

# Lancashire Constabulary

## **OPERATION DEBAR**

### *Crime & Disorder Reduction Category*

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Endorsed By: Deputy Chief Constable Paul Stephenson

# Operation Debar Summary

This operation was implemented to address anti-social behaviour and public confidence in the Tanterton area of Preston, Lancashire.

The area of Tanterton that the Operation addressed consists of 1,200 dwellings of mixed tenure of single person and family units as well as a small number of shops and business premises. Historically this area has been problematic due to spates of anti-social behaviour affecting the quality of life of residents, schools and local business premises within the area. Towards the end of Summer 2001 the problems in the area were steadily increasing.

A public meeting took place engaging the local community and other statutory and voluntary organisations to enable the problems within the area to be discussed and addressed. Data analysis, shared information and the local knowledge obtained made it possible to identify the core problems of the area. In addition a hard core of local youths, responsible for the greater proportion of the problems within the area were identified.

Following this initial meeting a further consultation took place with those key personnel who were in a position to make an impact upon the areas affected.

Two sites were identified as being subjected to continuous victimisation, Intag Community Centre and the Pool House Primary School. A hard core of twenty youths were identified as being responsible for the bulk of minor crimes taking place within both of these premises and the offensive and disorderly behaviour that was problematic to those person(s) using the premises. The main locations where the youths gathered were identified and a correlation between the sites and the offences was made. Representatives from Intag reported that the youths perceived both the premises as being Authoritarian due to the links that the premises had with the statutory agencies. i.e. Social Services, Police etc. In addition the lack of formal co-ordination between all of the key agencies in the area was also seen as hindering the problem solving responses.

Multiple responses were adopted to address these problems. Sixteen of the top twenty identified youths were arrested thirty-six times. The Intag building was subject to a LANPAC (Charity) bid and situational crime prevention measures put in place in the form of electronic window shutters. In addition environmental changes were made, these included the removal of low-level brick walls previously used as seating and as a source of ammunition. Other responses included a supervised trip for the young people to Staffordshire involving community Beat Managers and Intag staff. A high visibility Policing operation was also conducted using external funding.

Crime reduction was evident at both Intag and Pool House Primary School, eliminating the problem. Substantial reductions were also achieved in respect of nuisance and disorder during the peak summer months. Housing lettings in the area were also maintained and seventeen partners identified. Staff at Intag have reported a change in attitude and behaviour with some of the local youth. This work reflected the 'Take-Hold-Change-Exit' model.

## **Project Objectives**

Operation Debar had two distinct aims, firstly to address public confidence and secondly to impact on quality of life issues within the Tanterton area of Preston. In order to achieve these aims the Operation focused on four key objectives:

- Public Consultation
- Multi Agency Problem Solving Approach
- Targeting Youth Anti Social Behaviour
- Repeat Victim Crime at specific sites

Our success in the four areas was to be measured according to the level of impact achieved set against each of the four objectives.

The area has varying degrees of deprivation; within the centre of Tanterton there are higher degrees of this on the outer edges, which comprises mainly of privately owned dwellings. This impacts on the degree of external funding the area attracts and gives a false reflection of needs. This problem manifests itself in many ways and leads towards anti social behaviour and related crime. Priority was therefore given to address these needs.

At the outset a public meeting was arranged by the Police at an external venue and identified members of the community attended. These included formal and informal bodies. At the meeting their views and ideas were collated and they complemented what the Police already knew about the area. As a result of this meeting key organisations were identified that held existing long standing problems. Intag the local residents community drop in centre together with Pool House Primary School complained of repeat attacks against their properties. Further more North British Housing were reporting increased turnover in residential lettings (see appendix 1). Other local businesses and organisations in the central area were also consulted and confirmed similar problems linked to anti social behaviour with youths seen at the forefront of these problems.

## **Defining the Problem**

Initially raw incident data over a twelve-month period relative to all crime was examined. This included BVPI crime that contained within it the criminal damage cluster group. Trend line graphs were produced (see appendix 2) and these supported the concerns expressed at the public meeting. These concerns were further confirmed when incidents of disorder and anti social behaviour were analysed within the Tanterton area. Building on this further analysis was conducted in relation to include key sites at Intag and Pool House Primary School.

These sites are located in the central area near the commercial precinct and this was identified as a known holding area for local youths. Exact figures for damage related crime are shown below:

- **Intag** between October 1999 to August 2001 – 17 crimes.
- **Pool House School** same period – 17 crimes.

These sites were also noted to have been subjected to a further number of non-property related crimes.

Following on from the public consultation exercise and the initial analysis it became clear that BVPI crime was not having a significant negative impact on the community. It was clearly evident that the main problem related to quality of life issues in particular anti social youth behaviour and related criminal damage.

There was a perception that a group of local youths had become disaffected and Intag supported this theory. They reported that local youths were distant from the work being conducted via the centre and they believed that Intag was seen by the youth as being incorporated by the statutory bodies linked to the area. This was identified as a contributory factor linking the specific attacks directed at their against their building. The head teacher at Pool House Primary School also mirrored this belief. A further perception held by the local youths revealed a feeling that the area suffered from a lack of physical open space for recreational use. Other impacting factors were identified which included a lack of organised diversionary activity and a supporting infrastructure. In order to impact on a change of youth behaviour and attitude it was felt that Intag had to become accessible once again to the local youths whom it strived to engage.

Having identified at the analysis stage the specific damage related problems at the two specific sites; the Divisional Architectural Liaison Officer was tasked with providing information on situational crime prevention measures that could be implemented at a later date. These observations were documented in report form. They supported the view that the installation of electronic security shutters would provide protection given the exact nature of the crimes committed at Intag and similar recommendations were put forward with regard to Pool House Primary School.

An approach was then made to North British Housing who is the leaseholder for Intag Drop In Centre. Possible environmental changes were discussed, which were to be re-visited at a later stage as the Project progressed.

The Police were conscious that local residents and youths had not been subject to any type of formal public survey to gauge and benchmark public confidence. However the Police were aware that a survey similar in nature to this had been commissioned by Centrepont North West on behalf of the 'Places for People Group' to establish the needs of young people living in the Tanterton area. This work commenced in June 2001 and was understood to be the subject of a formal report, which will be made available to the Police upon its completion.

## Dealing With The Problem

It was clear from the analysis that the chosen responses required two distinct approaches. These included identified situational crime prevention measures and dealing positively with youth diversion. It was established very clearly what specific responses would be required given the analysis conducted. The chosen responses were as follows:

- Situational Crime Prevention measures - Intag and Pool House Primary School sites
- Provide youth diversionary activities
- Maintain Leadership —adopting a formal co-ordinated approach.

The methods intended to be used at the Intag and Pool House Primary School sites are well documented as effective interventions in reducing these types of repeat victim offences. In terms of target hardening these two specific sites, it was intended to change the behavioural patterns of the offender(s) and thereby reduce the number of offences being reported. In order to divert the youth activity towards positive pursuits the Police engaged key community groups and organisations. Several agencies and organisations had been identified as having a foothold in the area. However having engaged them, it was noted that they were mainly acting independent of each other, albeit sharing similar aims. They were briefed as to the nature of the Police project and were updated regularly with regard to the other agencies activities in order to co-ordinate their effort. This project therefore became a catalyst for such information and responsibility for activity news improved within the area. Further assistance was gained from the elected representatives for the area. This led to some improved formal co-ordination at a more executive level. Having engaged all the affected partners from the outset, agreements were accepted with little need for modification, however, some funding matters needed to be addressed.

Activity at this point could move forward with the submission of a bid to LANPAC (Lancashire Partnership Against Crime) for the necessary funding to install four electronic security shutters at Intag. Support for this was also provided by Intag themselves, North British Housing, and the approved Contractor. (Appendix 3) In all the total cost of installation exceeded £2,300. This internal bid for funding was successful with an installation date set for mid November 2001.

From an early stage the need for a High Visibility Policing Operation had been identified. This would impact on the aims and objectives of the project. In order to support such a process a need for additional funding was identified. In September 2001, a Bid was made internally for Summer Splash Funding via the Divisions Community Safety Department. The Bid was successful in securing £2,000. This money was to be used to support the high visibility stage of the project, which commenced on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2001. This phase consisted of targeted patrols in specific areas of central Tanterton. Sixteen days of focused foot patrol then took place, which comprised eighteen police officers from Lea Sector. These officers were briefed to engage and foster links with the young people and also to generate whenever possible community intelligence.

This resulted in the identification of a core group of twenty male youths of which sixteen were arrested a total of thirty six times.

At this stage the Police were conscious of the threat of displacement particularly with regard to the adjacent policing area of Cottam. This is a large privately owned residential area in close proximity to the North of Tanterton. Some feedback from this area was already being received by the Police, which highlighted similar problems being experienced by the residents of Cottam in regard to the disorderly youths from Tanterton. A meeting was held with residents and a partnership approach was adopted. The Police were then able in conjunction with Preston City Council able to offer expert support in the implementation of the Cottam Community Partnership. This partnership sought to reassure the residents of Cottam by facilitating a free flow of information in what was a newly formed community housing development.

As the High Visibility phase of the project progressed the Police became concerned that they had no mechanism in place for dealing effectively with the sub criminal behaviour of the youths. In order to counter this the Police undertook further scanning of existing practices in this area. Following this a scheme in Western Division (Blackpool and South Fylde) was identified that appeared to meet this criteria. A link with the Community Safety Department at Divisional level was made and a fact-finding exercise was undertaken. As a result the approach used at Western Division was implemented across Central Division as opposed to being solely within the problematic area.

At this stage two Community Beat Managers had been identified although they were not yet deployed operationally within the ward. With this in mind the Police engaged Intag and planning commenced as to how best to integrate them directly into the project. Intag themselves had secured funding from Summer Splash monies and dialogue commenced with regard to youth diversion. It was decided to consult the young people as to their respective wishes. This resulted in a planned trip to Alton Towers in Staffordshire taking place in late October 2001. Fifty-three young people of both genders were identified including the core group of twenty problem youths. Twenty-one adult community helpers including the Community Beat Managers attended. This course of action contained an element of 'risk' by the Police but it proved to be a notable success.

Consideration was now being given to put in place some effective communication routes between the community, our partners and the forthcoming Community Beat Managers. To this end virtual voice mail facilities were installed at Lea Police Station providing an effective process of communicating community concerns. These voicemail telephone numbers together with an overview of the Police project work conducted thus far was documented within the Community News Letter. This was distributed to all homes in the district.

In early November 2001, the Community Beat Managers were formally appointed having been briefed with regard to the project work undertaken prior to that date. The officers in the community secured financial support from our partners at Intag and North British Housing to purchase two mountain bikes and clothing for operational use.

On 14<sup>th</sup> November 2001, four external electronic security shutters were installed at the Intag Centre. At the same time further situational crime prevention work was undertaken outside the centre. This concentrated on work to remove low level brick walls that had previously held local youths and provided sources of ammunition to damage local buildings (see appendix 4).

The Sector POP Co-ordinator recorded all actions relative to this project systematically onto the living POP's database. This assisted the officers involved in the project to maintain a focus on its aims and objectives. During the process the Police maintained their commitment in respect of attending community based meetings in an effort to appraise not only the community but also the interested partners.

## **How successful was the Approach.**

This approach adopted by the Police can be categorised in terms of Short, Medium and Long-term responses. The project work conducted was robust in the short term and in this respect notable success was achieved.

- **Intag Centre** – since the implementation of situational crime prevention measures the problem of attacks against the building have been completely eliminated. Crimes recorded at the Centre counted 17 in a twenty-month period prior to the installation of the shutters. Since then there have been no reported attacks against the premises (see appendix 5). This has greatly increased the moral of the staff at the Centre including that of residents utilising the facility. Following on from the organised trip to Alton Towers staff have reported that young people in the area have begun to return to the Centre. This has fostered more trusting relationships between young people and Intag increasing the understanding of Intag's role and responsibility within the local community (see appendix 6).
- **Pool House Primary School** – The Police have maintained their support for the school in their attempts to secure funding to target harden the premises. A trial shutter was installed to an identified vulnerable point. This was arranged by the Lancashire Education Authority and supported by the Police. Following the situational and environmental changes in the area, crimes directed against the school have significantly reduced (see appendix 7). It is not considered by the project owners that the installation of this one shutter in isolation has wholly contributed to the reduction in offences at this site. Other contributing factors are believed to have impacted on this. These include the changes made at the nearby Intag Centre and the reported changes in attitude and behaviour of local youths. Finally the willingness of the partner agencies to discuss with the youths the provision of diversionary facilities at this site, has led to trust and a greater desire to conform.

- **Youth Anti Social Behaviour** — This had peaked in July 2001, to fifty recorded incidents. During the timescale of this project this was brought back under control throughout August leading to the High Visibility Policing Operation. This pattern was maintained and significant reductions were made into September 2001. Demand was noted to have increased into October due to seasonal influences, (Halloween and Bonfire Night) however this was reduced by the end of the month (see appendix 8) . Community intelligence increased during the timescale of the project and assisted in impacting on anti social behaviour.
- **Cottam Community Partnership** — Throughout the period of the project, contact was maintained with the partnership. Information regarding potential displacement was relayed to them. This was an effective two way process and provided reassurance to that community. The partnership now represents the residents of Cottam and is acting as an effective communication route in partnership with the Police. Since it was devised the Partnership has adopted a charitable constitution and is hoping to attract external funding. Some of the lessons learned are being put to good effect and a website is under construction. This site will include templates to assist with the start up process for use by other Community Partnerships on a nationwide basis.
- **Youth Referral** — This proved to be an effective tool in addressing the area of sub criminal youth behaviour. This was particularly evident in the Tanterton area especially at the outset of the project. The Division has now adopted youth referral and early indications suggest that this system is having a positive impact.
- **Partnership Working** — This project has been particularly effective in this area. The Police engaged seventeen external partners during the timescale of the project. Community Meetings are now well structured with roles and responsibilities being clearly defined. Formal Data Protection Protocol Agreements are now in place. This has improved information sharing and proved especially effective when dealing with problem tenants. This agreement includes Preston City Council and North British Housing.
- **Diversion** — The project assessed the scope for providing diversionary activities for the young people from the area. Firstly existing structures were confirmed and found to be limited. The Police have since been consulted with regard to an open recreational zone being established at the Pool House Primary School site. This will provide supervised and instructional sporting diversion for the young people and the project has supported this. This project has also attempted to create physical open space for community use. Accurate scanning of the area had identified potential for freeing land. An approach has been made to English Partnerships and identified areas have been discussed. It is hoped that some areas could be utilised for community use and discussion is under way. Forthcoming projects could include these areas for development such as community gardens.

## **Evaluation**

With such a multi faceted project the originating officers were conscious of the need for an extensive evaluation. There was also a need for this process to be independently conducted. To meet these needs the project was referred to the Divisional Quality Assurance Department for assessment. The project was evaluated both from a quantitative and qualitative perspective. A public survey questionnaire document relating to the aims of the project was used and distributed to one hundred and thirty five homes within the area. This was aimed at forty-five persons whom had logged anti social behaviour incident complaints with the Police in the previous six-month period. A further ninety were distributed to their immediate neighbours. The response return rate was relatively low at 26.7%. The actual quality of a number of returns was questionable in content.

## **Ongoing Problem Orientated Approach**

Partnership working in Tanterton continues to flourish and new partners have been identified. This project has been strong in identifying further stand-alone projects linked to problems in the area. A new partnership was formed with Lancashire County Council Fire and Rescue Service. This partnership involves a combined fire and crime prevention advice service. Residents in Tanterton have been visited by both services and fire and crime prevention advice has been offered as a package. The Fire Service has also provided free smoke alarms. Supported by North British Housing residents have also been offered the opportunity for property repairs to complement the service offered.

Other project work in the area is ongoing and is concentrating on youth diversion through sport and educational packages designed to reach younger children.

## **APPENDICES**

1. Letter of Appreciation - North British Housing
2. Trend Line Graph - BVPI/Damage Central Tanterton
3. Draft Project Proposal - LANPAC
4. Magazine Article - Situation Crime Prevention
5. Graph - Intag - Reported Crimes
6. Letter of Appreciation - Intag
7. Graph - Pool House Primary School
8. Graph - Tanterton - Anti-Social Behaviour

'',Jr ref:

Our ref:

H S O/OT

**NBH**

Date:

1 March, 2002

Sgt. A Hobson  
Lancashire Constabulary  
Lea Division  
Blackpool Road  
Preston

Ingot Area Office  
58-59 Marfield Close,  
Ingot,  
Preston PR2 7AL  
Tel: 0845 604 4446  
Fax: 01772 760920  
[www.nbh.co.uk](http://www.nbh.co.uk)

Dear Sgt. Hobson

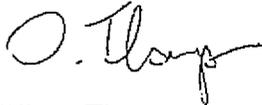
**Operation Debar, Sept. to October 2001, Ingot area**

I am writing concerning the above operation in the Ingot and Tanterton areas. NBH own and manage 113 flats at the centre of the Tanterton estate and these properties regularly suffer from problems related to youth gangs, criminal damage and petty vandalism.

I can confirm that during the operation vandalism was down and turnover of tenants at the flats dropped during the period. NBH would welcome further operations of this nature in the area.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

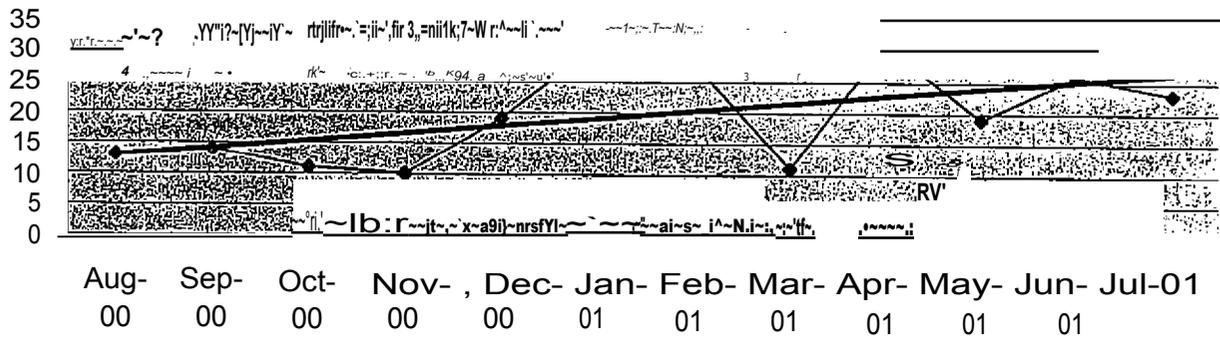
Yours Sincerely



Oliver Thompson  
Housing Services Officer

	Aug-00	Sep-00	Oct-00	Nov-00	Dec-00	Jan-01	Feb-01	Mar-01	Apr-01	May-01	Jun-01	Jul-01
TOTAL DAMAGE R3 AREA	8	10	8	3	12	24	19	7	23	9	16	21
SVPI CRIMES	5	4	3	7	7	7	9	4	B	10	10	2
BVPI AND DAMAGE CRIMES AI	13	14	11	10	19	31	28	11	31	19	26	23

BVPI AND DAMAGE AREA R3, INGOL.



THE LANCASHIRE PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CRIME-

COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Project Manager: PC 2527 ALLEN

Ext: 5429

Project Title: Operation Debar (Security Shutters):

Total Cost: £2347.00

Amount of funding required from LANPAC: £1397.00  
(Must not exceed £5,000)

Identification of Problem:

The INTAG (Ingol and Tanterton Action Group) community based drop in centre is situated at 77, Village Green Lane, Ingol, Preston. The building is situated in the centre of a housing association estate and is a registered charitable organisation.

Since October 1999 there has been 20 crimes reported linked to the premises.

A breakdown of these offences is attached (see appendix 1). During 2001 to date there have been 15- recorded offences linked to the premises. The majority of these offences involve acts of criminal damage directed at the unprotected windows at the centre. All of these offences remain at this stage undetected. The whole incident location where the premises is situated has during 2001 to date had 1229 reported incidents made to the police covering all incidents placing a demand on police resources.

Details of the project:

The project forms part of Operation Debar which is a Pop's initiative managed from Lea Police Station which commenced in mid August 2001. The initiative is supported by Divisional Management and Forms the basis to encourage a Partnership's Multi Agency Problem Solving approach to improving issues in the Ingol and Tanterton area's linked to crime and disorder.

The INTAG centre is central to the efforts of the local community to deal with local issues and as a consequence of these repeat offences staff and members of the local community are being made to feel vulnerable and this is affecting confidence in the area.

Summary of Project Aims:

The project aims are to take preventative measures to reduce offences of criminal damage and burglary occurring at the premises. The project also aims to increase public satisfaction and confidence in the area that has recently been affected by negative publicity both locally and within elements of the media.

The crime prevention measures proposed have been subject to due consideration by all the relevant agencies and the decision to increase security has been balanced against the requirements of the community based facility.

Relevance of project to priorities of Division/Departmental Policing Plans:

The Central Division Policing Plan Objectives for 2001/2002 have adopted a generic approach to work in partnership under the auspices of the Community Safety Strategy. As part of these objectives this project can impact on reducing crime, improving quality of life issues, securing and maintaining public confidence and improving the quality of service delivered to the public.

The area concerned also will form part of a focus within the confines of the Sector Policing Plan.

Relevance of project to local Community Safety Partnership identified priorities:

Under the Preston Community Safety Partnership strategy (Year 3) one of the stated aims is to tackle youth issues and to reduce associated crime and disorder. In terms of this proposal the majority the persons responsible for committing these offences are believed to be local youths. This project initiative therefore supports the strategy by attempting to reduce incidents involving young people.

Proposed start date:

Subject to the success of this proposal the measures due to take place will be implemented during October 2001.

Proposed duration:

The proposed work will be conducted by a firm selected by the INTAG Co-Ordinator. Further details at this stage have not been finalised.

Cost breakdown of project.

Total Cost of Project: £ 2347.00 (estimate attached see appendix 2).

This total price includes 8% matched funding from the company concerned:

Avalon Doors & Awnings Limited

Avalon House

58, Black Croft

Clayton-le-Woods

Chorley

Preston

PR2 7UT.

This estimate is to supply and fit 4 extruded aluminium roller shutters to the exterior of the front, rear and left hand side windows of the premises. The shutters will operate using a single-phase electric operation with internal switches and be powder coated with a white coloured finish.

The contribution from the firm has been included as discount off the total estimated price. In terms of match funding this equates to £204.08.

Further Matched Funding:

The Ingot and Tanterton Action Group themselves have pledged to offer £500.00 for matched funding for the project and have confirmed this in writing (see appendix 3).

The North British Housing Association (Ingot Area Office) has further pledged the sum of £250.00 and has also confirmed this in writing (see appendix 4).

The shortfall therefore in respect of this project is £1397.00 as previously stated which is subject to this bid.

How project will be evaluated:

Crime Analysis research will be conducted at a later stage to seek comparisons regarding offences directed at the premises both before and after the implementation of the security shutters. The Central Division Architectural Liaison Officer has previously made a recommendation for the installation of such following a previous visit.

Feedback will be encouraged from representatives of the agencies/staff concerned following the implementation of the measures (subject to approval).

The media (including LANPAC representatives) will be encouraged to report on the project subject to consent of the relevant parties.

Implications (problems anticipated):

Meeting the costings of the project is key to the success of the scheme. Should there be any shortfall in terms of funding then the agencies concerned would have to review the proposals. They would then have to possibly consider reducing the extent of the coverage of the proposed protected areas.

Potential problems could be later encountered following the installation of the shutters in terms of graffiti etc. This problem has been considered and may be addressed at a later date by staff in line with the Community Arts based Project Team at Preston Borough Council. '

Resourcing Requirements:

In terms of police resources the project manager together with his direct sector supervision (PS 1 187 Hobson) will maintain links with the relevant agencies during the course of the project. No police overtime expenditure is anticipated.

Links with the Lancashire Constabulary Community Safety LANPAC Department will be maintained throughout the course of the project.

Exit Strategy:

INTAG in conjunction with the North British Housing Association will maintain the ownership of the project following the implementation of the crime prevention measures.

Other Agency Involvement:

As previously outlined.

Additional funding obtained (Match funding, promise of funds, etc).

As previously outlined.

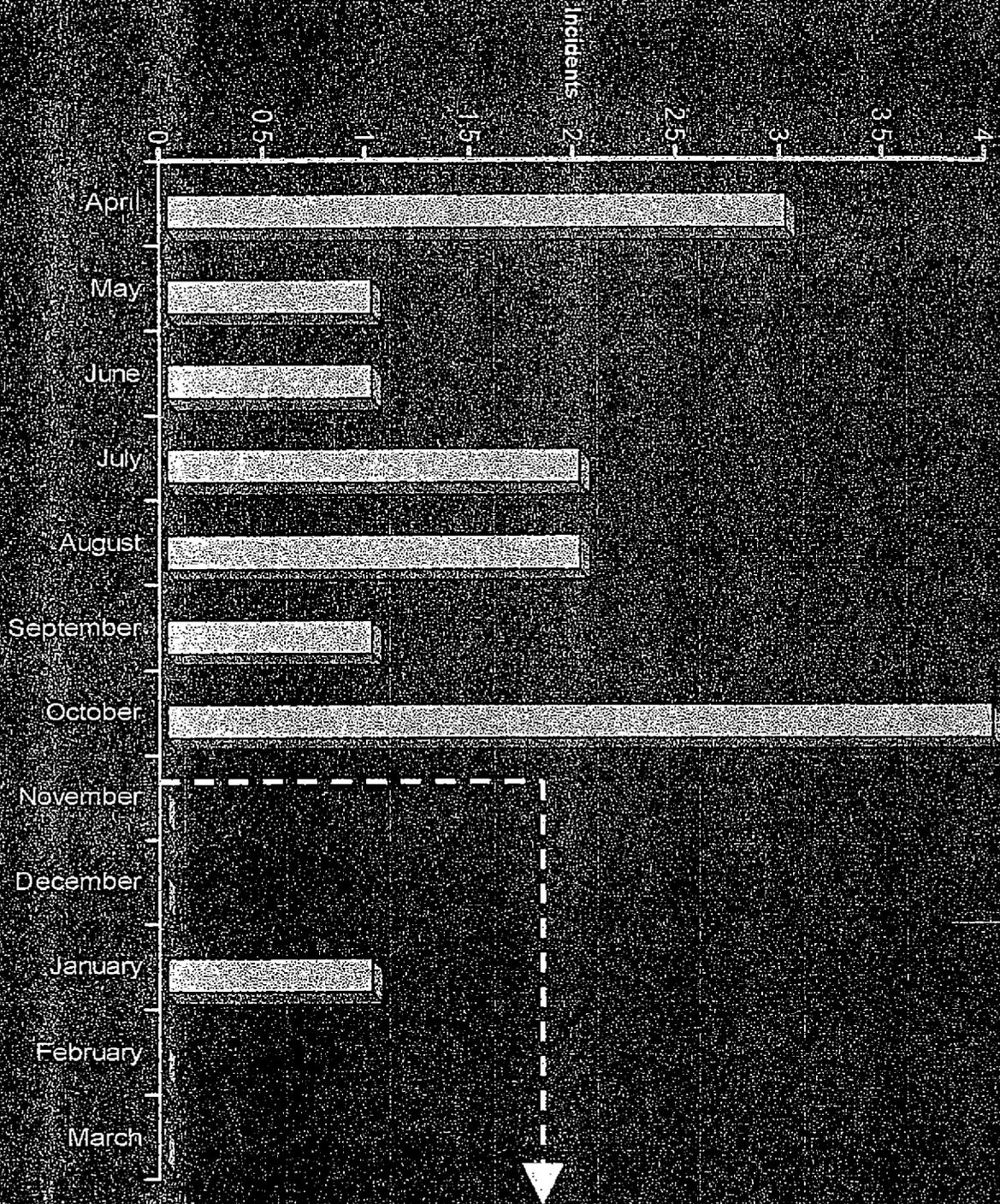
Any other information.

In terms of this bid a significant amount of matched funding has been pledged to cover the total amount required. The total amount of matched funding pledged equates to almost half the amount of the total proposed bid.

I apply for funding as detailed in this proposal and if successful I agree to provide accurate evaluation for LANPAC Annual Report.

If this bid is successful a cheque will be forwarded to you in October. Please indicate below who the cheque should be made payable to:

# INTAG - Reported Crime - April 2001 - March 2002





## INGOL AND TANTERTON ACTION GROUP

77 Village Green Lane, Ingol, Preston, Lancashire PR2 7DR Telephone (01772) 760607 Fax (01772) 760607  
Website: [www.intag.org.uk](http://www.intag.org.uk) • E-mail: [denise@intag-org.uk](mailto:denise@intag-org.uk) [ali@intag.org.uk](mailto:ali@intag.org.uk)

25 February, 2002

Sgt. Andrew Hobson,  
Lea Police Station,  
785 Blackpool Road,  
Lea, Preston,  
PR1 5QQ-

Dear Andy:

I am writing in response to our conversation about INTAG providing some feedback from our multi-agency partnership working between August and November 2001.

Due to the high incidence of juvenile nuisance and anti-social behaviour, voluntary and statutory agencies were brought together with the aim of bringing a multi-perspective approach to solving these issues. I would like to put on record my extreme thanks for your co-operation throughout. I would also like to highlight the following points, which I believe contributed to a reduction in juvenile nuisance and anti-social behaviour.

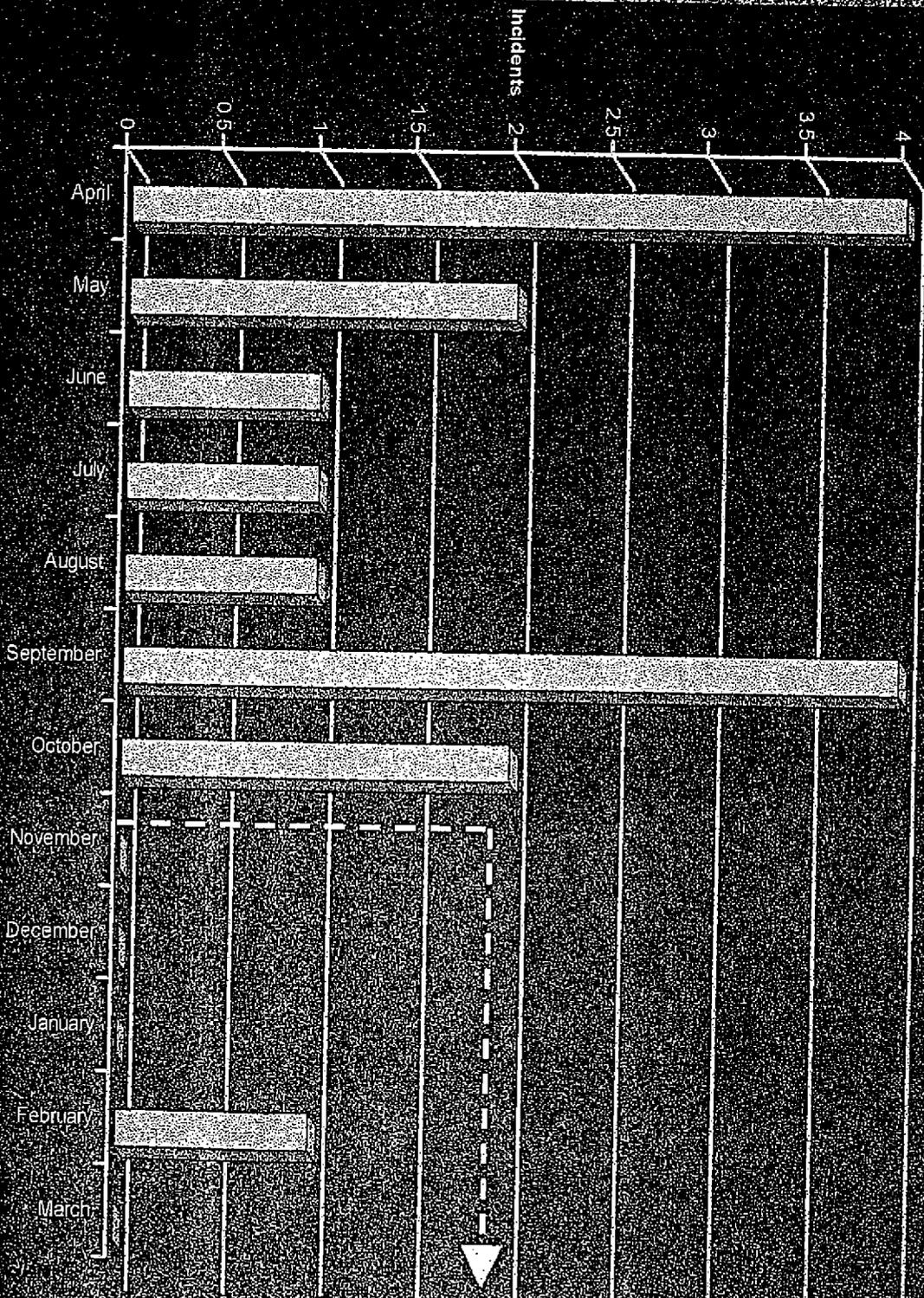
1. Fostered better working relationships, co-ordination and communication between INTAG, the Police and other voluntary and statutory agencies, and particularly Lancashire Evening Post.
2. The successful and much needed recruitment of our local beat officers
3. Building more trusting relationships with young people with the understanding of INTAG's role within the local community
4. Organised trips throughout the autumn period, which were attended by our local beat officers, was a great exercise in bringing together communities, young people and various organizations. This I believe also resulted in a greater understanding of the roles and responsibilities of individuals who serve the community
5. A successful bid to LAMPAC to matched funding for security shutters to be installed at the INTAG Centre. This has been instrumental in ensuring the safety and concerns of our dedicated team of staff and volunteers. It has also saved an extreme amount of time and resources, which was taken up by having to report to police, waiting for premises to be boarded up, reporting incident to North British Housing and having to wait for new windows to be installed which often meant we were in darkness for days.
6. A greater awareness by the young people in the positive results this work has had on the community. Some young people have made reference to how much quieter the area is. They also feel more positive and optimistic that something is happening, at last. Maybe this time they believe that they really are being listened to.

Registered Charity No. 1049797

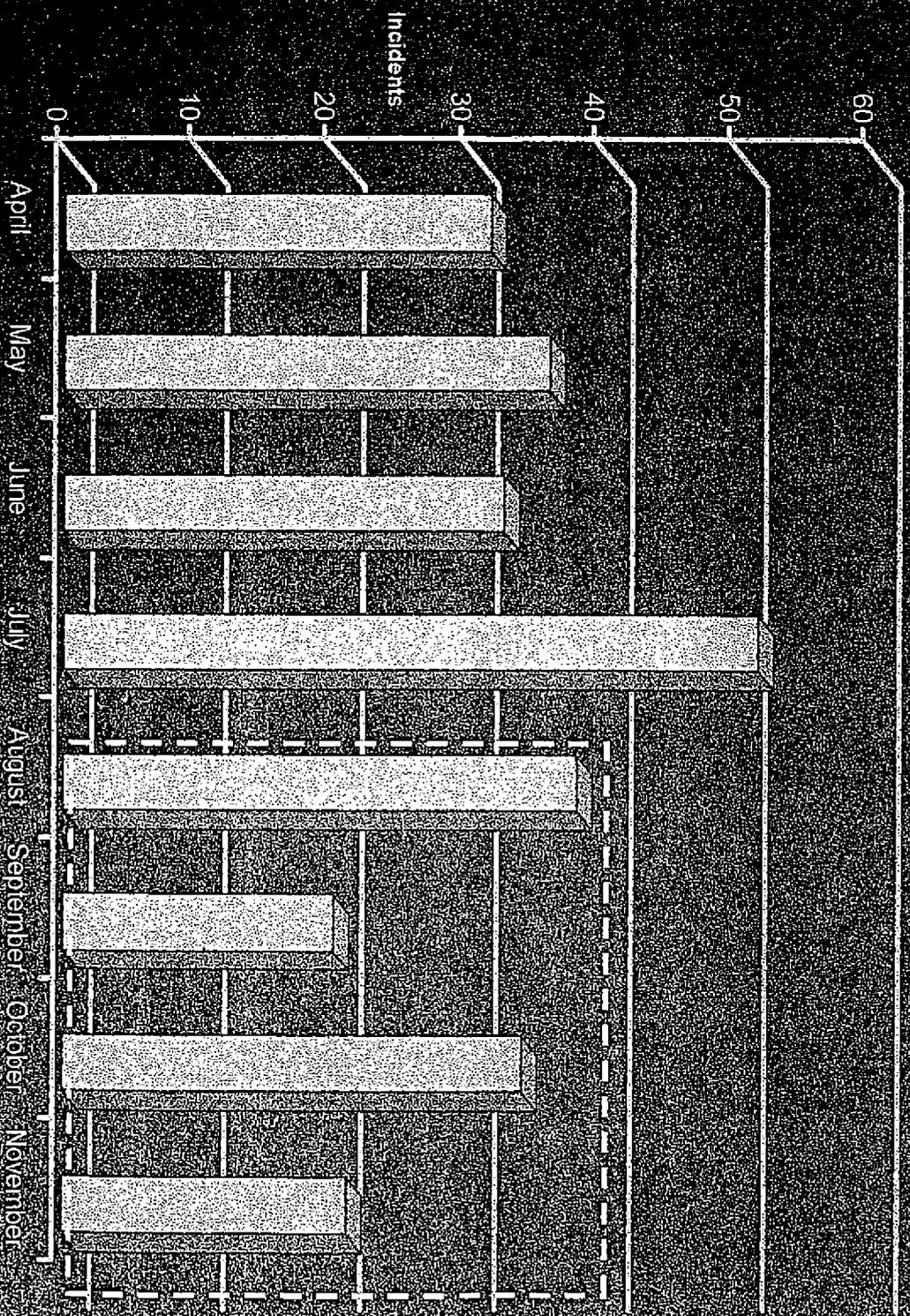
Supported by Churches and Schools in the Neighbourhood and by the District Youth and Community Service  
Chairman: David Gaukroger Vice-Chairman: Bill Bird • Treasurer: Bert Shepherd • Secretary: Dorothy Itoskell  
Centre Co-ordinator: Denise Hartley Volunteer Training Coordinator: Alison Barkley

# Pool House Primary School - Reported Crime

April 2001 - March 2002



# Tanterton - Disorder & Anti-Social Behaviour



# Lancashire Constabulary

**Paul R Stephenson QPM**      Assistant Chief Constable (Designate)

Lancashire Constabulary Police Headquarters    PO Box 77 Hutton Preston  
Telephone: 01772 618206



29 May 2002

Home Office Policing and Reducing Crime Unit  
Clive House (Room 415)  
Petty France  
London  
SW1H 9HD

## **The Tilley Award 2002**

As Chair of the force 'Problem Oriented Policing Steering Group' I am delighted to forward Lancashire Constabulary's nominations for the Tilley Award 2002.

There has been an enthusiastic response from the force's divisions/departments in respect of this Award, therefore the Lancashire Constabulary is submitting a total of 19 applications, all of which have been quality assured.

I personally endorse each individual entry and commend each one on its own particular merit. Many of the nominations were used as case studies in the Constabulary's own Annual 'POP' Conference that took place in May of this year.

# Lancashire Constabulary

**Paul R Stephenson QPM**      Assistant Chief Constable (Designate)

Lancashire Constabulary Police Headquarters    PO Box 77 Hutton Preston  
Telephone: 01772 618206



29 May 2002

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# Lancashire Constabulary

## **OPERATION DEBAR**

### *Crime & Disorder Reduction Category*

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# Operation Debar Summary

This operation was implemented to address anti-social behaviour and public confidence in the Tanterton area of Preston, Lancashire.

The area of Tanterton that the Operation addressed consists of 1,200 dwellings of mixed tenure of single person and family units as well as a small number of shops and business premises. Historically this area has been problematic due to spates of anti-social behaviour affecting the quality of life of residents, schools and local business premises within the area. Towards the end of Summer 2001 the problems in the area were steadily increasing.

A public meeting took place engaging the local community and other statutory and voluntary organisations to enable the problems within the area to be discussed and addressed. Data analysis, shared information and the local knowledge obtained made it possible to identify the core problems of the area. In addition a hard core of local youths, responsible for the greater proportion of the problems within the area were identified.

Following this initial meeting a further consultation took place with those key personnel who were in a position to make an impact upon the areas affected.

Two sites were identified as being subjected to continuous victimisation, Intag Community Centre and the Pool House Primary School. A hard core of twenty youths were identified as being responsible for the bulk of minor crimes taking place within both of these premises and the offensive and disorderly behaviour that was problematic to those person(s) using the premises. The main locations where the youths gathered were identified and a correlation between the sites and the offences was made. Representatives from Intag reported that the youths perceived both the premises as being Authoritarian due to the links that the premises had with the statutory agencies. i.e. Social Services, Police etc. In addition the lack of formal co-ordination between all of the key agencies in the area was also seen as hindering the problem solving responses.

Multiple responses were adopted to address these problems. Sixteen of the top twenty identified youths were arrested thirty-six times. The Intag building was subject to a LANPAC (Charity) bid and situational crime prevention measures put in place in the form of electronic window shutters. In addition environmental changes were made, these included the removal of low-level brick walls previously used as seating and as a source of ammunition. Other responses included a supervised trip for the young people to Staffordshire involving community Beat Managers and Intag staff. A high visibility Policing operation was also conducted using external funding.

Crime reduction was evident at both Intag and Pool House Primary School, eliminating the problem. Substantial reductions were also achieved in respect of nuisance and disorder during the peak summer months. Housing lettings in the area were also maintained and seventeen partners identified. Staff at Intag have reported a change in attitude and behaviour with some of the local youth. This work reflected the 'Take-Hold-Change-Exit' model.