project.

Tackling local crime

Cwmbran officers executed search warrants under the Misuse of Drugs Act legislation and at one address a substantial 9 ounce bar of cannabis resin was seized, resulting in one male person being charged with being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs.

In December both Neighbourhood Teams in Torfaen commenced a joint shoplifting operation focusing on Cwmbran and Pontypool Town Centres respectively. Pontypool Neighbourhood Team continued to build on the good relations with the local town centre shop staff and on the success of the 'store-net' scheme. As a result , 11 persons were arrested for shoplifting in the Pontypool town centre and 17 detected crimes were submitted as a result of the investigations that had taken place.

In response to a rise in house burglaries 'Operation Firefly' was commenced. This linked officers from Torfaen Neighbourhood Support Unit with staff from the Serious Crime Tasking Team and the Intelligence Directorate. Early successes were achieved with the arrest of several suspects in the north of the Borough. Persons were charged with offences and remanded in custody pending trials. This led to a sustained reduction in the levels of house burglary in the area. The operation also deals with similar crime patterns in the Cwmbran area where arrests have also been made. The NPT has been involved and, implementing the Home Officer Crime prevention toolkit, focused awareness has taken place in the main hotspots. The operation continues.

SILVER CADRE

Adverse Weather

On the 29th December 2009 the Gwent Police area was struck by heavy snow. Considerable disruption to road and transport was experienced during this period and the closure of schools across Wales impacted upon both police operations and businesses.

Silver Cadre acted to manage Gwent Police's response over this period, authorising the hire of a number of four-wheel drive vehicles for use by officers and invoking business continuity plans in co-operation with emergency planning. The force adverse weather policy was implemented.

Recovery of Firearm, Newport

Operation Prudent is the force critical incident focusing on criminal networks operating around the Newport area. On 7th November officers from Operation Prudent worked with Silver Command to develop information that a male living in a flat in the Corporation Road Area may be in possession of a firearm.

A subsequent search of his premises did indeed recover a firearm and a male person was arrested and charged with firearms offences.

UNIFORMED OPERATIONS

ROADS POLICING UNIT

Safety Camera Unit

A review of the Safety Camera Unit is currently taking place and this has resulted in a drive for efficiency within the department. The officers are measured on the amount of time they are visible to the public and also the time spent on each site. Over recent months their productivity has improved significantly with an increase of nearly 25% of the time spent on the road and nearly 20% more time on the identified enforcement sites. Their presence improves driver behaviour and adds to the safety of the roads in our county.

The average speed cameras are now operating on the M4 and there are a number of offences each week. However, these are less than 1% of vehicles, which is low considering the volume of traffic that travels the Newport stretch of the M4. Overall there is a vast improvement in the standard of driving and improved flow of traffic through the area covered by the cameras. This again is contributing to the safety of the roads in Gwent.

Many Neighbourhood officers still contact the unit to borrow equipment for use in their areas and it is a pleasure to see that the unit still contributes to the PACT priorities in addressing speed complaints

Road Safety Campaigns

'Not in my neighbourhood week'

All departments of the Force supported this initiative. The Road Policing Units contributions were as follows:

1st November

In three separate locations extracts from the 'COW' DVD Road Safety film were shown to the general public:

- Magor Services,
- Newport Leeway industrial estate and
- Cwmbran Town Centre
- Over 3200 Road Safety Advice leaflets were issued to the General Public during the showings.

2nd November

Officers from the Roads Policing Unit conducted an operation as part of 'Not in my neighbourhood week' with the following results: -

- 20 Extendable fixed penalties for mobile phone misuse.
- 17 Non Endorsable fixed penalties for No Seat Belt (driver)
- One Extendable fixed penalty for speeding.
- Six Section 59 Notices issued for driving without due care, likely to cause harassment, alarm and distress.
- Four Motor vehicles seized for S165 No Insurance.
- One Extendable fixed penalty issued for dangerous / insecure load.

The all Wales winter Anti Drink/Drug Driving Campaign

0001 Hrs 1st December 2009 to 2359 Hrs 1st January 2009

The Campaign was launched by North Wales Police on 3rd December 2009. Officers in all Force Units were instructed to deal with offences as part of normal duties and take appropriate action. Operations were set up involving Uniformed Roads Policing Officers.

They set up suitable check points throughout the Force Area to enable the stopping of motor vehicles using their power under Section 163 Road Traffic Act 1988.

Other Force Policing Units also used this methodology to set up local operations. Drivers were asked to provide a specimen of breath in accordance with the Road Traffic Act 1988. Where there was a suspicion of intoxicants being consumed, following a collision. or a moving traffic offence was observed Where suspicion of alcohol did not exist drivers were allowed the opportunity to participate in the campaign and provide a sample on a voluntary basis.

Motorists were supportive of this initiative and very few declined to take part.

During the campaign 20,578 drivers were tested, of which 80 provided positive tests

AUTOMATIC NUMBER PLATE RECOGNITION (ANPR) TEAM

November 2009

The ANPR unit were involved in the following operations:

- Operation Resolve
- Operation Utah (Avon and Somerset)
- Operation Vintage
- Driving Standards Agency Operation
- ANPR led Operation in Monmouthshire LPU
- ANPR led Operation in Torfaen LPU
- ANPR led Operation in Blaenau Gwent LPU

During times where no divisional operations had been planned ANPR officers deployed to the motorway fixed site cameras and performed static ANPR checks within LPU areas force wide

Results

- 23 arrests
- 29 vehicles recovered Section 165
- 38 persons reported for document offences

December 2009

The ANPR unit were involved in the following operations:

- Cross Border Crime Operation – Operation OHIO
- Taxi Licensing Operation with Newport City Council
- Gwent Operation Utah 7
- ANPR led Operation in Monmouthshire LPU
- ANPR led Operation in Newport LPU

During times where no divisional operations had been planned ANPR officers deployed to the motorway fixed site cameras and performed static ANPR checks within LPU areas force wide

Results

- 21 arrests
- 21 vehicles recovered Section 165
- 31 persons reported for document offences

ARMED RESPONSE UNIT (ARU)

Force-wide Operations

During the months of November and December 2009 the Armed Response Unit took part in the following Force-wide activities:

- Operation Conifer 2
- Operation Prudent and Operation Prudent 'Lockdown'
- Operation Mermaid
- Operation Ohio
- Operation Acer
- Operation Vintage
- Operation Rouge Trader
- Operation Refund
- Operation Beverage (Drink-rive Campaign)
- Taxi Operation/Initiative
- Monmouthshire ANPR Operation
- Newport ANPR Operation
- Blaenau Gwent ANPR Operation
- Force Crime Day
- A.S.B. Hotspots
- 'Not in my Neighbourhood'

Assistance to LPUs

The residential area around Pontfaen shops in Maindee has been identified as a high priority ASB hot spot for the force. Members of the ARU have continued to provide a high visibility presence in the area in support of their LPU colleagues. Additional patrols were also provided to the rural areas around Monmouth.

Officers from the unit have also provided a 'forced entry' capability to LPUs in relation to the execution of high risk warrants and the arrest of certain individuals.

Awareness Sessions

During the month of November officers from the Unit gave presentations to members of under represented groups within the force as part of an organised positive action in relation to recruitment onto the ARU.

Officers from the unit have also given presentations to members of various Rotary Clubs throughout the period as an organised event at Gwent Police Headquarters.

Firearms and Taser Only Incidents

The figures for the period have been provided in the Firearms Training update.

Incidents of Note

On Friday 4 December 2009 ARU were tasked to intercept a motor vehicle which was travelling to the Force area. Intelligence suggested that the vehicle and its occupants were involved in the possession and supply of drugs. ARU stopped the vehicle and as a result of the information that they discovered during the actual incident they arrested the two occupants and seized from the vehicle a quantity of Class A controlled drugs (cocaine). Officers from a regional unit then took over the investigation, conducting house searches

following the initial arrests. This resulted in the recovery of further amounts of controlled drugs.

FIREARMS AND OPERATIONS TRAINING UNIT

Training Activities

40 Firearm training days were carried out, which allows Firearm officers within Gwent to maintain their various skill levels and competency levels. Command level training was also delivered to all firearm commanders and Tactical advisors within force to allow them to continue in their respective roles.

Weapon Examinations

9 weapon exams for court proceedings were carried out by the unit, saving the force approximately £3,150 compared to what sourcing this service to the private sector would have costed.

POLICE DOGS

PC 2001 North & PD Kenny

Attended at a location where an attempt had been made to gain entry to the ground floor of the residence by smashing two windows. PC North deployed PD Kenny to track. A positive track was established on hard surface. Two males were located and detained using the dog. Both were arrested

PC 745 Jones & PD Joey

CID made a request for a dog to search a large area of play/parkland following the arrest of a male responsible for burglary x 3. It was believed property had been discarded. PD Joey was tasked and located credit cards x 2 plus receipts from a purse.

PC 2001 North & PD Kenny

PC North attended an incident where a male had made off from local officers. PD Kenny tracked and located the male who was hiding in a nearby block of flats. The track incorporated grass and hard surface. It ended with PD Kenny tracking up three flights of stairs and locating the male hiding behind a washing line on a communal landing. The track was approximately 20-25 minutes old. The male person was arrested for positive breath test.

PC 966 Nicholls & PD Deni

PC Nicholls attended site of a repeated number of thefts. He saw a vehicle parked up and made a search, locating a male who he arrested for being found on enclosed premises and theft.

PC 728 Watkins & PD Jack

PC Watkins attempted to stop a vehicle which failed to stop. A short distance away it was abandoned. One male was detained by PC Watkins walking away. The driver was detained by PD Jack hiding in a nearby garden. A property search was carried out and keys to the car were located by PD Jack in a plant pot in the garden where the driver was located. Male was reported for driving offences.

PC 728 Watkins & PD Jack

A vehicle had crashed and two occupants made off. Good descriptions were obtained. The location was too busy for a track. Response officers located the driver nearby but he was

not in possession of the car keys. PD Jack was used to search the area where the male was located and found the single car key in the car park which fitted the abandoned vehicle

PC 728 Watkins & PD Jack

A Saw Mills was being attacked nightly and copper wire being stolen. Obs were being carried out by officers. They were unsure if persons were on site and requested PC Watkins attend to search buildings. PD Jack located two males in the process of stripping wire in one of the buildings. Both were arrested for theft

PC 2001 North & PD Kenny

PC North attended at a location following a report of a Land Rover vehicle being stolen. Following information received from witnesses, PC North deployed PD Kenny to track. A positive track was established leading into the countryside. The track continued for around half a mile at which point the two suspects were located. PD Kenny was used to detain the males. Both were arrested for a number of serious offences.

PC 425 Allen & PD Caster

Report of persons breaking into a shed. On arrival, PC Allen cast PD Caster who tracked along the footpath to the opposite end of the terrace. Around to the rear access lane and into the rear garden and to the rear door of a premises. Persons were in an upstairs bedroom and looked out at PC Allen. Four persons were arrested.

PC 966 Nicholls & PD Deni

Report of males trying car doors. On arrival, PC Nicholls parked nearby and deployed PD Deni into the street. Two males were seen jogging towards him loaded down with items they had just stolen. PC Nicholls jumped out of the shadows giving a challenge. One of the male's considered running but the presence of PD Deni prevented this. Two males were then handed to response officers. PC Nicholls continued to search the street informing the victims that their vehicles had been broken into. Response officers then located a vehicle with false plates and PC Nicholls began assisting them with the identification of this vehicle. A sergeant had been in the vehicle and searched the front, however he missed the body shaped blanket in the rear containing the third male whom PC Nicholls arrested as well. Recovered were a musical instrument costing approximately £3,000, digital overhead projector valued at £1,000, several I-Pods and numerous other electrical gadgets. The victim was a serving magistrate

PC 966 Nicholls & PD Deni

An elderly female suffering from dementia was reported missing at approximately 8pm. She was located alive and well by PD Deni the following day at approximately 12.30pm in woodland.

PC 635 Thorne & PD Ziggy

Van reported abandoned and believed crime being committed. Using local knowledge with possible RO known, PC Thorne attended at the council tip on foot with PD Ziggy. Male seen inside compound with torch looking through scrap bins, challenged and PC Thorne identified himself as he made way closer to suspect. Male decamped through site and further challenge shouted before PC Thorne deployed PD Ziggy to detain. Search of compound was negative, but continued in general area of site along riverbank. Dog now returned to lead. As a challenge for a search was considered, PC Thorne saw a male appear from bushes by the water's edge and he tried to make good his escape. PD Ziggy was deployed to detain the male following further warnings as appropriate. Male was detained and vehicle seized containing a large quantity of scrap.

PC 425 Allen & PD Caster

Report of an alarm activation at a comprehensive school. On arrival, PC Allen was informed that there was a confirmed intruder as the alarm was showing activation in various parts of the school. Having searched the complex for some 15 minutes, PC Allen located a male person between fire doors. He stated he had entered the building having found a glass panel removed. Male was handed to Response officers and arrested.

PC 293 Price & PD Ido

Affray at a location. Divisional officers had detained one and another had made off and was believed to be in the immediate area. PC Price searched with PD Ido and located the male hidden behind garages nearby, he was also arrested

PC 293 Price & PD Rufus

Vehicles stopped and searched by ARU officers at a location and drugs dog requested to attend. PD Rufus searched the vehicle and in the centre consol hidden within the lining was a large amount of amphetamine or cocaine which was recovered. Male was arrested for possession with intent to supply.

PC 730 Wood & PD Roy

PC Wood attended location following report of males kicking wing mirrors off vehicles. PD Roy tracked from caller's location through several streets locating further damaged vehicles. He tracked to an area where 2 males were located and made off. PC Wood and PD Roy tracked through the estate and a challenge was issued to one male who again made off. PD Roy was released and detained male. Male then arrested and dealt with by local response officers.

PC 730 Wood & PD Roy

PC Wood attended location following report of males acting suspiciously in the area. These males had been stopped in a vehicle by response and property was found in the car. PD Roy was deployed to the area last seen on foot and tracked to a vehicle in a road where they found a vehicle which had been broken into. Property was found in the car with suspicious males positively identified as taken from vehicle tracked to by PD Roy.

PC 730 Wood & PD Roy

PC Wood attended at a location where a male had made off from firearms officers following a fail to stop. PD Roy was used to search an area and located a male hidden in a bush in a front garden of a nearby address. Male was then arrested by firearms officers.

PC 730 Wood & PD Roy

PC Wood attended an address to a report of a person trying to break windows to gain access to the address. PD Roy deployed and searched area locating male at the rear of address. Male had a stick in hand and a non-contact bark indication was given. Male was escorted out of the address by PC Wood and PD Roy and detained until arrival of response officers with arrested and dealt with the male.

PC 799 Griffiths & PD Rocky

PC Griffiths and PD Rocky searched a garage unit and located £6,000-£10,000 worth of cocaine in various locations, plus skunk plants. 3 were arrested.

PC 799 Griffiths & PD Gino

PC Griffiths located 2 males acting suspiciously, one found in possession of a drill. The males were arrested at the scene. It transpired that a burglary was connected to them.

AIR SUPPORT UNIT

During the month of **November 2009** the Air Support Unit flew a total of 7 hours and 55 minutes in support of operations in the Gwent Police Force area.

Burglary - Caerleon

At 16:00hrs on 2nd November 2009, the aircraft attended the Belmont hill area of Caerleon and carried out a search of the undergrowth following a dwelling house burglary. A thorough search was carried out with the dog handler, negative.

Misper search – Llanwern

At 09:45hrs on 16th November 2009, the aircraft carried out a protracted search in the Llanwern / Bishton areas of Newport for an elderly male who had gone missing.

Misper search - Chepstow

At 23:50hrs on 16th November 2009, the aircraft attended the Chepstow area and carried out protracted searches with dog handlers and local officers for a reported 90 year old missing elderly gent.

Burglary - Nantyglo

At 21:05hrs on 30th November 2009, the aircraft attended the mountainside at Nantyglo and conducted a search for a male who was responsible for burglaries believed to be camping in the area.

Aerial Photography/ Video – Various Locations.

16/11/09 Aerial images taken at an RTC at A48 Cleppa Park.

24/11/09 Aerial images taken at Christchurch Road, Newport for CSI Department.

During the month of **December 2009** the Air Support Unit flew a total of 26hours in support of operations in the Gwent Police Force area.

Burglary – Newbridge

At 12:30hrs on 1st December 2009, the aircraft was requested to attend the Panside estate following two males making off from a vehicle subject of a burglary where the safe was located in the rear of the vehicle. During the search a taxi was seen leaving the area and the aircraft followed it until a unit stopped it, one of the males was detained .

Stolen Road Roller – Abergavenny

At 14:30hrs on 5th December 2009 the aircraft was requested to assist in searching for a stolen road roller being fitted with Tracker. The crew located the item concealed behind a barn and unit 's were directed into the location.

Search Firearms - Senghenydd

At 19:20hrs on 6th December 2009 the aircraft attended the Senghenydd area and carried out a search for a Nissan Terrano containing a male believed in possession of a firearm following a domestic.

Burglary – Newport

At 12:25hrs on 9th December 2009 the aircraft was requested to search the Dewsland Park road area following a dwelling house burglary, at scene two persons were detained and the aircraft further assisted in locating property.

Operation Utah - Coldra

On 10th December 2009 the Aircraft forward deployed to Wilcrick to be on standby and assist officers involved in Operation Utah.

Misper – Chepstow

At 10:55hrs on 12th December 2009 the aircraft attended the Chepstow area and carried out a protracted search for an elderly missing person suffering from dementia.

Search – Pantygasseg

At 15:45hrs on 13th December 2009 the aircraft attended the Pantygasseg area and carried out a search for a male in a vehicle, information received from a passing motorist that a hose pipe seen and male possibly attempting suicide.

Misper search – Second Severn Crossing

The aircraft carried out searches on 19th, 21st and 24th December 2009 for the missing female from Cwmbran believed to have jumped off the Second Severn Crossing.

Vehicle search – Penallta

At 18:50hrs on 19th December 2009 the aircraft attended the Penallta area to assist in searching for a male who had reported being lost on the mountain. The crew contacted him on his mobile and he was eventually located on thermal image some 6kms away from his last known position.

Mispers – Manmoel

At 00:55hrs on 20/12/09 the aircraft was requested to search for a vehicle with 5 occupants stranded on Manmoel mountain. The crew contacted them on one of their mobiles and the vehicle was located on thermal imaging and local officers were directed into their location.

Inspection – Severn Crossings

On 22/12/09 the aircraft was requested to carry out an inspection of the both Severn bridges for build up of ice. Engineer Richard Downman was onboard to advise.

Search - Llanthony

The aircraft was requested to locate an abandoned vehicle on Gospel pass, Llanthony and then search for any likely occupants. The vehicle was located but the weather in the area prevented a thorough search for occupants.

Aerial Photography/ Video – Various Locations.

10/12/09	Thermal Image check for cannabis cultivation, Hawthorn close, Newport.
15/12/09	Thermal Image checks Beaufort street/Fitzroy street Brynmawr.
17/12/09	Thermal Image check Kings lane, Newport.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT

All incidents in the CLOSED section