

Report of:	To:	Date	Item no.
Cllr Roger Berry, Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder	Council	19 October 2017	8(d)

Executive Report: Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To inform council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio as set out below.

2. Licensing

- 2.1 Targeted enforcement to address under-age drinking and associated anti-social behaviour** - Over the summer some of our communities experienced problems of anti-social behaviour from groups of youth's involved in under-age drinking.
- 2.2** Multi-agency work is underway in order to try to address the problem but a significant concern appears to be how easy it has been for these children to access alcohol. As a result, on 14 September, our Licensing Team together with officers from Lancashire County Council Trading Standards and the Police carried out under-age drinking tests at various licenced establishments in Fleetwood. The majority of the establishments asked for proof of age, but this was not universal and any establishment found serving alcohol to children should expect follow up enforcement action.
- 2.3** Another source of the alcohol for some children has been found to be from parents. Clearly this too is unacceptable and I think we must continue to be forthright in discouraging all adults, including parents, from allowing children to have alcohol in their possession as some parents are either giving their children alcohol or allowing them to take alcohol out of their homes.

3. Community Safety

3.1 White Ribbon Accreditation for Lancashire – I am pleased that Lancashire is now the first county in the country to gain White Ribbon Accreditation. We have supported the Police and Crime Commissioner in his pursuit of this accreditation and will be supporting further White Ribbon Campaign work over the coming year. The White Ribbon Campaign is about raising awareness amongst men that domestic violence in all its forms is unacceptable and asks men to be advocates for the cause by pledging their support for the campaign.

3.2 Wyre Voice - The latest copy of Wyre Voice (Autumn 2017) has been used to highlight a number of important Community Safety matters including the White Ribbon campaign highlighted above. It also included an article about anti-social behaviour carried out by groups of youths damaging community assets such as Marine Hall, Fleetwood Market and a number of the Councils parks. These assets help make Wyre a great place to live, work and visit and damaging them is an attack on our community as a whole. Within the magazine is an open letter to parents of all children, asking them to ensure that their children are not involved in such activities, not least because they could end up with a criminal record. The magazine also high-lighted Prevent as part of the UK Counter Terrorism Strategy. The main aim of Prevent is to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. At the heart of Prevent is safeguarding children and adults and providing early intervention to protect and divert people away from being drawn into terrorist activity. The magazine articles highlighted are available on-line by following the attached [link](https://issuu.com/wyrecouncil1/docs/wyre_voice_autumn_2017_no_cb)
https://issuu.com/wyrecouncil1/docs/wyre_voice_autumn_2017_no_cb

4. Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire

4.1 I attended a recent meeting of the Panel which included a presentation on the call centre at Police Headquarters at Hutton which responds to all 999 and 101 calls made within the County. The demands on the service are both increasing and becoming more complex and as a result calls are taking longer to answer. From April to June of this year 999 calls have increased nearly 20% compared with the same period in 2016 and on one day in June some 1200 999 calls were made. The service deals not only with reports of crime and anti-social behaviour but also finds itself having to assist cases of missing persons and those suffering from mental health issues. A trial has taken place in which calls were routed geographically to a team dealing exclusively with that police division. The trial has proved successful and it is proposed to extend it to the two remaining divisions by next summer.

5. Neighbourhood Watch

5.1 I have also attended a meeting of the Garstang and Over Wyre Neighbourhood Watch Association who are proposing to amalgamate and extend their membership to include Thornton Cleveleys and Poulton-le-Fylde under the designation of Wyre Neighbourhood Watch Association. Watch Co-ordinators and new members will be welcomed

and should contact the Chairman, Jim Proctor, at jimproctor87@gmail.com.

6. Comments and questions

- 6.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with procedure rule 11.5.

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