

## **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** **7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2013**

**REPORT BY:** **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**SUBJECT:** **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.01 To provide an outline of the service provided by the Flintshire Neighbourhood Wardens, as requested by Members.
- 1.02 To provide Members with additional information in respect of crime and disorder figures for Flintshire.

### **2.00 BACKGROUND**

- 2.01 The focus of this report will be on one of the areas Members specifically requested further information following the July meeting, namely the work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Wardens.
- 2.02 The information relating to crime and disorder figures for Flintshire is provided in Appendix 1 and will also be discussed in the presentation.
- 2.03 The other information that was requested should already have been shared with Members.

### **3.00 FLINTSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS SERVICE**

- 3.01 The Neighbourhood Warden Service was established with the primary purpose of promoting community safety and achieving wider engagement between the Council, its partners and local communities. The service's three main stated objectives (as outlined to Flintshire County Council's Executive Group in May 2004) are to:
  - Reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour and crime and disorder
  - Promote community safety and reduce fear of crime
  - Strengthen communications between residents and local service providers

To meet these objectives the Wardens seek to provide a highly visible, accessible, uniformed presence across the county.

- 3.02 In 2010 the service transferred from the Directorate of Community Services to the Environment Directorate, and now sits within Public Protection, and is part of the Community Safety Team. Upon transfer to Public Protection the service was reviewed, and efficiencies of around £80k were realised.
- 3.03 At present there are four full-time Neighbourhood Warden posts, and one full-time Administrator. At the time of review it was identified that the service could not operate effectively without this level of staffing.
- 3.04 The Wardens are based in a small building on the Greenfield Industrial Estate; however (aside from the Administrator) they are only office based for no more than 10 per cent of their working day. The service will be moving to the County Hall campus within the next 12 months.
- 3.05 Below is an outline of their main functions:
- Undertake foot and vehicle patrols to provide reassurance and visibility.
  - Attend residential and business premises to investigate allegations of anti social behaviour, and take appropriate action.
  - Attend residential premises to give advice, assistance and reassurance to the occupier.
  - Provide specialist advice and installation of low level security measures that can be fitted within the home to improve security.
  - Support the delivery of the specialist 'Home Safe' scheme for victims of domestic violence who wish to remain in their own properties. This may include the installation of low level and/or specialist security measures where appropriate, and the provision of security advice.
  - Attend and participate in public meetings, events, etc, as directed.
  - Acting as professional witnesses in a court of law when required.
  - Facilitating inter agency working through sharing information at multi agency operational meetings, or on a one to one basis, as and when required.
  - Undertake general clerical duties such as note taking and inputting into the data bases.
  - Report intelligence gained from patrols within the community to relevant departments / partners (licensing, trading standards, North Wales Police)
  - Liaise with the relevant departments to report problems such as defective street lighting / signs, identified during the course of daily duties.
  - Support partner agencies when Environmental Visual Audits are undertaken
  - Attend established groups to provide information, guidance, education and advice on personal and home safety.

## **4.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

4.01 The Neighbourhood Wardens' activities are recorded on a central database. On average around 90 'target hardening'<sup>1</sup> referrals, and a further 20 'Homesafe', are undertaken per month. Referrals are also received for additional patrols in problematic or vulnerable areas. The majority of referrals are received from Flintshire County Council departments and North Wales Police.

### **4.02 Financial information**

(i) The annual budget for the Neighbourhood Wardens service for 2012/3 was £163,216. This includes a modest provision for 'target hardening' equipment of around £16,000.

(ii) Although difficult to quantify, through providing low level security measures (usually costing no more than £15 per household), and undertaking reassurance visits and patrols, the service helps to prevent crime and also reduces the fear of crime.

(iii) The savings realised through the 'Homesafe' aspect of the service can be quantified using information provided by Flintshire County Council.

For example, the cost to Flintshire County Council of providing temporary accommodation for a family with 2 children for a maximum of 6 weeks whilst the authority investigate their claim for re-location is £3,318. Even allowing for the cost of the Warden installing and supplying the equipment (around £30 per household of equipment) it represents a significant saving for the Council and also its partners. The benefit to the victim is that they can remain in their home with the re-assurance and confidence that the premises are secured adequately.

It is important that families affected by domestic violence are able to remain in familiar surroundings which to many may have been their family home for some time. The children can remain in their existing school rather than having to move to another school which can cause disruption to their education and distress to the child.

### **4.03 Enforcement activities**

In light of Public Protection's service review, it is still the intention that the Neighbourhood Wardens will be conferred with powers to issue fixed penalty notice tickets for littering and dog fouling.

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<sup>1</sup> Installation of low level security measures

**4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 To note the contents of the report.

**5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 None as a result of this report.

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 None as a result of this report.

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None as a result of this report.

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 None as a result of this report.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 None as a result of this report.

**10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 None as a result of this report.

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 None as a result of this report.

**12.00 APPENDICES**

12.01

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985  
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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## APPENDIX 1 – Crime and Disorder Figures for Flintshire: 2013/4 compared with 2012/3

**All Crime** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 47.726) YTD Change = -49 offences (-1.3%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
1814	12.117	1909	12.751	1720	11.489	1751	11.696	7194	48.053	1810	12.090	1864	12.451						

**Violence with injury** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 5.484) YTD change = +27 offences (+6.6%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
213	1.423	197	1.316	192	1.282	192	1.282	792	5.304	224	1.496	213	1.423						

**Violence without injury** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 4.789) YTD change = +34 offences (+11.2%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
161	1.075	143	0.955	191	1.276	188	1.256	683	4.562	179	1.196	159	1.062						

**Criminal Damage** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 9.017) YTD change = -13 offences (-1.8%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
339	2.264	375	2.505	322	2.151	327	2.184	1363	9.104	331	2.211	370	2.471						

**Domestic Burglaries** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 2.198) YTD change = +30 offences (+20.4%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
78	0.521	69	0.461	68	0.454	84	0.561	299	1.997	101	0.675	76	0.508						

**Burglary other than dwelling** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 4.789) YTD change = +4 offences (+1.1%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
152	1.015	217	1.449	173	1.156	171	1.142	713	4.763	168	1.122	205	1.369						

**Theft of Vehicle** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 0.888) YTD change = -48 offences (-48.5%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
50	0.334	49	0.327	50	0.335	32	0.214	181	1.209	30	0.200	21	0.140						

**Theft from Vehicle** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 2.645) YTD change = -2 offences (-1.1%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
85	0.568	96	0.641	106	0.708	111	0.741	398	2.658	71	0.474	108	0.721						

**Robbery** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 0.114) YTD change = -16 Offences (-72.7%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
12	0.080	10	0.067	10	0.067	1	0.007	33	0.220	5	0.033	1	0.007						

**Serious Acquisitive** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 5.845) YTD change = -36 offences (-8.0%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
225	1.503	224	1.496	234	1.563	228	1.523	911	6.085	207	1.383	206	1.376						

**Sexual Offences** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 0.995) YTD change = +4 offences (+5.3%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
35	0.234	41	0.274	29	0.194	40	0.267	145	0.969	31	0.207	49	0.327						

**Drugs Offences** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 1.783) YTD change = +10 offences (+8.9%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
63	0.421	49	0.327	78	0.521	67	0.448	257	1.717	66	0.441	56	0.374						



**Anti-Social Behaviour** (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 35.235) YTD change = -36 incidents (-1.2%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
1361	9.091	1573	10.507	1254	8.376	1123	7.501	5311	35.475	1337	8.931	1561	10.427						

### **IQuanta Data**

The crime figures represent the number of offences per 1000 residents, apart from Domestic Burglaries which is per 1000 households.

Crime Type	Flintshire Q2	Q2 MSG Average	Q2 MSG Position	Flintshire Rolling 12 months	12 month MSG Average	12 month MSG Position
<b>All Crime</b>	12.216	13.272	7 <sup>th</sup> /15	46.258	50.279	7 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Violence with injury</b>	1.402	1.375	9 <sup>th</sup> /15	5.279	4.982	9 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Violence without injury</b>	1.055	1.214	7 <sup>th</sup> /15	4.480	4.277	10 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Criminal Damage</b>	2.391	2.176	10 <sup>th</sup> /15	8.686	8.717	8 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Domestic Burglary</b>	1.239	1.783	3 <sup>rd</sup> /15	5.017	7.332	4 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>BOTD</b>	1.343	1.153	10 <sup>th</sup> /15	4.755	4.508	9 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Theft of Vehicle</b>	0.144	0.256	2 <sup>nd</sup> /15	0.884	0.958	10 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Theft from Vehicle</b>	0.707	0.814	6 <sup>th</sup> /15	2.587	3.231	4 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Robbery</b>	0.013	0.102	2 <sup>nd</sup> /15	0.111	0.354	2 <sup>nd</sup> /15
<b>Serious Acquisitive</b>	0.707	0.814	6 <sup>th</sup> /15	2.587	3.231	4 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	0.341	0.286	11 <sup>th</sup> /15	0.937	0.986	7 <sup>th</sup> /15
<b>Drugs Offences</b>	0.386	0.567	4 <sup>rd</sup> /15	1.755	2.407	4 <sup>th</sup> /15

**Flintshire Most Similar Group (MSG) comparison**

Crime Type	Flintshire Q2	Q2 N Wales Average	Q2 N Wales Position	Flintshire Rolling 12 months	12 month N Wales Average	12 month N Wales Position
All Crime	12.216	14.127	2 <sup>nd</sup> /6	46.258	52.933	2 <sup>nd</sup> /6
Violence with injury	1.402	1.550	3 <sup>rd</sup> /6	5.279	5.789	3 <sup>rd</sup> /6
Violence without injury	1.055	1.604	1 <sup>st</sup> /6	4.480	5.835	1 <sup>st</sup> /6
Criminal Damage	2.391	2.813	3 <sup>rd</sup> /6	8.686	9.799	2 <sup>nd</sup> /6
Domestic Burglary	1.239	1.431	4 <sup>th</sup> /6	5.017	5.633	3 <sup>rd</sup> /6
BOTD	1.343	1.105	5 <sup>th</sup> /6	4.755	4.390	5 <sup>th</sup> /6
Theft of Vehicle	0.144	0.164	2 <sup>nd</sup> /6	0.884	0.719	5 <sup>th</sup> /6
Theft from Vehicle	0.707	0.722	4 <sup>th</sup> /6	2.587	2.587	5 <sup>th</sup> /6
Robbery	0.013	0.033	2 <sup>nd</sup> /6	0.111	0.170	2 <sup>nd</sup> /6
Serious Acquisitive	0.707	0.722	4 <sup>th</sup> /6	2.587	2.567	5 <sup>th</sup> /6
Sexual Offences	0.341	0.312	5 <sup>th</sup> /6	0.937	1.275	2 <sup>nd</sup> /6
Drugs Offences	0.386	0.710	1 <sup>st</sup> /6	1.755	2.626	1 <sup>st</sup> /6

#### North Wales CSP comparison

