

POLICE:NOW
INFLUENCE FOR GENERATIONS



Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

Andrew Grant, neighbourhood police officer
Thames Valley Police

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Case study | Police Constable Andrew Grant, Thames Valley Police, National Graduate Leadership Programme

The problem: "I was posted to high-demand location in my force area, with high levels of anti-social behaviour - driven by large groups gathering in specific areas – and high levels of fear of crime among the community, resulting from poor lighting, a lack of CCTV presence, footpath design flaws and anti-social behaviour."

The approach: "As part of this work, I have been working with my colleagues to conduct an 8-stage process consisting of Locally Identified Solutions and Practices (LISP). This process is prescribed by the Intensive Engagement model and has been conducted in partnership with Slough Borough Council and the local community. I have taken responsibility for leading this initiative within my area which has involved engaging with community members to understand the source of their concerns, establish overarching themes, gather insight into local community assets and establish working relationships with partner agencies in the local area."



Work to-date has included:

- Speaking with over 700 households to establish overarching themes and plotting specific issues to precise locations within the neighbourhood.
- Analysing and evaluating data to identify the main issues as well as key people within the community to assist moving forward.
- Developing community-led working groups to further engage on the key issues, developing an understanding of the grass-roots causes which will drive community-led solutions.
- Establishing a community partnership working-group to meet regularly, oversee operations and consult on next steps.
- Concentrated and targeted patrols of identified hotspot areas.

The impact: “An increased police presence from concentrated patrols has helped to reassure the public from a community-safety perspective, whilst deterring large groups from gathering. Also, by engaging with members of the community in surroundings that are comfortable to them, I have been able to increase trust levels, with the community more receptive and supportive of our work as a result.

The community engagement project plan has been adapted in light of the COVID-19 pandemic with in-person meetings being replaced by video conference calls and other online functions. Moving forward, specific interventions will be agreed between Thames Valley Police, the council and the community. These will be tangible actions for each member of the partnership to drive a concerted effort towards improving these issues within the neighbourhood.”

