

Question for Full Council Monday 20th January, 2020

Question 6

Cllr Duffy to Cllr King

Given the number and the seriousness of the public disorder incidences around MacDonald's on the Drapery over the last 12 months, isn't serious action needed to safeguard the public?

Response

Public disorder offences can be linked to both anti-social behaviour and violent crime. While incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded by Northamptonshire Police fell by 15.5% in the year to the end of December, violent crime has increased, accounting for 36% of all crime.

Violent Crime remains a priority for the Community Safety Partnership and Northampton Borough Council is working with the police and partners to tackle violent behaviour. Some key plans and achievements include:

Launch of the knife crime campaign in the summer of 2018

Knife Crime focussed Weeks of Action delivered across the Town

16 Days of Activism – working with the domestic abuse and sexual violence charities in the Borough to provide pop up, support cafes across businesses and organisations in the Town. Posters, baubles and leaflets handed out to businesses, including restaurants, cafes, and shops across the borough

Two Police Officers funded during the six-week summer holidays, resulted in; 576 extra patrol hours, high visibility foot patrols, 154 seizures of alcohol, 24 arrests (relating to violence, shoplifting, drugs, domestic assaults and prostitution) and 88 warnings and words of advice given to cyclists who were riding through the Town on bikes. This has led to the development of Operation Lily, 10 additional police officers in the Town Centre, resulting in over 150 arrests.

Our Anti-Social Behaviour Officers are working in partnership with the local policing team, in tackling anti-social behaviour, serious organised crime, and begging and youth violence, they have achieved the following:

50 CPW's (community protection warnings) issued for threatening behaviour, smoking cannabis, harassment

8 CPN's (community protection notices)

7 CBO's (criminal behaviour orders) issued for shoplifting, nuisance behaviour and street drinking,

Held our first secondary school's community safety awareness raising event held at the Deco theatre in November. 540 year 8 and 9 students attended from Weston Favell Academy to hear key community safety messages. Expert speakers, performers and presenters covered topics such as healthy relationships, knife and gang crime, personal safety, online safety, grooming, cyber bullying and hate crime.

Youth work being funded in the Town Centre, through the Home Office trusted relationships funding, development of a safe space for young people, which offers youth activities and youth work support in progress.

Launch of our Taxi Marshalling scheme - January 2020

Purple Flag accreditation renewal

Continue to fund the Street Pastor programme

Closure of Jeyes Jetty through the PSPO, which has been granted – planning permission is currently being sought, if approved, the gates will be installed in the Spring.

We are working with partners to put on 28 days of activities, for when the 27ft knife angel comes to the Town in June 2020, to continue to raise the awareness of the dangers of carrying a knife.

Cllr A King

Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Engagement