

**Report of the Chief Constable to the Chair and Members
of the Professional Standards Panel
29th July 2009**

Executive & Presenting Officer: Mr Derek Bonnard, Deputy Chief Constable

Status: For information

Deliberate Damage Statistics

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To inform Members of the cost to the Force of deliberate damage by way of forced entry into premises for the period 1st April – 30th June 2009.
- 1.2 To inform Members of the operational results achieved through such forced entry and other premises searches.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the content of the report.
- 2.2 To note that the operational benefits accruing to the Force in terms of property, drugs and cash seized, outweigh the cost of the damage claims.

3 Reasons

- 3.1 Police Officers are lawfully entitled to forcibly enter private premises for a number of reasons. The main reasons are:
 - to effect an arrest
 - to conduct a premises search subsequent to an arrest
 - to execute a warrant or
 - to save life or property.
- 3.2 It is important that the exercise of these powers is subject to scrutiny.

4. Implications

4.1 Finance

The figures show that during the quarter, the Force has paid out **£8,447** in compensation for acts of deliberate damage. This compares to £8,599 paid out in the same period in the previous year. Whilst 2882 searches were conducted, only 257 (**8.92%**) resulted in deliberate damage, compared to 7.9% in the previous year. The value of property, cash and drugs seized totals **£940,772**, and this compares to £1,079,186 seized during the same period in 2008.

4.2 Diversity & Equal Opportunities

There are no diversity or equal opportunities implications identified by the data contained in this report.

4.3 Human Rights Act

There are no Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

4.4 Sustainability

There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

4.5 Risk

There are no risk implications arising from this report.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The report confirms that the value of property, cash and drugs recovered continues to exceed the cost of any damage caused by forced entry.

Sean Price
Chief Constable

House Search Stats Summary April - June 2009

District	Number of Searches	Damage Caused ⁽¹⁾	Arrests	Save Life / Property	Property ⁽²⁾ Recovered	Cash	Drugs
H	664	47	67	7	£19,400	£1,010	£10,090
R&C	717	39	144	1	£11,345	£9,898	£135,270
M	804	78	160	18	£18,357	£4,045	£663,240
S	697	93	128	30	£30,820	£25,370	£13,235
Total	2882	257	499	56	£79,992	£40,320	£821,835

(1) Number of premises searched where damage was caused. Please include damage caused to all properties, whether a positive or negative outcome.

(2) Property includes evidential property and property seized.

Boarding Up / Damage Payouts for April - June 2009

District	Number of Claims ⁽¹⁾	Number Finalised ⁽²⁾	Number Resulting in Payment	Sums Paid Out	Average Payment
Hartlepool	60	53	9	£639	£87
Redcar & Cleveland	9	9	6	£458	£76
Middlesbrough	35	56	36	£4,327	£120
Stockton	29	29	28	£3,023	£108
Total	133	147	79	£8,447	£107

(1) Claims opened in the above period

(2) Claims closed within the above period, regardless of when they were opened

Boarding Up/Damage Claims: Analysis of Claims Settled April - June 2009

District	S.17 PACE ⁽¹⁾	S.18 PACE ⁽²⁾		S.23 MDA ⁽³⁾		Other ⁽⁴⁾	Misc. Payouts ⁽⁵⁾	Total
		Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative			
Hartlepool	14	1	-	8	1	3	33	60
Redcar & Cleveland	1	-	-	1	-	2	5	9
Middlesbrough	9	-	2	9	4	4	28	56
Stockton	-	-	1	5	1	1	20	28
Total	24	1	3	23	6	10	86	153

(1) For purpose of arrest

(2) Entry and search after arrest

(3) Drugs warrant

(4) Section 32 (upon arrest), Section 8 (with warrant), Section 26, Section 2 (search of vehicle)

(5) Voluntary boarding up, fire, derelict property, welfare