

Whitehouse Gardens, Wingfield Close and Wingfield Gardens PIER Chart
September 2008



A meeting to discuss the on going problems arising from complaints of anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, and alleged substance misuse in the Whitehouse Gardens, Wingfield Close and Wingfield Gardens was called by Severnside Housing Association. The meeting was held on 16th September 2008 and included representation from Severnside Housing, West Mercia Constabulary, Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council, Shropshire County Council and local and county Councillor. The aim was to devise a long term strategy of education, understanding and if necessary enforcement action to remedy the problem and formulate an action plan identifying solutions to resolve and stabilise the area.

Anti-social behaviour statistics from West Mercia Constabulary identify that Rowdy/Nuisance and Inconsiderate Behaviour is the highest reported type of anti-social behaviour in the area. Wingfield Gardens has the highest amount of reported anti-social behaviour on Mondays and the peak time is 20:00 hours. Wingfield Close has the highest amount of reported anti-social behaviour on Fridays and the peak time is 17:00 hours. Whitehouse Gardens has the highest amount of reported anti-social behaviour on Sundays and the peak times are 16:00, 18:00 and 19:00 hours.

Crime statistics from West Mercia Constabulary identify that Criminal Damage is the highest reported type of crime in the area – this includes to dwellings and vehicles. Wingfield Gardens has the highest amount of reported crime on Sundays and the peak time is 22:00 hours. Wingfield Close has the highest amount of reported crime on Fridays and the peak time is 20:00 hours. Whitehouse Gardens has the highest amount of reported crime on Sundays and the peak time is 00:00 hours.

Discussions at the meeting, based on practitioner/councillor knowledge, identified a number of issues. These included youths playing football and hitting cars/property; people urinating in residents gardens; evidence of substance misuse; graffiti; litter; congregating youth; and damage to gardens and property. Whilst some residents will share information informally they will not make official statements or complaints as they are fearful of reprisal attacks. Indeed some residents are so fearful they will not leave their home to go on holiday.

A number of actions were identified in the meeting, which are outlined in the following PIER action plan. In addition there are suggestions that the group may like to consider implementing, which potentially could be discussed at the review meeting.

Baseline information on reported crime and anti-social behaviour can be drawn from the statistics from West Mercia Constabulary, which cover the period of 1st April 2008 to 31st July 2008. Any interventions implemented by the group, as identified in the PIER action plan, should be measured and monitored against these to evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions.

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Priority	ASB Problem	Interventions	Partners and Lead	Short, medium, long-term	Status/ Monitoring	Resources
Prevention	Some residents using hedging for cover to use drugs at Whitehouse Gardens	Investigate removing hedging and if feasible action removal	SABC – Gillian Burvill and Severnside Housing – Leslie Freeman	Investigate = Short-term. Removal = medium-term	Report back at review meeting, planned for...	???
	Youths with nothing to do	Investigate youth diversion activities, linking with the Youth Service	West Mercia Constabulary – PC Brenton, PS Shephard and Cllr Mosley	Investigate = Short-term.	Report back at review meeting, planned for...	Funding available through Neighbourhood Forum
	Underage drinking	Contact Trading Standards re supply	West Mercia Constabulary – PS Shephard and Cllr Mosley	Short-term	Report back at review meeting, planned for...	Cllr Mosley will investigate with SCC
	Lack of community facilities	Investigate potential of a community facility provided by Severnside Housing, looking to involve the Youth Service where appropriate	Severnside Housing - Leslie Freeman	Investigate = short-term. Provision = medium to long-term		Use of re-opened Community Centre
Intelligence	Anti-social behaviour,	Joint visits to address	West Mercia Constabulary	Short-term		Practitioner time

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	including litter, drug dealing etc. committed by tenants	problems and identify perpetrators	– PC Brenton and Severnside Housing Association			
	Anti-social behaviour and crime. Groups congregating and intimidating residents and staff	Request mobile CCTV	West Mercia Constabulary – PS Shephard	Request = Short-term	PC Shephard to put in request to next CDRP meeting (approx in three weeks). Report back at review meeting, planned for...	Mobile CCTV through CDRP
	Anti-social behaviour and crime.	Continue frequent patrols, including post 10pm.	West Mercia Constabulary	Ongoing		Practitioner time
Enforcement	Anti-social behaviour, including litter and drug dealing, etc. committed by tenants	Joint visits to address problems and identify perpetrators	West Mercia Constabulary – PC Brenton and Severnside Housing Association	Short-term		Practitioner time
Reassurance	Litter on estate	Litter pick to involve community as much as possible Further requests for additional bins and “hot spot” picks	SABC – Gillian Burvill, Severnside Housing – Leslie Freeman and Cllr Mosley	Short-term	Provisional date of 7 th November booked	Staff time

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	Anti-social behaviour and crime. Groups congregating and intimidating residents and staff	Request mobile CCTV	West Mercia Constabulary – PS Shephard	Request = Short-term	PC Shephard to put in request to next CDRP meeting (approx in three weeks). Need to report back where situated and what difference it has made.	Mobile CCTV through CDRP
	Local residents disempowered/fearful /angry	Support for reformation of community/residents group through Neighbourhood Forum/STAG	Cllrs Mosley and Price and Severnside Housing – Marianne Grant – including personal visits to distribute leaflets	Investigate = Short-term. Set-up = Medium-term	Report back at review meeting, planned for...	Leaflets prepared through Neighbourhood Forum

Suggested actions for consideration

- If underage drinking is linked to proxy sale (rather than shops supplying to underage drinkers) – identify underage drinkers and utilise police powers to confiscate the alcohol.
- Through joint visits by police and Severnside, identify persistent anti-social behaviour perpetrators and issue warning letters, either in partnership or through Police Collector system and Severnside’s warning letters policy.
- If warning letters are unsuccessful at stopping the anti-social behaviour, joint action by Severnside Housing and Police to progress to further anti-social behaviour tools and powers, such as Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions, Anti-Social Behaviour Orders or criminal sanctions, where applicable.
- Support for residents to identify problems, such as door to door joint calls (so that no resident is singled out) and issuing diary sheets, etc.

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- Targeting police patrols at 'hotspot' days and times.
- Promoting the Crimestoppers number for anonymous reporting.

These actions were not identified at the meeting, but considered to be essential to provide a balanced and tough response to clear, ongoing problems.

Date	Update/amendment
24.09.08	Draft PIER sent to members of the group by Kelly Oldham
25.09.08	PIER amended to include additions proposed by Cllr Mosley and circulated to group
26.09.08	Amended PIER circulated to group and requests for alterations to be with Kelly Oldham by 08.10.08
20.10.08	PIER finalised and sent to group. Suggested actions for consideration to be discussed during next meeting