
KATESGROVE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

Date & time of meeting: 20th November 2008, 7pm.

Location: New Christ Church Primary School, Milman Road, Reading, RG2 0AY

Chair: Kath Langdale (KLA).

Present: Mark Cutler (MCU), Louise Keane (LKE), Omendra Gurung (OGU), Nanda Gurung (NBG), Narjang Gurung(NGU), Peter Kennedy (PKE), PCSO Rod Holmes (PRH), Mary McManus (MMC), PS Pete Moody (SPM), James Schlackman (JSC), Carol Shepherd (CSH), Maria Soulsby (MSO), Leon Spence (LSP), Cllr. Richard Stainthorp (RST), Siobhan Wheston (SWH) , Insp. Kevin Sinfield (IKS), Cllr. Warren Swaine (WSW).

MINUTES

1. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes from the October meeting agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

WSW reported on progress on the graffiti boards suggestion. He is investigating possible sources of funding, including the Safer Reading Forum (SRF). Suggest that local youth be involved in drafting the bid.

IKS brought a copy of the NAG Constitution for new members to sign.

WSW reported that the new website is now up and running at www.katesgrovenag.info – all ideas for content are welcome.

IKS committed to supplying monthly police updates for the website.

MSO circulated a draft flyer promoting the NAG to be posted in the local community to encourage participation.

JSC has sent the remaining NAG and EVA dates for this year, with dates for next year to follow. PSCOs and wardens are to distribute minutes to those without email.

IKS reported that vehicle crime leaflets are to be supplied to the Children's Centre and two local primary schools.

MSO introduced a school governor at the meeting.

3. PROBLEM SOLVING – VEHICLE CRIME

IKS distributed an auto crime classification map for Katesgrove to all members, covering 6 months, along with neighbourhood crime statistics covering Apr – Oct 08. He agreed that auto crime is a big problem within South Reading.

The question of whether the NAGs other priorities are still being looked at was raised

SPM confirmed that the Neighbourhood Police Team are committed to taking action against drug dealers.

IKS noted that the NAG website will now have updated information on a range of police action in the area, including the ongoing drug activity.

IKS re-introduced the Neighbourhood Priority Profile (NPP) and stressed that NAG will be working according to that document, which will be updated by the police team for each meeting. Each section of the NPP was explained for newcomers.

RST identified several major concentrations of auto crime on the supplied map.

IKS reported that Police have a list of 6-12 prolific car crime offenders who are responsible for the majority of offences, and identified the principle at-risk groups to be residents, industrial estate users, and stadium users.

MSO queried the general time of day of offences, IKS stressed it was 24-7 and that no particular time of the day was a 'hotspot'.

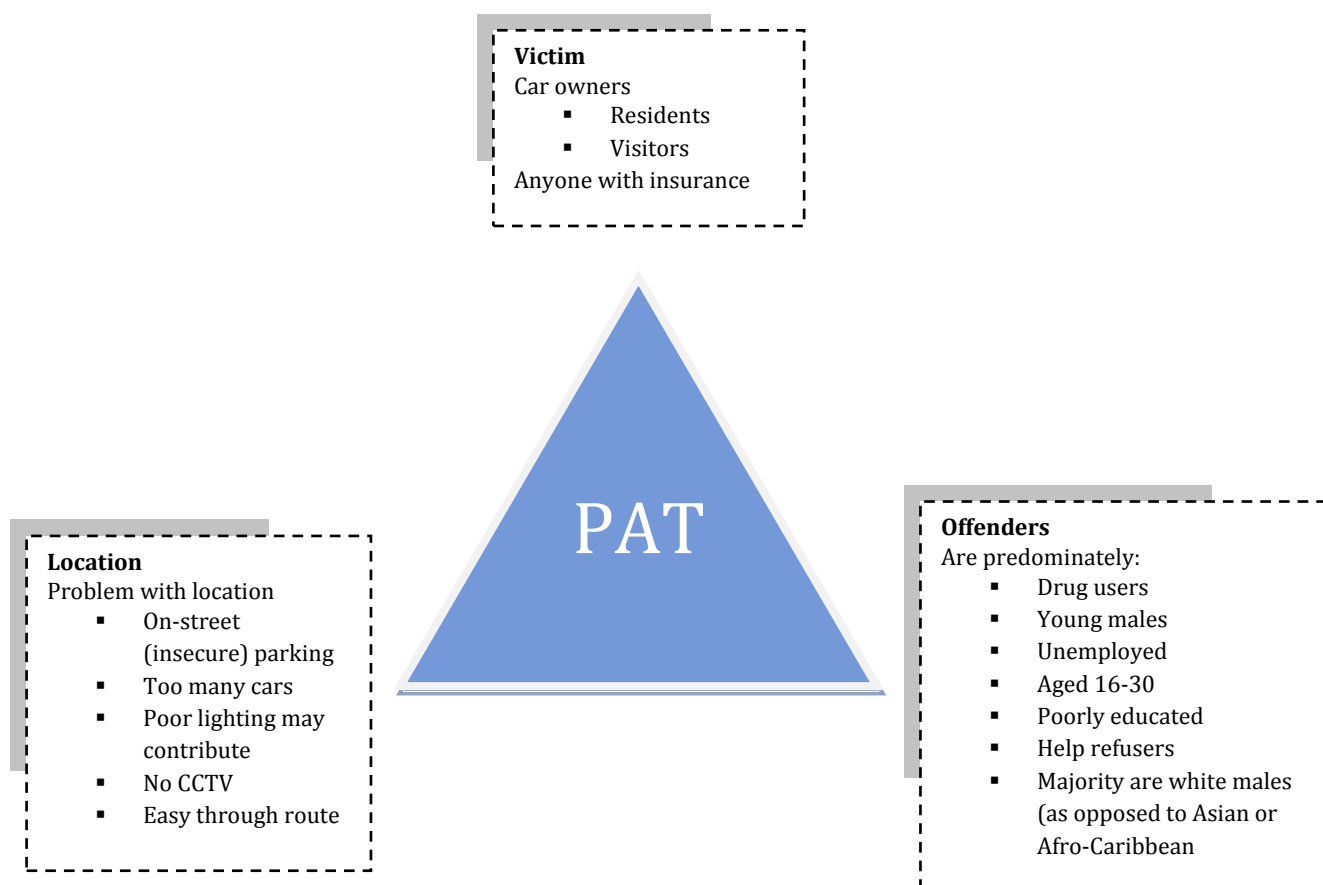
IKS reported that there was an average of 4-5 offences per day in the last week, a similar figure to that in other NAG areas. Policing operations are ongoing in stadium area. The majority of offences are down to drug users stealing from vehicles to fund a drug habit. Focus on burglaries within the Reading Local Police Area has resulted in a shift from burglaries to theft from vehicles.

PRH noted that Elgar Road offences are at their highest around Friday-Saturday during the night and early hours of the morning.

IKS asked the NAG if a full breakdown of dates and times-of-day of offences was required by the NAG. The consensus was that this could wait for now.

IKS noted that the sale of stolen items from vehicles was generally done from private properties than from shops, and asked for vigilance from the community.

IKS drafted a Problem Analysis Triangle for vehicle crime:



The following options for action were discussed:

- Tri-signs on lampposts to warn of car crime in the area
- Police tasking
- Police Operations in the area
- EVA in car crime area to look at cars specifically - **13th December**
- In-person education of public over car crime risks – an option to do this in Morrisons car park on a Saturday or Sunday was discussed.

RST suggested that he approach RBC traffic enforcement to task traffic wardens to report at-risk vehicles, reporting back to PRH.

4. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

New Christ Church School, 7pm, date to be advised.

ACTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. TVP to begin deployment of tri-signs in vehicle crime hotspot areas
2. TVP to continue Operations in the area.
3. The NAG will perform a Vehicle Visual Audit (VVA) on the 13th December at 11am, starting in the car park of the Hook & Tackle