

**Report of the Chief Constable to the Chair and Members  
of the Professional Standards Panel  
29<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>(1)</sup>	Arrests	Save Life / Property	Property <sup>(2)</sup> 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>2882</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>£79,992</b>	<b>£40,320</b>	<b>£821,835</b>

(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 <sup>(1)</sup>	Number Finalised <sup>(2)</sup>	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
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>£8,447</b>	<b>£107</b>

(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 <sup>(1)</sup>	S.18 PACE <sup>(2)</sup>		S.23 MDA <sup>(3)</sup>		Other <sup>(4)</sup>	Misc. Payouts <sup>(5)</sup>	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
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>153</b>

(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