

**SUMMARY.**

Title. Streetwise

**Nature of the problem.**

The nature of the problem was initially identified as juvenile nuisance as research was done into the problem, the victim and location it was highlighted that there was a much broader problem in the community. The problem was then defined as follows.

**Problem.**

1. Juvenile Nuisance
2. Fear of being a victim of crime
3. Intimidation and fear of people involved in drugs/drug offences
4. De-motivated community.
5. Lack of trust in the police
6. High number of burglaries
7. Property taken in payment for drugs. Handling stolen property

**Evidence used to define the problem.**

- i. It was recognised from using police records that there were a large number of juvenile nuisance complaints being received.
- ii. A local councillor was receiving complaints from members of the local community relating to incidents in the community (e.g. Juvenile nuisance.), crime and drug offences. The Councillor would then pass on pieces of information she thought was relevant to the police.
- iii. Some members of the community would tell police officers working in the area about juveniles causing a nuisance.
- iv. Observations and intelligence showed a large level of crime and drug offences were being committed
- v. Contact with local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Co-ordinator.

**Response to the Problem.**

Young people were highlighted within the community who were involved in incidents of juvenile nuisance or, had were showing signs in their behaviour that their level of behaviour within the local community may deteriorate.

These young people were then invited to take part in a series of meetings where issues surrounding them would be discussed and they would be challenged regarding their behaviour and attitude towards others.

The young people would be offered incentives to attend the project

The whole project would be run as a partnership with local agencies and businesses.

Through the contact with the young people a larger network of contacts within the community

A proactive approach was adopted and taken to tackle crime and drug offence hot spots.

**Measure of the impact of the response.**

The overall response has been a success. This was measured using the following methods.

- i. Data held on computer systems
- ii. Feedback from young people and members of the community.
- iii. Measuring the number and growth of community involvement.
- iv. Observations of Geographical Police Officers.

## STREETWISE.

### Scanning.

Initially it was highlighted that there were repeated reports of juvenile nuisance on three geographical areas in Burnley. These areas were then looked at more closely using the following methods.

- i. Accessing the police computer systems to acknowledge the specific areas that the incidents were taking place at and who was reporting them.
- ii. Contact was made with a local councillor who passed on anonymous information that she edited before passing it to the police. This was done to try and assess how wide spread the problem was within the community. The Councillor stated that she edit the information that she gave the police because she had little faith and trust in the police, due to previous experiences she had had with other police officers.
- iii. During routine patrols members of the community would explain what they saw their problems as within the community.
- iv. Plain clothed observations were carried out on the areas where problems had been reported to observe the extent of the problem.
- v. Contact was made with the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. This was done to gain information that had been passed to him by other members of the community.

### Analysis.

From the Police computer systems it was found that there was a concentration of juvenile nuisance incidents reported to the police in adjoining areas of three Geographical Officers. These areas are 2M, 2N, 2P, and 2R. These complaints were well above the average compared to the rest of Two Area in Burnley. (See attached Data)

From this we also highlighted certain areas where the problems appeared to be persistent. These included Hobart Street, Leyland Rd, Brownhill Ave and Forrest St.

Contact with the local Councillor highlighted that a larger proportion of the community was complaining, to her, of the problems on the area 2P, than appeared on the police computers. Discussions continued with the Councillor as to why people weren't reporting these incidents to the police. This was the first time the Geographical Officers received reports that people in the local area didn't trust the police and that they *had* become extremely de-motivated. These discussions were repeated with a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator on the area of 2R. The results of these discussions reflected the findings of the Councillor. Both these conversations highlighted the concerns of the community over their fears about crime and drug offences.

On a few occasions members of the community would stop police officers walking in the areas and complain about juveniles. These same people also stated that they didn't

believe anything could or would be done about their complaints by the police and that all they could do was continue to live in this environment.

The Geographical Officers carried out plain clothed observations on these areas to confirm the vicinity and extent of the complaints. These found that the problems were consistent to the complaints and were having a detrimental effect on other members of the community. During these observations general observations were drawn about the area. The area had a low level of cleanliness, there was rubbish scattered across the streets and high levels of waste in the rear yards of some properties. People at the council were contacted and they stated that attempts had been made to clean the area once a fortnight. But this appeared fruitless, due to members of the community not being motivated to change the appearance of the community.

These findings led the Geographical Officers to re-assess the problem and the following was highlighted as the problems within the areas.

- i. Juvenile Nuisance.
- ii. Fear of being victims of crime.
- iii. Intimidation and fear of people involved in drugs and committing drug offences (e.g. Drug dealers.)
- iv. A de-motivated community.
- v. Lack of trust in the police.
- vi. High number of burglaries.
- vii. property being taken in payments for drugs

After highlighting these problems the geographical officers were able to analyse them using the Problem Analysis Triangle.

**PROBLEM. ANALYSIS TRIANGLE.**

**FEATURES OF PLACE**

High populated residential area.  
High proportion of rented properties.  
Local authority housing estate  
Large areas of terraced property

**FEATURES OF VICTIM**

Mixed community,  
Young, Elderly,  
White, Asian.  
High proportion on social benefits.

**PROBLEMS**

- 1 Juvenile Nuisance
2. Fear of being a victim of crime
3. Intimidation and fear of people involved in drugs and committing drug offences
4. A de-motivated community
5. A lack of trust of the police.
6. High number of burglaries

**FEATURES OF OFFENDER SOURCE OF PROBLEM**

Young people aged 13 to 16 years gather in groups of approx. 10 people, play football give abuse/harass residents (General anti-social behaviour.)  
Lack of time spent working in/with the community.  
Heroin dealers live in properties in the area, few people would speak to the police due to lack of trust and being de-motivated.  
Burglaries being committed in local area to support drug habits.  
Property being handled by drug dealers.  
Residents have been let down on previous occasions by the police.

## **S.M.A.R.T.**

The S.M.A.R.T. model was used throughout the response stage, this was done as follows.

Specific -- The problems were highlighted as specific problems for those areas and are as stated earlier in this report.

Measurable — The programme was continually assessed and there were different methods used for the different problems. These are all highlighted in the assessment stage. It was ascertained early in the programme that the problems wouldn't be eradicated completely due to the nature of the problems. Examples of this are,

- a. There will always be a level of crime, but this must be maintained and continual efforts made to reduce it. This is one to the point that would be continued by the Geographical Officers after conclusion of the Streetwise project.
- b. Juvenile nuisance can be tackled as a problem and both young people and other members of the community educated. But there will always be some people who don't want young people on the streets near their homes.

Achievable — It was decided by the geographical officers that to make the programme achievable, a holistic approach had to be taken. This meant that there would be two strategies to the problem, which would work along side each other, support and assist each strategy: These strategies would be,

- a. An intelligence led approach to address the problems relating to crime and drugs. The levels of intelligence being received from the public would increase as the levels of trust and confidence the community had in the police grew through this approach and the approach used to address the community problem of juvenile nuisance.
- b. Implementing the Streetwise programme to address the juvenile programme and increase the network of contacts the geographical officers have in the community.

If an holistic approach was not taken the programme wouldn't have been achievable due to attitude of the community. There was a necessity to be seen to be addressing "the problems, as the community saw them" To improve community relations with the police and amongst themselves i.e. motivate the community.

Relevant — The response was designed to address the specific problems within this community, to improve living conditions/standard of life of the members of the community.

Timescale — The timescale was set for both strategies of Streetwise to run along side each other over a period of time to allow ten meetings with Streetwise to run, this being approximately 6 months. After this time a new strategy would be implemented to enable geographical policing to proceed in a way most suitable for the areas concerned.

## Response.

It was decided that due to the nature of the problems a holistic approach should be taken to address the situation. This was to be done following two methods.

- i. Address crime and drug offences by using a pro-active approach and through using intelligence wherever possible, to make arrests and follow up with relevant charges. Pressure would be put on known offenders making a loud statement that offenders would not be tolerated being active in the area and that a hard line would be taken with any offences disclosed. Warrants would be executed whenever possible and rapid entry teams used when ever practicable. This would be done to reassure the community and show them that the issues relevant to them would be taken seriously and the necessary action taken. (See attached sheet illustrating method of policing)

Through out the programme informants were actively recruited to assist in reducing the criminal activity in the area and gain information relating to the drug activity in the areas.

- ii. The Juvenile problem would be tackled by using a method of education and be-friending techniques. The aims of this would be to reduce juvenile nuisance complaints, to improve/establish a relationship between young people and the police, to educate young people about issues surrounding their lifestyle, culture and community.

To provide a starting point for the problem of Juvenile Nuisance a definition was put together so that there was a common understanding of what the problem was.

### Definition of a Juvenile Nuisance.

Any incident which involves young people and has been reported to the police stating that young people are causing an annoyance to them, whether or not an offence has been committed.

These aims would be met by developing a programme that would consist of a series of meetings, where issues could be addressed and relationships could be established. To encourage the young people to attend the meetings incentives would be offered on the evening of attendance.

From this initial idea it was obvious that the geographical officers did not have the necessary, knowledge, funding, resources or support to run such a project. So various organisations were contacted to establish a partnership to work within the communities and implement the programme. The following organisations joined the partnership to implement and run the programme.

- a. Lancashire Constabulary
- b. The Sports Development Council.
- c. Burnley Football in the Community Programme. (Burnley Football Club.)
- d. The Princes Trust
- e. The Youth and Community Department.

#### The Sports Development Council.

They participated in the organisation and implementation of the programme. As the programme developed they continually had an input into the organisation and planning. They provided sporting facilities for use as incentives and personnel to be used during the meetings and transporting young people to venues.

#### Burnley Football in the Community Programme. (Burnley Football Club.)

They participated in the organisation and implementation of the programme. They provided resources in the form of a meeting room, sporting facilities and transport. They used their experience in applying for grants to apply for a grant from The Princes Trust and arranged for an input into the organisation by The Princes Trust.

#### The Princes Trust.

They participated in initial organisation of the programme and supplied a £2000.00 grant for the project.

#### The Youth and Community Department.

The Youth and Community Department of Lancashire County Council had a substantial input into the organisation of the development of the programme and in organising a residential weekend for the programme. They provided substantial resources for the programme, and offered support and advice on all aspects of working with the young people.

Various entertainment facilities were then contacted around the Burnley area and asked to provide incentives for the programme. These were given in a variety of ways for example, free tickets were given by the cinema, discounts were given by the local Superbowl and a variety of gifts were donated by Asda to be used as prizes throughout the programme.

The following criteria was adopted regarding the young people on the programme.

- L Aged 14 to 16 years old
  2. Highlighted as being a problem or potential problem
    - i. On Juvenile Nuisance Register.
    - ii. Referred by school.
    - iii. Referred by School Welfare Officer.
    - iv. Known by Geographical Officer.
- Lives in the area where Streetwise is being run.  
The parents must agree to the young person taking part in the programme.

The young people that were selected and agreed to take part on the programme had to come to an agreement that they would keep throughout the programme. This was kept simple and easy to understand.

1. They must regularly attend the meetings, unless they had a reasonable excuse.
2. They must not be involved in any crime. (e.g. be arrested)
3. Must not have any negative involvement with the police.
4. Must attend school regularly.

The programme was launched and publicised in the local newspapers and the initial meeting was held at Burnley Football Club. At the initial meeting the young people suggested topics that they thought were relevant to them, so that these could be implemented in the programme. The following programme was then used.

1. Ten Pin Bowling - Introduction
2. Sport Centre - Who Are the Police
3. Burnley Football Club - Health and Fitness
4. Go Karting - General Discussions.
5. Trampolining - Relationships
6. Lifeline - Drugs
7. What Happens Next?'
8. Plan Borwick
9. Borwick Hall
10. Visit to the Police Station

As can be seen, meetings one to five had an incentive to encourage the young people to attend the them. After meeting five the young people had integrated into the programme and attended without an incentive.

It was deemed important to give the young people some ownership of their group and allowing them to choose the name Streetwise initially did this. To further reinforce this at the initial meeting, the young people were encouraged to choose the topics that they thought were relevant to themselves. Some of the topics chosen by the group were then incorporated into the programme. Later in the programme the young people drew up a contract of rules and consequences for breaking those rules for when they went on the residential weekend to Borwick Hall, which they then signed and agreed too. The reason that ownership was given to the young people was to give them some responsibility within the community and responsibility for the problems which they were involved with

Also to encourage the young people to attend the meetings a letter was sent to each person inviting them to attend. This was used to keep their parents informed about what the young people were doing.

All the meetings were informal and no officers wore uniform and they were called by their first names. This was implicated to assist in be-friending the young people.

The residential weekend was held at the end of the programme and incorporated the use of outdoor activities organised by trained staff at Borwick Hall and sessions

organised by the leaders of the weekend to tackle issues relating to the community, attitude of the young people and their behaviour.

At the end of the programme there would be an established group, which would continue to meet under the leadership/guidance of volunteers from the local community. The original partnership will still be available to assist in any way, which they practically can. The Geographical Officers will continue to be involved in the meetings, although it will not be their role to continue to run the meetings. The group will be independent of the police and able to grow and develop to meet the needs of the community

As the confidence and trust of the young people was gained it was a natural progression for that trust to grow with family, friends and the family of the friends. This increased the network that the Geographical Officers had to work with within the community. As this grew a residents meeting was organised and a police surgery within the communities. At these meetings the problem of Juvenile Nuisance was discussed and the time was used to educate older members of the community about the problems they were experiencing.

The Streetwise programme will then be available to be used in another area of Burnley to address the same problems and assist the Geographical Officers.

Cost,

|                           | Total Cost | Subsidised | Cost |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------|
| Rooms at Turf Moor        | ,150       | 50         | 100  |
| Sports Hall               | 60         | 8          | 52   |
| Thompsons Center          | 50         | 50         | 0    |
| Go-Karts                  | 40         | 40         | 0    |
| Misc. Incentives          | 30         | 30         | 0    |
| Donations Asda            | 100        | 100        | 0    |
| AMF Superbowl             | 24         | 8          | 16   |
| Burnley Comm Staff        | .. 300     | 300        | 0    |
| Sports Deli. Staff        | 300        | 300        | 0    |
| Mini bus                  | 150        | 150        | 0    |
| Residential               | 700        |            | 700  |
| Residential (Instructors) | 300        |            | 300  |
| Totals                    | 2204       | 1036       | 1168 |

A Grant of £2000.00 has been received from The Princes Trust.

Further funding is being applied for from LANPAC (Partnerships against Crime) and Smurfit Millennium Fund.

The programme was continually being reviewed. This was done in a variety of ways, which were also used to assess the overall result of the programme. The results that were obtained throughout the programme showed that there was no involvement in

any incidents relating to young people by any participants of the programme. Results, which are intangible, were observed from an early point in the programme. An example of this was the approach of the young people towards the police, even when involved; with their peers not participating on the programme. Where the police have been previously greeted with two fingered salutes we are now greeted with waves and smiles. These young people from an early stage were willing to speak with the police when they met them in the street, whether or not they were with their friends.

One problem that we crossed was that young people who had refused to come on the programme started to want to, attend the meetings part way through the programme. We explained that it was the middle of the programme and that the programme was full. But gave them hope of being involved with the group at the conclusion of the programme, when the community took on the group of young people and the group would be allowed to grow and develop.

## Assessment.

The Programme was continually assessed throughout. This was necessary for several reasons. To monitor the young people to ensure that they were keeping the agreement that was made with them. Also to monitor the performance of the programme, e.g. what was the effect on the community?

As the programme proceeded the amount of contact that with the families increased and feedback was received from the families in relationship to the behaviour and attitude of the young people. There was only one problem that arose with the young people and it involved a young girl who started to misbehave at home and was subsequently grounded. The Geographical Officer attended and spoke to the parents and the girl involved, she was not allowed to attend any more Streetwise meetings, but was allowed to attend the residential weekend. Further discussions took place with the girl and the problems she was causing at home have stopped.

A residents meeting was organised for the geographical area 2P where there was contact with the councillor, who did not trust the police. During the meeting the councillor stated that she had lost faith in the police, but the Geographical Officers had changed her opinion. This is a large move forward due to the respect and influence that the councillor had in the community.

The amount of contact that the Geographical Officers had with young people, both participants and non-participants of Streetwise, whilst working their areas increased. This was positive with the non-participants wanting to be involved in the community. As mentioned earlier was explained to these people that the programme was full, but they could be involved in the second stage of the programme when the community became involved in the running and organising of the programme. This appeared to give hope and motivation to the young people, due to the fact that they realised they could still be involved in the project at a later date. In the meantime the geographical officers have still maintained contact with these young people, when they are working in the area.

The following information was obtained and used to assess the programme.

- 1 During the programme none of the young people have had any negative contact with the police.
- 2 During the programme none of the young people were arrested. Prior to the programme starting some of the young people had been involved in certain criminal offences.
- 3 During the programme none of the young people had been reported missing, prior to the programme one of the participants was a persistent missing from home.
- 4 During the programme none of the young people were involved in any juvenile nuisance incidents.
- 5 There has been a reduction in the number of reported burglaries

- 6 Several arrests have been made in the area relating to handling stolen property, which have disrupted criminal activity in the area. Other active criminals have decided it is preferable to leave the area.

### **Reduction of Burglaries per month**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <u>No. of Burglaries at start of project per month</u> | <u>27</u> |
| No. of Burglaries at end of project per month          | 4         |

Informants have been used to assess the criminal activity and drug activity. The latest information to have been gained states that there are no Heroin dealers in the area and any addicts have to travel across Burnley to purchase Heroin.

An example of the effect that the programme had on the community was one of the young people complained of a drug dealer selling drugs across the road from where she lived. Information was then gathered from the girl and her family. After some further investigation a warrant was executed.

Whilst this warrant was being executed an elderly female was dropped off outside the house, it turned out she lived next door. At the next convenient date the Geographical Officers visited the female who stated that the drug dealing had been happening for between two and two and a half years. During this period she hadn't had a full nights sleep. She went on to thank the officers stating that since the warrant was executed the dealer had not returned and she had had a full nights sleep.

This is one example of many of how the community has been effected by the project, along with the tangible data obtained it shows that the programme has been a success.

The programme will be moving to another area of Burnley were it will be used by another set of Geographical Officers.

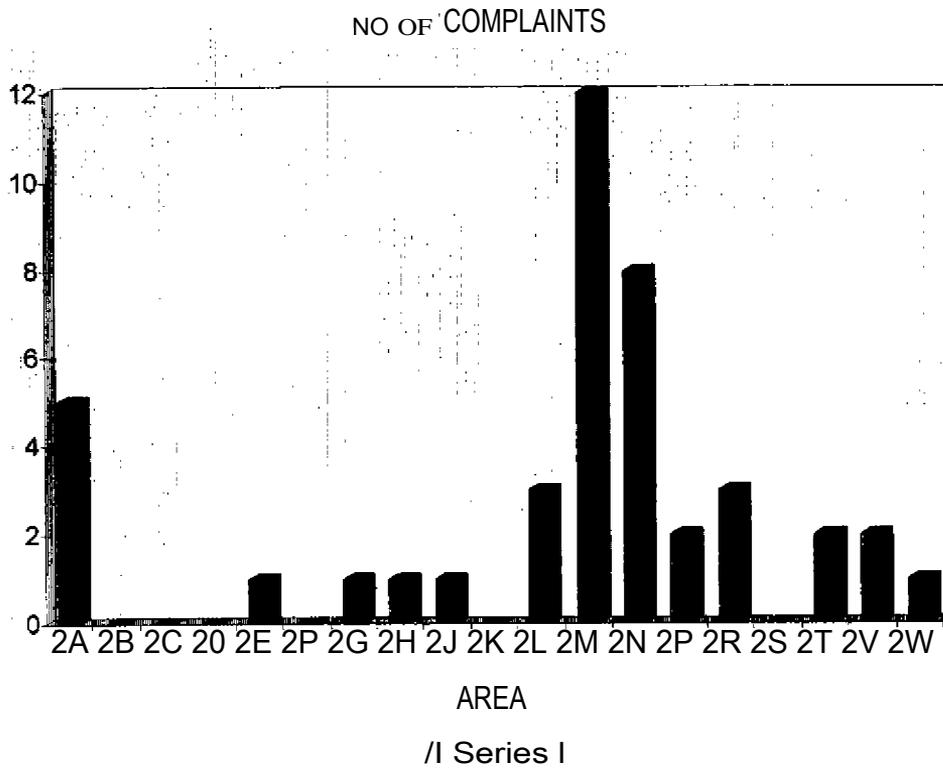
The problem that is foreseen in the future is the funding. Money has been received that will allow another programme to be run. There is funding available which the programme fits the criteria of and will keep the programme available for at least the next 18 months. In the mean time research is being done to try and find further areas where funding can be obtained from.

The next stage for the project in these geographical areas is for there to be a high profile campaign publicising Crime Stoppers. The young people are involved in designing the posters and flyers to be used in the campaign in the area that they live. Presentations are to be done around the community through residents meetings and Neighbourhood Watch meetings to give feedback to the community about what is developing in the area regarding Streetwise, crime and drugs. These meetings will explain what role the police will play in developing the area and what input the community will have in this e.g. using Crime Stoppers. At this time the first stages of Streetwise will be implemented by other Geographical Officers in there own Geographical Areas.

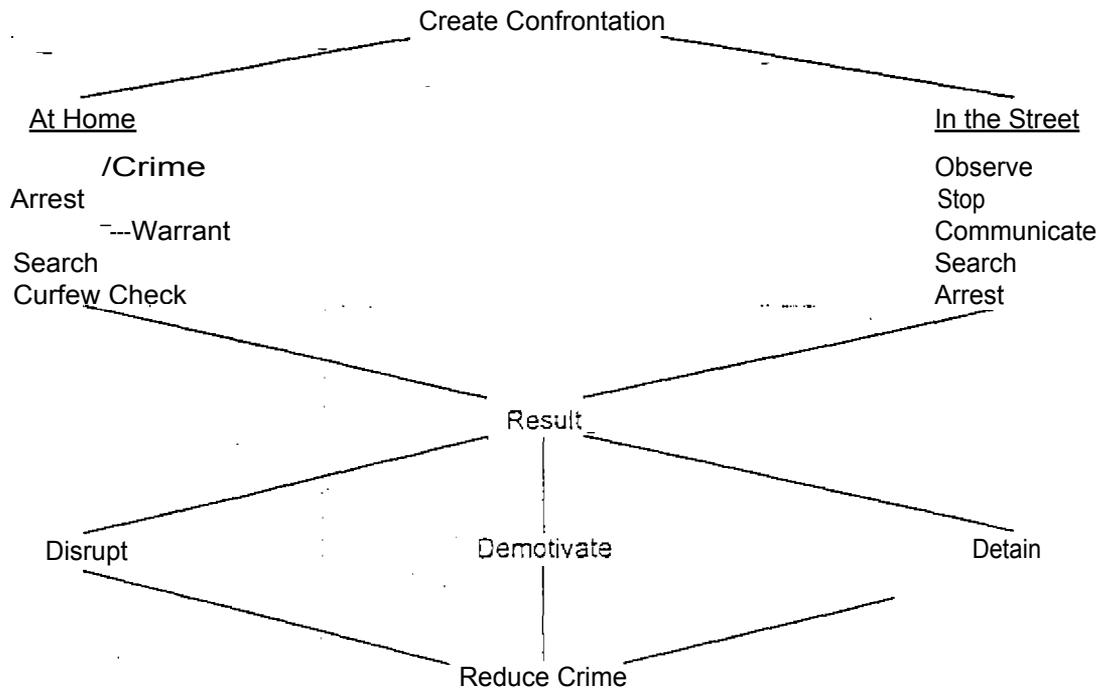
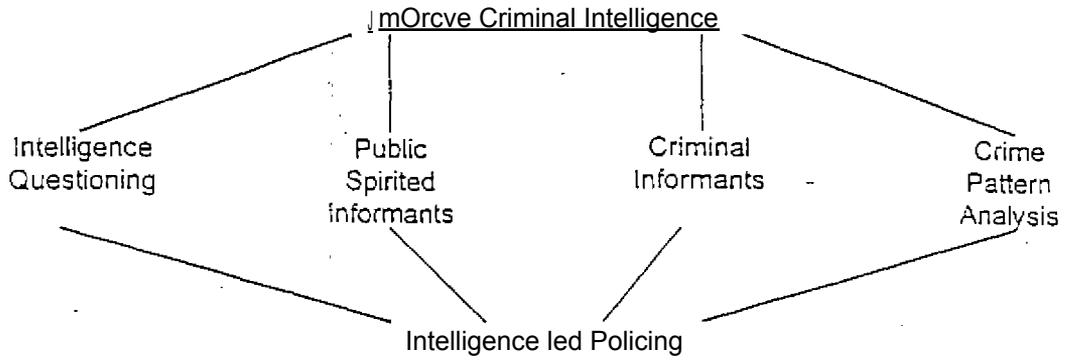
# Juvenile Nuisance on Two Area

The total number of juvenile Nuisance complaints from 01/11/98 to 25/11/98 was 42

| Area                                       | 2A | 2B | 2C | 2D | 2E | 2F | 2G | 2H | 2J | 2K | 2L | 2M | 2N | 2P | 2R | 2S | 2T | 2V | 2W |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| No of reported Juvenile Nuisance incidents |    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 3  | 12 | 8  | 2  | 3  | 0  | 2  | 2  | 1  |



MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM



Reduce fear of crime

increase public confidence

Increase public support

Improve Criminal Intelligence

The officers responsible for the project were: -

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