Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee – 13th October 2016 Public Questions

Question from Mr Webb to the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning & Public Protection Services: Cllr Mark Flewitt

Question

"Overall burglary is down in Southend by 104, 23% decrease. However in this period in Westborough there was 7 burglary's up by 5 on the previous period. Question: What ways is Southend Council and the Police working together in communicating to the residents in preventing burglaries especially as Winter is a high period?"

Answer

Police and Partners will raise awareness, across the Borough, of the potential increases in Burglary as the festive period approaches. This includes communication via Neighbourhood Watch, resident meetings, Local Community Meetings (LCM's), Social Media, along with other activities and messages.

Police are specifically targeting Westborough Ward having recognised the recent increase. <u>Operation Bisley</u> has commenced in this area which consists of Police and PCSO's patrolling streets and identifying properties that appear to be vulnerable to opportunist burglary (an open window, a back gate wide open, post in letterbox etc). Once identified, they alert the home owner either through direct contact there and then, or by leaving a note)

Furthermore, <u>Operation Insight</u>, in which police and partners target (through patrols), a micro area of a Ward (streets that are close to previous Burglary sites) begins today in Westborough (12th Oct).