

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY & ENFORCEMENT SERVICE**

### **Central Area Council Funded posts – Housing Management & Environment Officer and Enforcement & Investigation Officer**

#### **Quarter 4 report – 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016**

Our main objective is to contribute towards creating and sustaining safe and pleasant communities within private sector housing in the Central Area Council area. We will do this by proactively case managing issues that have a detrimental effect on others in the locality and by identifying and protecting our most vulnerable tenants and residents.

We are working with families and individuals, getting to know our communities and getting access to homes that previously have not had the benefit of any kind of support. We are identifying problems and issues and using effective risk assessment to decide on the most appropriate responses.

We aim to encourage communities to work towards raising and setting own standards. This includes acceptable behaviour standards, environmental standards, housing and property standards.

We have now made changes to our ASB case management system that will enable us to report accurately on the number of vulnerable persons identified. For the purpose of this report we estimate approximately 80% of all cases referred in quarter 4 contain at least 1 feature that may make a person vulnerable. Of those, 65 have been actively supported either directly by us or by referral for specialist support.

We expect future reports to include mental and physical ill health, isolation or exclusion, Age (young and old), victim and/or witness of ASB or criminal activity, affected by domestic abuse, poverty and issues relating to minority groups. The most abiding vulnerabilities identified this quarter are around poverty and disability, in particular mental health issues relating to depression.

As the Private Sector Housing & Environment Officer and Enforcement and Investigations Officers for the Central area our work is very high profile. We deal with all issues capable of having a detrimental effect on others in the community including Anti-Social Behaviour, Environmental standards, Property/Housing conditions, Private Sector Housing, Fly-tipping and Littering. We attend Crime & Safety group meetings, MAAG and PACT meetings as appropriate. More complex support needs once identified are sign posted to both internal and external agencies that are best placed to meet the individuals requirements.

We are also involved local community events, litter picking and clean up days. We work closely with other outside agencies, (Police/PCSO's Fire Service, Social Services, Landlords/Letting Agents).

We have formed good working relationships with landlords, letting agents and local residents. We work with tenants within the Private Rented Sector with regard to any issues which have been brought to our attention and work with the Landlords to rectify the problems.

## **CASE STUDY NO. 1**

### **DONCASTER ROAD AREA, BARNSELEY – CENTRAL AREA**

This job was referred to us on the basis of – an accumulation of waste / fly tipping on private property, some of it in an old disused garage.

After visiting the area we ascertained the following issues:-

- Fly tipping in disused garage;
- Accumulation of waste at rear of a private property;
- Anti-social behaviour;
- Possible drug dealing;
- Housing disrepair issues;
- Child welfare issues;
- Concerns regarding fire safety.

Fly tipping in disused garage – no evidence found within the fly tipping to identify anyone. Garage ownership ascertained via local knowledge and Land Registry. Garage was in a bad state of disrepair and was a health and safety concern. After lengthy consultation with the garage / land owner, he agreed to have the garage removed and he also removed the fly tipping from within. See photos below (before and after).

Accumulation of waste at rear of private rented property – we spoke to the tenant and gave her some time to clear the waste on an informal basis. We also advised her to get an additional grey bin as there were more than five people registered as living at the property. After re-visiting the property, the tenant had cleared and removed all the waste.

Anti-social behaviour – tenant of a private rented property continually blocking access to communal backings at the rear of a row of terraced property, warning given which has been adhered to.

Possible drug dealing – intelligence received from local residents relating to possible drug dealing from a private rented property. This has been passed onto the Police Intelligence Department and work is still ongoing.

Housing disrepair issues – after completing a full housing inspection on one of the private rented properties we visited, all housing disrepair issues were resolved on an informal basis with the landlord of the property.

Child welfare issues – report put through to Social Care after concerns at one of the properties we visited.

Concerns regarding fire safety – after visiting a property in this area, we found that the tenant was storing large motorbikes in the kitchen area. We referred this issue to the Fire Service for a fire safety check.











## **CASE STUDY NO. 2**

### **SHAW LANE AREA, BARNSLEY - KINGSTONE AREA**

After previously working in this area, we were contacted by local residents. The problems reported were as follows:-

- Abandoned, empty and insecure property and potential housing disrepair;
- Fly tipping;
- Accumulation of waste at front and rear of property.

Property – was empty and looked in a bad state of disrepair, single pane of glass in front window was broken. Landlord was contacted who stated that he was already aware of the broken window and his contractors are going to be totally renovating the property in the Spring. Then once the property is renovated, it will be being re-let.

Fly tipping – evidence was found within a pile of waste in the communal backings rear of properties on Shaw Lane. However, after a thorough investigation, the alleged perpetrator used to live on Shaw Lane, but has since abandoned their property and absconded without trace.

Accumulation of waste – large accumulation of waste at front and rear of property, after speaking to the tenant and landlord, we worked with both of these parties and the waste was removed.

Before and after photos below.











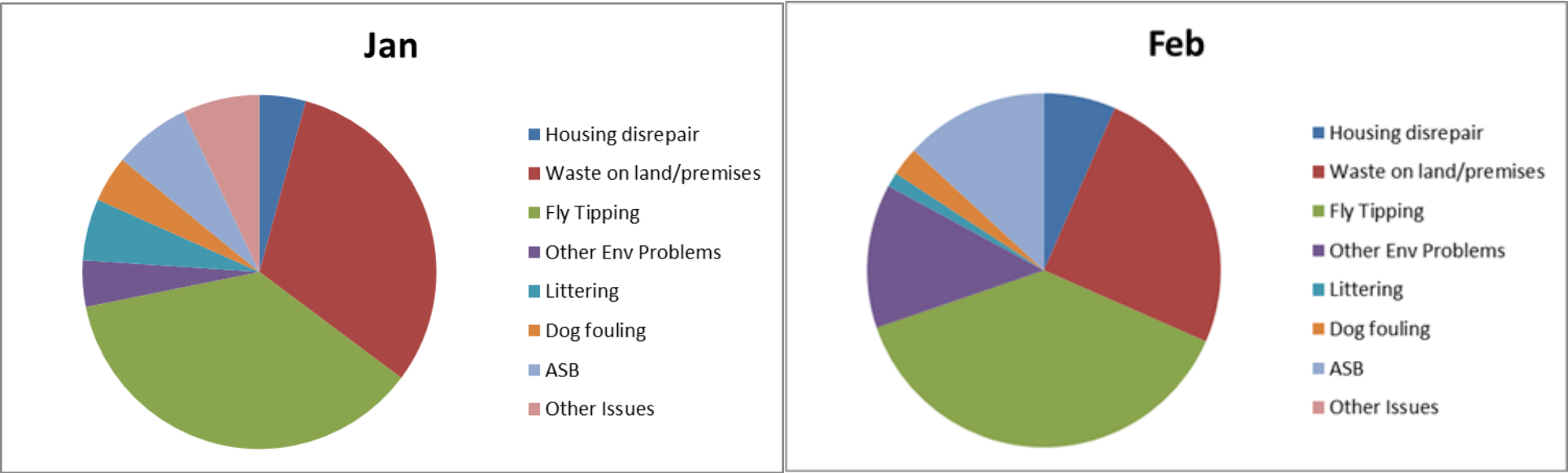
## **RACECOMMON ROAD, BARNSELEY – KINGSTONE AREA**

We were contacted by a local resident who we have worked with previously regarding a vulnerable relative who she had great concerns for. Due to her being aware of what we do, she asked for our assistance.

The resident is a home owner who lives with her Son. Due to his mental health issues, the Son was controlling her movements and was physically and mentally abusing his Mother. There were grave concerns for the Mother's safety and well-being. Due to the circumstances, we couldn't contact the Mother directly, so all the contact we did was through the relative. The Police, PPU and the Victim and Witness Support Officer were also involved. The lady is now safe and being supported and she is currently on the list for a Council warden controlled property. Social Services are also involved with the Son.

**FIGURES 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2016**

JANUARY	– 71	CENTRAL WARD	- 116
FEBRUARY	– 76	KINGSTONE WARD	- 80
MARCH	– 61	STAIRFOOT WARD	- 10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>– 208</b>	DARFIELD WARD	- 2





## March

