

Item 3 Partners Up-date

Organisation	Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
Date	8 June 2009
Summary of Progress	<p>We ended our performance year with some excellent results and South Hams and West Devon was one of the highest performing Local Policing Areas (LPA) in the Force. Areas for improvement are around sanction detection rates for general crime and domestic abuse.</p> <p>Our Control Strategy, which focuses our business and resources for Devon Basic Command Unit (BCU) is regularly reviewed. It has recently been amended to respond to our anticipated challenges this year. The current Control Strategy covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious Acquisitive Crime • Serious Violent Crime • Domestic Abuse • Neighbourhood Priorities and ASB • Class A drugs • Protecting Young People And Managing Young Offenders • Preventing Extremism <p>The economic climate does not appear to have reflected in an increase of acquisitive crime and in fact dwelling burglaries are exceptionally low. There has been only a very slight increase in shoplifting and vehicle crime remains low thanks to some excellent partnership working on 'Moorwatch'. Commodity theft was an area that we expected to increase. Our focus was on fuel theft, theft of laptops and metal theft. We took part in a regional operation Galvin concentrating in scrap metal dealers and coupled with the drop in metal prices it is no longer of concern. Domestic heating oil thefts are now few in number but we will monitor this as we move into the autumn. Therefore commodity theft is no longer on the Control Strategy.</p> <p>Last year we saw a significant 'spike' in marine crime. There were a number of successes through targeted activity and several travelling criminals were identified and arrested. The intelligence picture has been worked on through the winter and officers invested time at the end of last summer target hardening to reduce marine crime opportunities. This is an area to watch this season.</p>

	<p>I am pleased to report that as part of the Chief Constable's pledge to return 200 officers to the front line, the establishment in South Hams and West Devon LPA increased by 18 posts. Whilst these posts have been filled, there are still some vacancies in Dartmouth, Kingsbridge and West Devon. The Force ran a dedicated recruitment process to encourage officers from elsewhere in the country to work in Dartmouth and five new members will join the response team next month.</p>
<p>Current / Shared Issues</p>	<p>This year our main performance target will be a measure of how satisfied our community are in the way that the Police and Local Authority are dealing with Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in their area.</p> <p>On 29 April the local authority Chief Executive, David Incoll and I did some joint media work linked to our Force day of action. The theme for the activity was confidence and reassurance. We are currently developing a poster with a joint commitment statement for public display. We would appreciate LSP support to display these. Please let Superintendent Sharpe know your required numbers.</p> <p><u>Key Worker Housing</u></p> <p>Due to the housing costs in South Hams and the flexibility officers need in locating themselves for future career opportunities, few police officers chose to buy in the area and usually opt for cheaper areas that afford better access to main arterial routes. For this reason, stations such as Dartmouth, Kingsbridge and Salcombe are hard to fill as officers can only be transferred within 30 miles travelling distance of their home address. Superintendent Sharpe is currently in discussions with Salcombe Town Council exploring the options of Key Worker housing to encourage staff to locate and settle within the area. Provision of affordable housing for Key Workers also offers opportunity for local employment, enabling our workforce to be more representative of the settled community and offering a solution to those who may otherwise feel no option than to find work elsewhere.</p>
<p>SHSP action recommended</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note excellent results performance. • LSP to support 'confidence and reassurance' promotional work by displaying posters. Contact Superintendent Sharpe.