

Police Issues update from Sian Taylor (Community Safety Partnership Manager)

1) Concern that the Owl Watch initiative was not as effective as the Farm Watch scheme that had previously been in place, and that the well regarded text message service alerting residents of suspicious vehicles in their area was no longer operational.

OWL- the OWL scheme has been having a few teething problems. The concerns have been passed to NWP and we have been reassured that timely messages will start going out shortly. I will review this in a couple of months and would be happy to receive feedback from Members.

2) Councillor Bill Cowie, DCC's representative on the Police Authority/Police and Crime Panel and a former police officer, suggested the reintroduction of a previously used method whereby vehicles would be left with a card notifying the owner of any infringements, and requiring the owner to contact the police. This was said to have been a very effective way of identifying other, less conspicuous crimes/legal infringements.

The Police have a VCRAT project in operation where officers alert the DVLA about insecure vehicles and vehicles with property on display. This is done by officers by filling in a VCRAT form and then the DVLA send a letter to the registered owner of the car.

3) Problems of anti-social behaviour related to alcohol consumption in the area around Rhyl Town Hall exacerbated by reduced police presence and now a significant issue. The Committee asked for measures to be taken to address this problem, possibly through the implementation of an alcohol-free zone in the area or from more regular patrols.

The CSP have invested some Substance Misuse funding in outreach work to try and engage the hardcore street drinkers in Rhyl. The Chief Inspector of Rhyl Jo Ramaseur- Williams is in contact with us and has been involved in the outreach project as we think the best way to try and solve the problem is to encourage the drinkers into services. The Dewi Sant Centre in Rhyl is providing the outreach work and will aim to encourage the drinkers to access services.

4) Concern about people drinking outside pubs on Bodfor Street from as early as 9am creating an unpleasant environment for residents and visitors.

I have raised the issue of the Public House on Bodfor Street with the Licensing Manager in the Police and he will look into the complaint.

5) Continuing problem of lead thefts from church and school roofs. Greater efforts need to be made to identify where the market driving these thefts is coming from in order to get to the root of the problem.

The Police are currently working with and inspecting scrap metal yards to combat this rising crime. They are also working with other forces, just in case the thieves are trying to sell the metal elsewhere. I will provide an update as and when I receive one about this issue.