

Report for Looe Town Council, 4th April 2016

Please accept my apologies for not be able to attend your meeting this evening but I hope this report will be informative.

Crime figures for the month of March 2016

Crime Type	March
Assaults	12
Sexual offences	0
Burglary dwelling	2
Burglary non dwelling	0
Vehicle offences	2
Shoplifting	1
Other theft	1
Criminal Damage	4
Public Order	1
Drugs offences	1
Other crime	0
Total	24

During January the police attended 144 incident logs, 29 of which were anti social behaviour reports. In the last year we have attended 1349 incidents a fall of 10.2% compared to last year and 210 of these were recorded as antisocial behaviour.

In March, the assaults recorded were primarily domestic abuse with just three linked to the Evening and Night Time Economy, two bloody noses from the Boscarn and a serious injury assault on The Quay where a 36 year old man from Bodmin was assaulted by another male who accused him of chatting up his girlfriend in the Boscarn. Enquiries relating to this crime are still ongoing.

Yearend figures

In the last year Looe has recorded 422 crimes, a slight rise of 2.9% (12 crimes) on the year before. This is the second lowest annual total recorded in the last 5 years, beaten only by last year. Taking the long view, the average annual figure for Looe is to have 454 crimes a year, so this is well under that number and should be a source of reassurance for you.

To break down that 422

	2015/16	2014/15	% difference
Violence with injury	99	64	54.7%
Violence without injury	60	58	3.4%
Rape	1	4	-75%
Other sexual offences	7	8	-12.5%
Robbery	2	1	100%
Burglary dwelling	4	15	-73.3%
Burglary non-dwelling	12	17	-29.4%
Vehicle offences	15	17	-11.8%
Shoplifting	13	27	-51.9%
Other theft	59	70	-15.7%
Criminal damage	101	87	16.1%

Public order offences	20	13	53.8%
Possession of Weapons	3	4	-25%
Drug trafficking	15	2	650%
Possession of drugs	10	13	-23.1%
Other offences	1	9	-88.9%
TOTAL	422	410	2.9%

The crimes showing a rise are assaults, robbery, criminal damage, public order and drug trafficking.

- The drug trafficking was primarily the undercover Operation Cactus at the end of 2015 leading to lengthy prison sentences for several local Class A drug dealers.
- The public order offences are a mixture of drunk and disorderly offences and rude and abusive behaviour generally linked to the Evening and Night Time Economy and are evidence that the police are out there on Friday and Saturday nights in the town
- Criminal damage is a volume crime but this year we did have the spree of offences in the Millpool car park and the arson crimes subject of previous updates which have ceased since the man responsible has been rehomed and still awaits sentencing at Court
- Assaults in the town are rising and this is a cause for concern. There has been a rise in reported domestic abuse which is a positive indicator and includes more male victims and same sex relationship victims coming forward although these numbers are still few.
- The numbers of offences linked to the Evening and Night Time Economy has remained fairly level compared to last year and accounts this year for 48 crimes (30% of assaults), 5 of which were grievous bodily harm offences.

There has been some concern expressed in recent weeks regarding the levels of staffing in Looe on Friday and Saturday nights. Response numbers have been rather low in recent weeks because of staff sickness and training courses for probationary officers. Two of the five response sections have been particularly hit with this issue leaving a Sergeant and two Constables for the whole of the SE Cornwall on nights which is clearly not enough. Last weekend there were five staff patrolling in Looe in the early hours and while there was some noise as people left the town in the early hours there were no assaults. The variations between the sections remain and we are receiving no replacements for vacancies until the new recruitment drive produces its first probationary constables in December 2016. It's going to be a very challenging summer for policing this year.

It is worth noting that a persistent complainer in the town reported a large fight, 15-20 people involved outside the Boscarn at the weekend, but officers patrolling at the time confirmed this was not occurring. This was a malicious complaint.

Regards
Sgt Jo Williams