Leicestershire Constabulary North Area

Reducing Burglary Reducing The Fear of Crime **Endorsing Chief Officer:** Mr. M. Creedon

Acting/Assistant Chief Constable

Operations

Leicestershire Constabulary

Entryfor:

Crime & Disorder Reduction Category Tilley Award 2001

North Area Project Team:

Constable Michael Kaiser

Mr. Roy Mollett

Inspector Neil Newell

Crime Prevention Officer

Research Officer

Community Unit Manager

Contact: Michael Kaiser Crime Prevention Officer

Loughborough Police Station

Southfields Road Loughborough Leicestershire

LE11 2XF

(0116) 2484123 or Voice Mail (0116) 2485675 then following instructions entering Officer N° 0054

Contents

Executive Summary	Page 1
Introduction Project Locality and Description	2
Initial Scanning (Macro) & Further Scanning (Micro)	3
Analysis	3-5
Response Phase ❖ Partnerships ❖ Protection and Reassurance Initiative to Defend the Elderly (PRIDE) ❖ Partnership Funding and Costed Plan ❖ Survey and Crime Prevention Advice ❖ Bogus Caller Video and Presentations ❖ Press and Publicity Strategy ❖ Link to National and Local Programmes Operation `Liberate'	5 - 9 6 6 6 7 7 8 8 - 9
Assessment	10 - 11
Conclusion	Project Locality and Description 2 ng (Macro) & Further Scanning (Micro) 3-5 ase s and Reassurance Initiative to Defend the Elderly (PRIDE) Funding and Costed Plan Crime Prevention Advice er Video and Presentations Publicity Strategy onal and Local Programmes Liberate' 2 3-5 6 6 7 7 8 9 8 9 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9

Appendices

- '1' Map of Beat 29 Ashby showing scope of project
- 12' Initial Crime Analyst Figures 32 beats of the North Area
- 13 & 3a' Complete Demographic/Crime Data and Calculated Ranking for the total 32 beats of North Area
- 4' PRIDE Alarm User Questionnaire example
- ❖ '5' Crime Prevention Survey Questionnaire example
- ❖ '6' Launch of the `Bogus Caller' Video
- ❖ '7' Children of Ibstock Community College Community Contribution
- •b '8' Bogus Caller Video Questionnaire Constructive Comments
- 19' Press and Publicity Strategy Feedback

The

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The reduction of burglary against dwellings is a priority for the North Area of the Leicestershire Constabulary. Crime pattern analysis identified a burglary 'hot spot' on one particular police beat — beat 29 Ashby.

The problem and how it was identified

Initial preparatory information was collated in 1998/99, from North West Leicestershire District Council for the Crime and Disorder Audit and Leicestershire Constabulary recorded crime data. This indicated a rise in the number of general burglaries/distraction burglaries on beat 29 Ashby. Project resolutions commenced in 1999/2000, and are outlined below. An evaluation of the initiative took place in 2000/2001.

Information from Leicestershire County Council and North West Leicestershire District Council also indicated that there were pockets of vulnerable elderly residents who accounted for almost 49% of all burglary dwelling offences.

Domestic security audits were carried out in our target beat sector to ascertain the required level of response. The project was an excellent example of multi-agency working, the organisations actively participating in the project are outlined further in this report.

Response to the Problem

Personal security advice and road show with trailer taken throughout the beat
sector
crime prevention packs were given to all residents
103 $^{(1)}$ PRIDE alarms fitted free of charge — these were funded from the Police
Crime and Disorder Fund, PRIDE, Helen lean Cope Trust and the Local Authority
150 Intercoms were fitted free of charge — funded by the Parish Council and fitted
by the District council
Local crime concerns canvassed
Launch of the `Help the Aged Handy Van' scheme
Launch through Television, local radio and press of a `Bogus Caller' video locally,
and subsequent spread of good practice across the Leicestershire Constabulary
Upgrading of door/window security to properties — by the Local Authority
The local press, local businesses, Police Area Commander, Members of Parliament
and local authority representatives were involved in promoting and supporting
the initiative

Impact of the Responses

- □ Crime statistics showed a 54% reduction in burglary dwelling since 1998/99 on beat 29 Ashby
- □ Again, crime statistics showed a 54% reduction in distraction burglaries since 1998/99 on beat 29 Ashby
- □ 95% of elderly residents felt safer in their homes since the PRIDE alarms were fitted therefore reducing the fear of crime

The beat 29 Ashby project was a precursor to a current, much larger burglary reduction initiative at Coalville Local Policing Unit, beat 25 Greenhill Ward, under the Single Regeneration Budget Round 6, and the Home Office Burglary Reduction Initiative Round 3, it was considered a unique pilot at the time.

1

⁽¹⁾ PRIDE —Protection Reassurance Initiative to Defend the Elderly, Registered Charity

INTRODUCTION

The following paper gives an account of a project to reduce general burglary and distraction burglary on one beat area of the town of Ashby, Leicestershire.

The project ran throughout the fiscal year 1999/2000 and was a true example of multi-agency working. The project was effectively co-ordinated by a team of police and civilian staff working in the Loughborough Police Station Community Unit. A reasonable time has passed and an evaluation of the project has now taken place in conjunction with PRIDE (Protection Reassurance Initiative to Defend the Elderly) a local charity.

The project was intended to form part of the overall response by the Leicestershire Constabularies North Area to tackling domestic burglary/distraction burglary. As such, a number of aims were recognised. The objectives were:

To contribute towards a 3% reduction in burglary dwelling and distraction burglaries in North West Leicestershire, in line with the Crime and Disorder strategy for that locality.

"To reduce the incidence of domestic burglary in North West Leicestershire by 3% over the year 1999/2000 paying particular attention to those offences committed against the elderly and the vulnerable"— extract from local Crime and Disorder Strategy.

- To reassure and reduce the fear of crime amongst vulnerable senior citizens.
- To ensure that any reduction in burglary is sustainable.
- To encourage residents to improve security in their own homes.
- To work with the local authority and other agencies to promote public awareness of home security issues, thereby promoting an infrastructure for a long-term crime reduction commitment.

The project was initiated from a strategic standpoint in that it involved identifying and analysing the problem, devising solutions, assessing the likely impact of solutions, reviewing progress, refining approaches and evaluating success. With this in mind the following account of the project is structured to clearly show the Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment (SARA) phases of the problem-solving model.

A Distraction Burglary can be described as an occasion whereby the offenders trick their way into the home (often referred to as 'Bogus' callers).

PROJECT LOCALITY AND DESCRIPTION - Beat 29 Ashby

Beat 29 covers approximately four square miles, and has a population of 10, 307 residing in 3, 895 households. Ashby de la Zouch is situated at the junction of the A50 and the A453 in the North West corner of Leicestershire, and is bordered by the counties of Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

Ashby town like so many market towns is a mixture of old and new buildings, with new housing estates being erected on the peripheries of the town. New residents, are largely being attracted by the ease of connections to the larger conurbation's of Birmingham and Nottingham by use of the A42 road.

Ashby town has two main local authority housing estates which are situated almost on opposite sides of the town; these being Westfields Est. and Willesley Est. A Housing Association development also exists which is a mixture of flats and terraced style housing, these properties being owned by Sanctuary Housing of Birmingham.

The large majority of Ashby's residents live in privately owned accommodation on the estates surrounding the town centre (please see Appendix 1 – Map of Beat 29 Area where surveys conducted).

INTRODUCTION

The following paper gives an account of a project to reduce general burglary and distraction burglary on one beat area of the town of Ashby, Leicestershire.

The project ran throughout the fiscal year 1999/2000 and was a true example of multi-agency working. The project was effectively co-ordinated by a team of police and civilian staff working in the Loughborough Police Station Community Unit. A reasonable time has passed and an evaluation of the project has now taken place in conjunction with PRIDE (Protection Reassurance Initiative to Defend the Elderly) a local charity.

The project was intended to form part of the overall response by the Leicestershire Constabularies North Area to tackling domestic burglary/distraction burglary. As such, a number of aims were recognised. The objectives were:

❖ To contribute towards a 3% reduction in burglary dwelling and distraction burglaries in North West Leicestershire, in line with the Crime and Disorder strategy for that locality.

"To reduce the incidence of domestic burglary in North West Leicestershire by 3% over the year 1999/2000 paying particular attention to those offences committed against the elderly and the vulnerable"— extract from local Crime and Disorder Strategy.

- To reassure and reduce the fear of crime amongst vulnerable senior citizens.
- ❖ To ensure that any reduction in burglary is sustainable.
- To encourage residents to improve security in their own homes.
- ❖ To work with the local authority and other agencies to promote public awareness of home security issues, thereby promoting an infrastructure for a long-term crime reduction commitment.

The project was initiated from a strategic standpoint in that it involved identifying and analysing the problem, devising solutions, assessing the likely impact of solutions, reviewing progress, refining approaches and evaluating success. With this in mind the following account of the project is structured to clearly show the Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment (SARA) phases of the problem-solving model.

A Distraction Burglary can be described as an occasion whereby the offenders trick their way into the home (often referred to as 'Bogus' callers).

PROJECT LOCALITY AND DESCRIPTION - Beat 29 Ashby

Beat 29 covers approximately four square miles, and has a population of 10, 307 residing in 3, 895 households. Ashby de la Zouch is situated at the junction of the A50 and the A453 in the North West corner of Leicestershire, and is bordered by the counties of Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

Ashby town like so many market towns is a mixture of old and new buildings, with new housing estates being erected on the peripheries of the town. New residents, are largely being attracted by the ease of connections to the larger conurbation's of Birmingham and Nottingham by use of the A42 road.

Ashby town has two main local authority housing estates which are situated almost on opposite sides of the town; these being Westfields Est. and Willesley Est. A Housing Association development also exists which is a mixture of flats and terraced style housing, these properties being owned by Sanctuary Housing of Birmingham.

The large majority of Ashby's residents live in privately owned accommodation on the estates surrounding the town centre (please see Appendix 1 – Map of Beat 29 Area where surveys conducted).

INITIAL SCANNING

Following a significant increase in domestic and distraction burglaries across the whole of the North Area of the Leicestershire Constabulary, a reduction in the incidence of these crimes were set as a priority.

Initially, the project members examined the North Area burglary figures in entirety; however area wide comparisons on such a geographical scale did not lend itself to identifying problems in small 'virtual communities'. Therefore, crime figures for similar Local Policing Units were considered as the following report outlines.

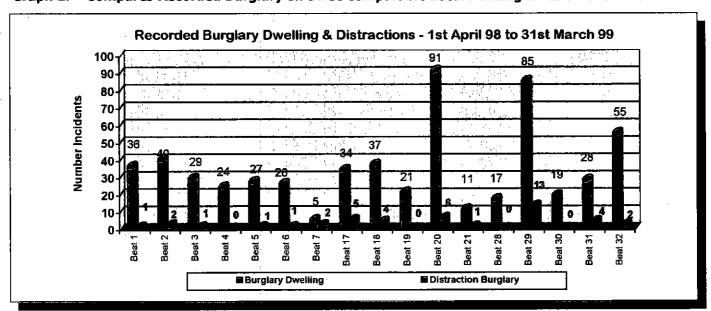
Crime reduction staff, along with the crime analyst undertook an initial survey throughout 1st April 1998 to 31st March 1999 over the whole North policing Area, which consists of thirty-two police beats. Initial analysis identified that burglary was not homogenous across the area, but was clustered in particular 'hot-spots'.

ANALYSIS

Burglary Dwelling and Distraction Burglaries

When comparing the beats on the similar Local Policing Units of Quorn, Ashby and Kegworth, it can be seen that beat 29 Ashby had considerably higher overall levels of burglary. Though beat 29 ranked second in terms of burglary dwelling, when distraction burglaries were added it took premier place in the comparative beat ranking (please see Appendix 2 – Initial Crime Figures).

It can be clearly seen, that Beat 29 which consists of Ashby town and the surrounding streets had 85 incidents of burglary dwelling and 13 distraction burglaries. In addition, Beat 29 had the highest number of distraction type burglaries (13 in total) where the offenders tricked their way in to the home; commonly known as 'Bogus Caller' distraction burglaries. The next ranked beat with a similar burglary profile was beat 20 on the Kegworth Local Policing Unit.



Graph 1. – Compares Recorded Burglary on three comparable Local Policing Units on the North Area

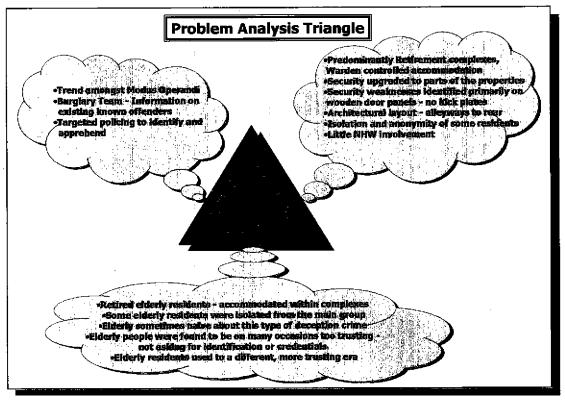
Of particular concern, was the fact that elderly residents appeared to be particularly vulnerable on this beat; they accounted for almost 49% of all burglary dwelling offences. The offenders often-targeted dwellings that are purpose built for elderly retired residents, such as retirement complexes, warden controlled accommodation and so forth.

Empirical evidence initially also indicated that local elderly residents often felt vulnerable in their own homes. Fearing and intruder; or having to deal with unwanted callers often lead to anxiety and distress.

The following diagram illustrates the identified features that characterise aspects of the problem hot spot with regard to the Location, Victims and Offenders. This information provided a foundation from which appropriate resolutions were sought.

The POPs methodology of Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment (SARA model) provided a focus for the team and underpinned the strong links with the Leicestershire Constabulary Force Vision and policing style — 'Local accountability for policing services which reflect the needs of local people, partnerships and team working.'

Diagram 1.



RESPONSE PHASE

When developing the localised burglary reduction initiative, it was important to ensure that the component parts of the strategy complemented one another. Each element of the initiative was examined in terms of the additional benefit it brought to the overall strategy. The initiative was developed with a view to providing long-term sustainable interventions, rather than concentrating on short-term reductions. Furthermore, the interventions were integrated into the local Crime and Disorder strategies.

The response phase of the project was initiated after careful analysis had taken place to identify sectors within the beat that had suffered burglaries/distraction burglaries. It was considered vital to take positive action to pre-empt any potential for emerging criminal activity in these crime categories throughout the whole of the beat; possibly through displacement.

The response was two pronged in that efforts were aimed at those residents that had fallen victim to burglary; plus those residents considered particularly vulnerable to this type of crime in future. Sectors within the beat were selected in terms of their composition i.e. largely elderly complexes, property type etc. For example, thirteen streets that were largely populated by elderly residents were chosen to undertake a comprehensive property security check, and canvassing local concerns on crime. Essentially, the initiative included:

Leicestershire Constabulary

•	Personal security audit, with advice and road snow trailer exhibited throughout the beat sector
	crime prevention packs were given to all residents
	103 PRIDE alarms fitted free of charge — these were funded from the Police Crime and Disorder Fund,
	PRIDE, Helen Jean Cope Trust and the Local Authority North West Leicestershire District Council
	150 Intercoms were fitted free of charge — funded by the Parish Council and fitted by the District
	council
	Local crime concerns canvassed
	Launch of the `Help the Aged Handy Van' scheme
	Launch through Television, local radio and press of a 'Bogus Caller' video locally, and subsequent
	spread of good practice across the Leicestershire Constabulary
	Upgrading of door/window security to properties — by the Local Authority
	The local press, local businesses, Police Area Commander, Members of Parliament and local authority
	representatives were involved in promoting and supporting the initiative

PARTNERSHIPS

The North Area and its partners are committed to the continued reduction of burglary. The Crime and Disorder Partnership in Safer Communities is the leading forum to progress strategies and initiatives that are concerned with the reduction in crime, of which burglary is just one. The partners consist of the local authority, county council, health authority, education, probation, police etc.

The range of partners included:

North West Leicester District Council Ashby Parish Council PRIDE Charity Helen Jean Cope Trust Santuary Housing Force Headquarters Police Operation `LIBERATE`
Local Principal Beat Officer
Area Crime Prevention Officer
North Area Research Officer & Analyst
Leicestershire County Council

PRIDE this is a pneumonic for Protection and Reassurance Initiative to Defend the Elderly. This is exactly what PRIDE alarms do. They are a visual deterrent to the outside of someone's home in the form of an alarm box with the lettering PRIDE on the box. They are fitted with a strobe light and siren. The alarm is operated by a small panic button which is carried by the occupant and activated if it is suspected that there is an intruder in the home, or any other assistance required.

In March of 2000, PRIDE initiated the fitting of one hundred and three PRIDE alarms to the homes of elderly residents. A service follow up exercise commenced in November and terminated in December 2000. Each PRIDE alarm user was visited and a questionnaire completed (See Appendix 4 — PRIDE Alarm User Questionnaire).

PARTNERSHIP'FUNDING AND COSTED PLAN

Helen - Jean Cope Trust, Leicestershire Constabulary and North West Leicestershire District Council

Early on it was recognised that it was essential that the project progressed with a costed plan. This was reliant upon evidence of need in the target sector, and this was provided through personal one-to-one surveys and consultation with the local community.

Helen Jean Cope Trust has historically funded initiatives for the elderly exclusively in the Borough of Chamwood. Help-the-Aged, in conjunction with the Leicestershire Constabulary approached the Helen Jean Cope Trust with a view to expanding the scheme across North West Leicestershire for the benefit of vulnerable elderly residents. Expansion was agreed and in October of 2000 and the scheme was launched. Subsequently, the Trust contributed approximately £5,000 which amounted to one third of the total cost; the local authority provided £3,000 and the Leicestershire Constabulary contributed £7,000.

1

SURVEYS and CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

A key response to the security problems of the hot spot project area was to incorporate security advice with upgrades to the physical security of properties. This was carried out through the installation of burglar alarms through the PRIDE charity. In addition, surveys included aspects which concerned the demographic make-up of the sector, and residents fears and concerns regarding crime (please see Appendix 5 – Security and Community Consultation Questionnaire Survey).

A total of 280 crime prevention packs were distributed to every home within the scope of the project sector. Each pack contained leaflets about preventing burglary, coding property, preventing distraction burglary and preventing garden crime. In' addition, the packs contained a UV marker pen, burglar be ware stickers and security check and property lists.

The surveys were carried out by police community unit staff, civilian staff, local police beat officers and special constabulary who had received specific training relating to home security surveys.

The team was mindful that the cost-effective nature in the use of Special Constables in this part of the project. This along with the intended positive outcomes ensured that the methodology employed was entirely in line with the principles of `Best Value', optimising the effective and efficient use of resources.

Training of Victims of Crime Support Scheme (VCSS) volunteers was carried by the Area Crime Prevention Officer on domestic security surveys, as it was identified that a large proportion of their workload consisted of dealing with the elderly and vulnerable.

'BOGUS CALLER' VIDEO - AND PRESENTATIONS

The needs of isolated vulnerable elderly residents on the programme beat sector was one of a number of drivers that resulted in the production of a video aimed at preventing distraction burglaries against the elderly.

The official launch of the Bogus Caller video took place in March of 2000 in a high profile publicity drive aimed at informing those most susceptible to distraction burglaries; to accelerate the reduction in this type of burglary, and to aid in reducing the fear of crime. The launch took place at a residential home for the elderly, with invited guests from agencies that help victims of distraction burglaries. These included Help the Aged, PRIDE Charity and Care and Repair (see Appendix 6 – Launch of the `Bogus Video').

Children from Ibstock Community College who were involved in crime prevention as part of their syllabus participated in two of the scenarios in the video. Subsequently, they received a National CrimeBeat Award commending them highly for their participation in the scheme, and their contribution to the local community (see Appendix 7 – Children from Ibstock Community College Participating in the Bogus Caller Video).

Over 250 voluntary groups across the North Policing Area, which comprises of North West Leicestershire and Chamwood Borough Councils, have benefited from free copies of the `Bogus Caller' video.

The bogus caller video highlights measures that can be taken by elderly persons to prevent them becoming a victim of distraction type burglaries. The video informs residents of schemes that are in operation locally, it also provides help and advice should they become a victim of this type of crime. The Bogus Caller video was highly commended in the National CrimeBeat Awards in September 2000.

Presentations were given to all wardens of warden-controlled premises, hospitals and voluntary groups across the North Policing Area. At each presentation, crime prevention packs were distributed to enable householders to take a few simple precautions to improve the security within their homes. Views were canvassed as to .the content and usefulness of the video and presentation; the following results were obtained:

94% of respondents felt that the video had a dear structure, was info	ormative and u	setu
---	----------------	------

^{□ 92%} would recommend the video to others

i7 85% enjoyed the video, and 81% felt they could transfer what they had learnt to their workplace (i.e. professionals concerned with the victims and the elderly)

Leicestershire Constabulary

Many useful, constructive comments were received from local residents who attended presentations and viewed the bogus caller video; Here are just a few (see Appendix 8 – Some Examples of Questionnaire Response):

'Could the video be dubbed into various other ethnic languages?'

'Could telephone numbers at the end of the video be put on cards/stickers to be placed by the telephone?'

'A video about handbag snatching and mugging would be useful'

'Identification cards should have Braille on the side'

'An example of how to deal with callers who wouldn't have ID cards would also be useful'

Suggestions and comments received from local residents are currently being assessed as to their viability for further development and implementation.

PRESS and PUBLICITY STRATEGY

A positive decision was made to fully brief the local press about the ongoing project during its inception and throughout the work-phase. It was believed that to do so would send a clear message to criminals that the target beat sector was not a "safe" area to commit crime whilst reassuring local residents, giving them confidence to become involved through Neighbourhood Watch etc.

During the project a series of radio interviews were given, covering all aspects of the strategy and other agencies and partners involved. In addition, high profile press articles about the initiative appeared in the local newspaper.

Presentations of the `Bogus Caller' video were conducted on the ground within particular elderly complexes to further focus vulnerable residents to the need for vigilance when combating burglaries/distraction burglaries (see Appendix 9 – Press and Publicity Strategy).

LINK TO NATIONAL AND LOCAL PROGRAMMES Government's Distraction Burglary Task Force

It is important that crime reduction initiatives link in with both local and national programmes that seek to reduce the crime incidents. With this in mind, objectives were set for the project that not only contributed to the local Crime and Disorder strategic objectives, but also the Government's Distraction Burglary Task Force objectives, which are:

Reduce the numbers of victims of bogus callers (distraction burglary); Reduce the fear of crime amongst vulnerable groups;
Raise police, local authority and other partnership agencies awareness of bogus callers;
Introduce more efficient partnership working practices;
Share expertise on investigation techniques; and
Involve the whole community and improve the quality of life for older and vulnerable people within England and Wales.

Distraction burglary is recognised nationally, and locally as a particularly nasty crime, as its victims are usually the most vulnerable people in our society and more often than not they are older people living alone. Indeed, Home Office research has established that the average age of victims is 81 years of age, with 60 percent of all victims being female.

Operation 'Liberate' - Joint Resources Initiative to Tackle Distraction Burglary

Operation Liberate is an initiative to tackle Distraction Burglary offences involving the joint resources of national crime and intelligence services and eight midland's forces, which included Leicestershire.

The basic principles of the operation were:

- Prevention is better than cure
- To raise awareness of the crime without frightening people
- Partnership working involving as many agencies as possible
- A sustained media campaign

During the first six months of the consortium, comparable recorded crime figures for fiscal years 1997/98 and 1998/99 were examined. Recorded offences rose by 9% [for the consortium), for Leicestershire recorded offences rose by 2%. However, significant success was achieved with the increase in offender detection's; these rose from 15 to 70 resulting in an increased detection rate of 5% to 25%.

These early results reinforced our view that complimentary local partnership resources needed to be applied in tackling the opportunity for offences to be committed within Leicestershire; and particularly on the North Area at beat 29 Ashby.

ASSESSMENT and RESULTS 'OBTAINED - ONGOING ANALYSIS

It can be seen from the following table that both general burglaries and distraction have decreased significantly since the inseption of the burglary reducaon initiative.

- □ A 54% reduction in Burglary Dwelling since 1998/99
- □ A 54% reduction in Distraction Burglaries since 1998/99

Table 2.

grada ya kala ya Manaru kala M	(BEAT 29 As	hby Town) - :	1997 to 2001	
97/98	Polyada 1	99/2000		98/99 & 2000/2001 % Change
90		46		-54%
				-54%
				-3476

PRIDE Charity questionnaire Results

Following the fitting of PRIDE alarms, to properties, questionnaires were completed to provide feedback on aspects of service and to determine if individuals felt safer in their homes since the fitting of an alarm.

- □ Ninety-eight out of one hundred and three respondents, or 95% of those elderly residents fitted with a PRIDE alarm indicated through a questionnaire that they felt safer in their homes since the PRIDE alarm had been fitted.
- ☐ There have been no criminal incidents at the homes of PRIDE alarm users since the installations.

Economic Benefit of the Initiative

One of the key aims of the criminal justice system *is to reduce crime and the fear of crime and their social and economic costs'*— Home Office. Indeed, since 1993, there has been a greater emphasis on proactive intelligence—led policing and the increased importance on providing efficient and effective use of resources.

An economic analysis of the benefit was carried out to ascertain the cost benefit in terms of the reduction of burglaries so far.

A publication in March of 1999, by the Policing and Reducing Crime Unit — Home Office, Police Research Series paper 103, outlined recommendations as to the methodology that may be adopted in this type of project. This report recognised difficulties in attributing a cost benefit to such things as detection's, particularly, when these may have been part of a much larger operation [in this case Operation 'Liberate' multi-force, with many resource inputs, not only concerned with the North Area].

The level of reassurance within the local community since the project was measured and showed significant improvements as outlined previously. However, the social benefits of improved quality of life and public reassurance are again recognised in the Home Office report as exceedingly difficult to apportion a specific cost benefit to.

It can be seen in the following diagram that there has been an overall reduction of 51.4% in the number of burglaries [general & distraction burglaries] since the initiative first commenced.

The estimated cost saving, using Home Office guidelines equates to **a** saving of £2,300 per burglary reduction; which extrapolated out amounts to £207,000 for the whole initiative.

The cost of running the initiative in terms of staff time equates to approximately (1,628.00. This excludes the cost of PRIDE alarms which amounted to £15,000 as previously outlined; therefore the total cost amounted to L16,628.00.

Table 3.

	Economic Benefit - Reduc	ed Recorded Burglaries
The state of the second	1997/98 & 1998/99	
And the second seconds.	175	
Restriction in recorded crime	90	
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	∴ 90 * £2,300 =	
Estanoced Soviets Fullets rathe Office exercise (Celebrate)		

It can be seen from the above illustration that crime prevention is a cost-effective answer to crime problems, it is both proven to be effective, whilst saving on staff and financial resource.

Security Audits of Properties

Throughout the beat sector, the vast majority of properties had undergone renovation through the local authority, with the fitting of double-glazed windows and doors. However, it became evident that of the 185 security audits carried out 68% (or 125) had glass/wood panel front doors, and 50% (or 93) had glass/wood panel rear doors. Of particular concern, was that just over 47% had both front and rear doors made of glass/wood panel construction.

This particular type of door retained at the properties, are notorious as being weak in terms of the security level offered, and therefore susceptible to attack from criminals — 'often criminals intending to burgle a property just kick in the bottom panel on these types of doors' — Crime Prevention Officer. The local authority have been advised of the results of the security survey and are in the process of reviewing the situation. Window security has been upgraded by the local authority through the fitting of 'Sash Jammers' (higher quality window locks).

ONGOING ANALYSIS — Regular monitoring and analysis takes place over the whole of the 32 beats on the North Area through the Area Crime Analyst. Specific project beat sector initiatives are subject to focussed monitoring through the Area Research OfficerfPOPs Co-ordinator based in the Community Unit. The Force utilises aligned Crime Information and Incident Systems. These systems are sophisticated tools used in identifying emerging trends, and detecting crime by offering the capability to interrogate a variety of aspects connected with the crime (i.e. modus operandi, property and linked suspects etc).

The project team are mindful that recent figures [end of financial year April 2000 to March 2001] indicate a rise in distraction burglaries in 2000/2001 of four incidents when compared to 1999/2000 (see table 3). Four of those reported incidents occurred in February and March of this year [2001]; with two of the incidents being attempted distraction burglaries.

Perhaps more surprisingly, one of the attempted incident victims had a PRIDE alarm fitted, but had apparently not made use of it; the details of this incident are being investigated further.

CONCLUSION

The project to reduce burglaries on an identified burglary hot spot has been successful. Lessons have been learnt, both in terms of what works and what does not, and also how best to implement the problem solving methodology.

There is no doubt that in addition to the impressive results outlined previously other positive outcomes incidental to the main objectives of the project have been forthcoming, for instance improved understanding of the communication processes within elderly communities. In addition, relationships and communication networks within voluntary and statutory service providers for the elderly have developed sequentially throughout the project, and indeed continue to do so.

Crime undermines the quality of life and destroys the security communities need if they are to thrive. Therefore, if we are to create a better living environment it needs the help of these communities working in partnership with the police to tackle crime. Progress cannot be driven by the police in isolation, we have to embrace a partnership approach in reducing crime and enhancing community safety. These are fundamental facts that must be worked on and overcome if we are to be successful on any initiative we undertake.

The principles of Problem Orientated Policing were utilised in identifying homogenous factors that made up the local community i.e. large numbers of elderly and vulnerable residents in a particular locality. This coupled with information on recorded crime, the level of security and reported demographic features provided a sound basis from which to develop an effective and sustainable response.

The methodology used in this project has been adopted on other beats with other identified challenges. There is no doubt that the success of this project shows that problem solving can make a real and sustainable impact upon crime problems that can at times seem **long-term and intractable.**



Leicestershire Constabulary

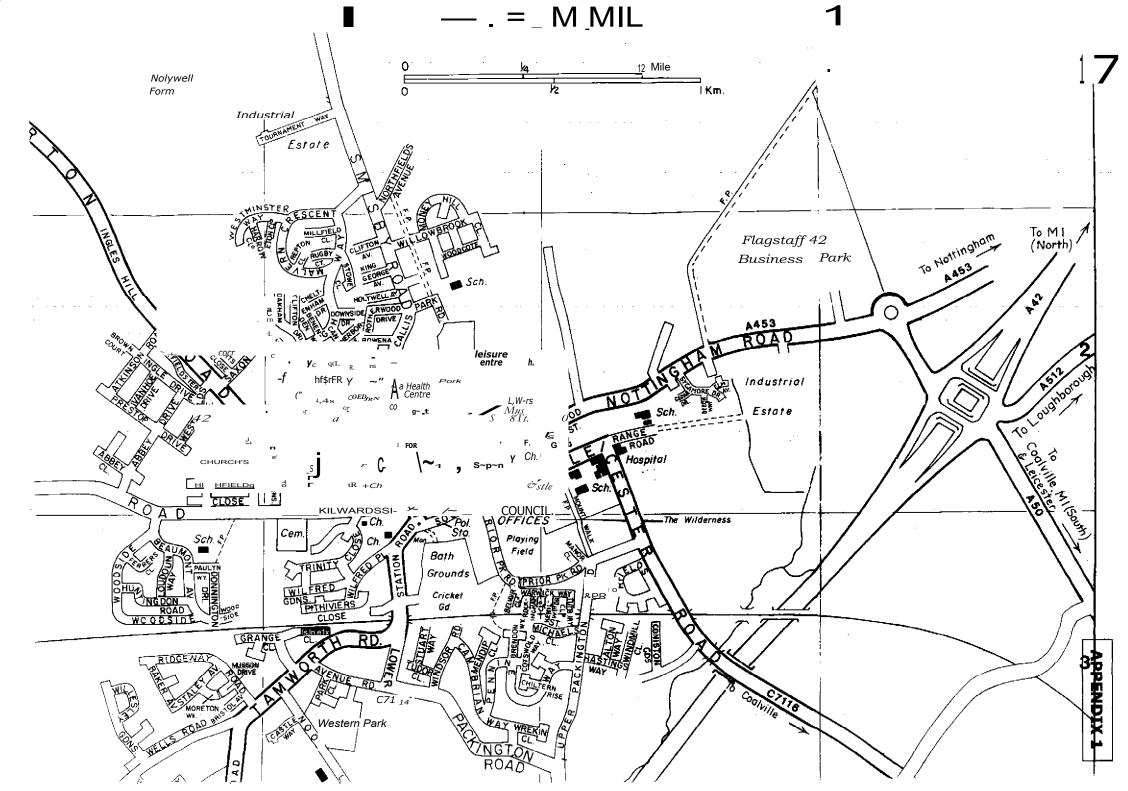
Appendices

Appendices

- 'L' Map of Beat 29 Ashby showing scope of project
- 'l' `2' Initial Crime Analyst Figures 32 beats of the North Area
- '3 & 3a' Complete Demographic/Crime Data and Calculated Ranking for the total 32 beats of North Area
- ❖ `4' PRIDE Alarm User Questionnaire example
- ❖ `5' Crime Prevention Survey Questionnaire example
- ❖ `6' Launch of the `Bogus Caller' Video
- * `7' Children of Ibstock Community College Community Contribution
- ❖ `8' Bogus Caller Video Questionnaire --- Constructive Comments
- '9' Press and Publicity Strategy Feedback



Awarded for excellence



BEAT	-				1st April	1999 to 31st Ma	rch 2000					BEAT
North				Total					% Grade 1	Polpulation	Total crime	North
	Area in			Crime			Grade 1	Total	incidents	per square	per 1000	
	Square Miles	Pop. Total	Households	99/2000	0 -15yrs	Pensionable	Incidents	Incidents	attended	mile	population	
NQOI	3.4	4,614	1,806	353	942	857	101	1248	86%	1345.2	76.5	NQ01
NQ02	1.6	6,033	2,412	522	1,248	917	168	2080	82%	3770.6	86.5	NQ02
NQ03	4.9	3,353	1,332	261	630	731	120	1032	82%	682.9	77.8	NQ03
NQ04	8.4	2,306	834	184	355	497	84	660	66%	274.5	79.8	NQ04
NQ05	8.9	7,587	2,940	461	1,573	1,240	151	1837	75%	853.4	60.8	NQ05
NQ06	4.6	4,773	1,852	310	933	797	119	1053	79%	1033.1	64.9	NQ06
NQ07	17.5	2,686	962	134	573	414	118	1058	52%	153.8	49.9	NQ07
NLD8	0.2	1,254	581	2,193	177	282	653	4273	93%	5225.0	1748.8	NLO8
NLO9	0.7	3,930	1,345	447	1,140	656	197	2691	91%	5383.6	113.7	NLO9
NLIO	2.9	8,288	3,312	760	1,404	1,837 -	193	2253	91%	2828.7	91.7	NLIO
NL11	1.9	5,654	2,028	738	1,037	955	73	1262	89%	2991.5	130.5	NLII
NLI2	1.0	4,747	1,717	561	1,178	505	120	1785	87%	4608.7	118.2	NL12
NL13	0.9	7,852	2,877	574	1,875	926	181	1986	85%	9130.2	73.1	NL13
NL14	0.6	3,875	1,595	388	794	769	204	1210	82%	6054.7	100.1	NL14
NL15	1.5	5,871	2,338	1,045	1,145	964	378	2985	84%	3812.3	178.0	NLI5
NL16	1.3	5,276	2,281	699	1,047	1,109	241	2173	89%	3937.3	132.5	NL16
NK17	5.4	3,390	1,366	229	645	589	98	1040	57%	626.6	67.6	NK17
NK18	10.0	6,765	2,566	906	1,405	915	357	2824	57%	677.2	133.9	NK18
NK19	5.8	3,365	1,385	225	575	619	70	716	72%	580.2	66.9	NK19
NK20	6.1	12,961	5,022	774	2,757	1,864	332	3081	60%	2138.8	59.7	NK20
NK21	19.1	1,593	591	101	289	309	109	550	61%	83.3	63.4	NK21
NC22	0.6	2,090	856	738	402	416	393	2756	90%	3265.6	353.1	NC22
NC23	1.2	6,988	2,835	675	1,311	1,411	213	2170	86%	5727.9	96.6	NC23
NC24	2.9	10,864	4,143	538	2,141	1,886	157	2162	79%	3772.2	49.5	NC24
NC25	2.6	8,080	3,004	811	1,862	1,591	275	3225	81%	3060.6	100.4	NC25
NC26	7.6	7,145	2,973	446	1,175	1,569	193	1725	69%	942.6	62.4	NC26
NC27	8.7	6,478	2,471	651	1,272	1,215	273	2871	78%	745.5	100.5	NC27
NC28	4.9	4,823	1,882	261	901	838	107	785	82%	984.3	54.1	NC28
NA29	4.0	10,307	3,895	893	2,287	1,830	391	3261	84%	2602.8	86.6	NA29
NA30	21.3	3,414	1,304	200	643	631	92	768	62%	160.3	58.6	NA30
NA3I	8.2	6,530	2,582	354	1,240	1,363	109	1481	74%	799.3	54.2	NA31
NA32	17.4	5,862	2,265	423	1,141	1,024	172	1717	55%	337.1	72.2	NA32
Average	5.8	5,586	2,167	558	1128	985	201	1897	77%	2456	· 146	Total

-- -- = IMI = r -- WI ME I = ! = IMI

BEAT	-				1st April	1999 to 31st Ma	rch 2000					BEAT
North	Area in	Dan Tatal		Total Crime	0. 15,470	Pensionable	Grade 1	Total Incidents	incidents attended within 15	Polpulation per square mile	Total crime per 1000 population	North
	Square Miles	Pop. Total	Households	9912000 23	0 -15yrs 20	18	27	22	8	17	18	NQOI
NQOL	18	21	20			16	17	14	16	10	15	NQ02
NQ02	23	13	13	16 25	11 26	22	20	27	15	24	17	NQ03
NQ03	14	27	26	25 30		28	30	31	25	29	16	NQ04
NQ04	8	29	30		30 6	9	19	16	21	21	26	NQ05
NQ05	6	7	7	17 24		20	22	25	19	18	23	NQ06
NQ06	16	19	19		21 28	30	23	24	32	31	31	NQ07
NQ07	3	28	28	31 1		32	1	1	1	5	1.	NL08
NLO8	32	32	32	· -	32	23	12	9	2	4	8	NLO9
N L09	29	22	25	18	17	3	13	10	3	14	13	N LI 0
NLIO	19	4	4	7	8		31	21	5	13	6	NL11-
NL11	22	16	17	8	19	14 27	20	17	7	6	7	NL12
NL12	27	20	21	14	13 4	27 15	15	15	10	1	19	NL13
NL13	28	6	8	13			11	23	14	2	11	NL14
NL14	30	23	22	21	23	21	4	5	11	8	3	NL15
NL15	24	14	14	2	15	13	9	11	6	7	5	NL16
NLI6	25	17	15	10	18	11 26	28	26	30	26	21	NK17
NK17	13	25	24	27	24 7		26 5	7	29	25	4	NK18
NK18	5	10	11	3		17 25	32	, 30	2 3 23	27	22	NK19
NK19	12	26	23	28	27	25	6	30 4	28	16	27	NK20
NK20	11	1	1	6	1	31	24	32	27	32	24	NK21
NK21	2	31	31	32	31			8	4	11	2	NC22
NC22	30	30	29	8	29	29	2 10	12	9	3	12	NC23
NC23	26	9	9	11	9	7 1		13	1 8	9	32	NC24
NC24	20	2	2	15	3	'	18 7	3	1 6 17	12	10	NC25
NC25	21	5	5	5	5	5	=	1 8		20	25	NC26
NC26	10	8	6	19	14	6	13		24	23	9	NC27
NC27	7	12	12	12	10	10	8	6 28	20	23 19	30	NC28
NC28	15	18	18	25	22	19	26		13 12		14	NA29
NA29	17	3	3	4	2	4	3	2		15	28	NA30
NA30	1	24	27	29	25	24	29	29	26	30	28 29	NA30 NA31
NA31	9	11	10	22	12	8	24	20	22	22 28	2 9 20	NA31
NA32	4	15	16	20	16	12	16	19	31	28	20	INASZ