



KNOWSLEY BUSINESS WATCH MANAGER'S ANNUAL REVIEW 2007

It gives me considerable satisfaction to report that, for the second year running, reported crime on the Borough's Business Parks continues to reduce. Geoff and I would love to be able to take all the credit for this but we know that the reasons for this success are many and varied. In this day and age many people and organisations have a part to play in reducing crime and Knowsley Business Watch is pleased to be included in that number. As reported last month the police have run a number of successful initiatives in the area and although each individual one is intended to target a specific problem (eg. Vehicle crime) their activity has a knock on effect by putting criminals on their guard. Additionally the good work done by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) and various departments of the Council is having a significant impact on crime in general but, as I never get tired of repeating, the work done by Business Watch members in sharing information about suspicious people and vehicles travelling around the area, and other related matters, continues to make life increasingly difficult for criminals. We are finding that once a vehicle has been circulated and the occupants subsequently challenged they rarely come back again in the same vehicle. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed, long may it continue.

The figures

All Crime The total number of reported crimes for December was 30. When we consider that there were 121 crimes reported in February 2006 this has to be good news.

Burglary For the first time since 2004 the annual total for burglary has shown a reduction. From a total of 162 in 2006 this years' figure is 104. Although the monthly figures have been improving since January 2006 this is the first time the yearly total has gone down. As mentioned in the December review the total for the last months is only 12 offences which is the best four months since Business Watch was formed.

Vehicle crime continues to be something of a problem having looked good for most of the year 20 offences were recorded in December. This is largely due to a specific problem in an area of the Business Park which is receiving close attention

from the police. An early resolution is anticipated after which a continuing decline in numbers is anticipated in line with successes in other parts of the borough.

Despite these successes we are not resting on our laurels and are currently looking at ways in which we could enhance the service offered to our members. Watch for developments during the coming months. In the meantime please try and keep a weather eye out for suspicious activity

Regards

Howard