



Joint Patrol Service (Youth Outreach)

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What are Joint Patrols?



The Joint Patrol Service is a multi-agency initiative developed by Stockton Borough Council's Youth Direction in partnership with the Stockton Borough Council's Community Safety Team.

Street patrols are undertaken in the evening and are comprised of youth workers, Anti-Social Behaviour officers, and casual staff, who have their own relevant fields of expertise. Staff do not wear uniforms or carry radios, but wear visible ID cards.



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Why Joint Patrols?



Joint Patrols were founded on the concept of having a non-confrontational presence on the streets to engage with young people involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in Anti-Social Behaviour.

The primary purpose of the service is to reduce anti-social behaviour by working with and sign posting young people to diversionary and educational activities and programmes.



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How do we work?



Patrol locations are updated on a weekly basis and are based on up to date information provided by the Police, Youth Direction, the Community Safety Team, and other community partners such as voluntary sector organisations and education providers.

Strong links have been built between partners allowing a mutual exchange of information on recent incident trends (hotspots), intelligence re future incidents, and key persons of note.



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How do we work (cont.)



The Joint Patrol Coordinator attends Joint Action Group Meetings, Problem Solving Group, Youth Providers Network, and internal team meetings, gathering information and acting as a link between individual organisations.

A monthly ASB meeting is held with managers from all agencies involved, to discuss the progress of patrols and decide on area priorities for the upcoming period.

How do we work (cont.)



The Team currently undertake seven double crewed patrols per week, one of which is set aside as a mobile deployment where multiple locations can be visited, and numerous 20-30 minute “park, walk and talk” deployments completed.

The mobile deployments have been successful and they provide the flexibility to respond to hot intelligence and recent incident trends.



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Objectives



- Engage with young people at risk of involvement in crime / anti-social behaviour.
- Diversion towards accessing the local youth offer and positive activities.
- Providing a deterrent to anti-social behaviour.
- Challenging poor behaviour and giving appropriate advice to those involved.
- Gathering intelligence.
- Making individual referrals to other agencies as appropriate.



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Patrols



Patrols are directed at high demand / challenging areas as determined by the Police and partners.

Patrols are scheduled to coincide with local youth provision (youth clubs, activities etc), in order that young people can be diverted towards these positive activities.

Feedback is gained from young people on services / activities provided, this is passed on to the partner service responsible.



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Multi-disciplinary teams enable the joint patrol service to deal with a range of incidents and behaviours involving young people, giving information or taking action as appropriate. Key to success is the joint working of both incentive based and enforcement based services for young people.

Working relationships built between agencies through joint patrols are also of great value and importance when working together towards general common goals.



Results



Data collection has been ongoing since June 2015, although as with all preventative work there are inherent difficulties with measuring success.

Information gathered shows that the Joint Patrol service is engaging with an average of over 140 young people per month. Anticipated returns of the same standard should provide an annual return of more than 1500 young people engaged per calendar year.



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Anti-Social Behaviour



Monthly returns show around a quarter of young people encountered are engaged in what would amount to ASB as per partner agency's incident recording practices.

Examples:

Fighting in the street

Playing ball games / messing around in the road

Shouting and using bad language in large groups

Using / being under the influence of drink or drugs in public

Climbing on garage roofs

Hanging around shop doorways intimidating staff and customers



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Anti-Social Behaviour



In the three months since data collection began (in June 2015), the Joint Patrol Service has challenged and positively interacted with 126 young people engaged in ASB. This directly reduces the demand on partner services such as the Police and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team / Enforcement Team.

It is extremely rare another agency has to be called to deal with the behaviour once joint patrol staff are present.



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Questions / Feedback



Currently mid way through a pilot project - due to end in late April 2016.

Extremely positive feedback has been received from the community and partner agencies.

Any feedback / questions / suggestions?



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