

**Crime and anti-social behaviour
in Sunningdale.**

**A collaboration between young people
in Sunningdale, North Belfast
Alternatives, LINC and Institute for
Conflict Research**

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Introduction

This paper documents a project undertaken by a group of young people in Sunningdale in collaboration with North Belfast Alternatives (NBA), Local Initiatives for Needy Communities (LINC) and researchers from the Institute for Conflict Research (ICR). The paper provides a description of the research programme and provides a summary of the main findings from the survey, the interviews and the focus groups carried out by the young people.

ICR's participation in the community research support programme has been possible through financial support from the Community Relations Council through the Community Relations and Cultural Diversity Grant Scheme.

1.1 Background

In February 2004 North Belfast Alternatives and LINC contacted ICR to discuss the development of a project that would look at issues affecting the Sunningdale area. NBA highlighted that there were growing concerns in the community about levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and the role of the police dealing with these issues. These concerns had been previously confirmed in the Community Safety Audit conducted by the Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NIACRO) in 2001. The Audit showed that crime was generally not reported to the police and that young people in the area were believed to be responsible for the high levels of anti-social behaviour. Respondents in the survey also identified graffiti and littering as major problems. However, NBA wanted to develop these findings. This research was also timely. Currently, the Northern Ireland Office is considering introducing Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) and Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) in Northern Ireland.

At the end of this preliminary discussion, it was agreed that the research would:

- Produce a report that would document perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour in Sunningdale and assess the community's perception of the PSNI in the area.
- Involve a group of young people in the research project. Provide them with training in research methods and provide an opportunity to improve the relationship between young people and adults in the community.
- Feed into the work of the North Belfast Alternatives in developing a strategic plan and future working the area.

1.2 Objectives and training programme

This section illustrates the initial phase of the work in which the young people from Sunningdale participated. The initial meeting involved a group of 7 young people aged 12 to 17, two researchers from ICR and a volunteer from NBA. During the discussion, young people were asked to identify their aims and expectations and to

determine what issues relevant to Sunningdale would be worth researching. The ICR staff facilitated the group discussion and presented general information on research skills and methodology.

It was agreed that:

- The research would focus on people's attitude to crime and anti-social behaviour in the Sunningdale area together with issues of particular concerns to young people.
- The research would be conducted through various quantitative and qualitative based research methods including a questionnaire, interviews and focus groups.
- The main findings of the research would be presented in a report.
- A training programme would be developed to introduce young people to the different skills and techniques required to undertake research.

The training programme was phased over a period of twelve weeks to cover the main stages of the research project (see Appendix 1). The programme focused on:

- Undertaking a survey
- Determining the main issues and themes
- Identifying respondents
- Deciding on survey areas and sample size
- Designing a questionnaire
- Type and style of questions
- Piloting and revising the questionnaire
- Analysing preliminary findings
- Presenting the results
- Conducting interviews and focus groups

The presence of the NBA volunteer at all sessions with the young people was very useful. As a resident of the Ballysillan area, he had a deep knowledge of the situation in Sunningdale and had established close links with the young people.

1.3 Designing the questionnaire

The most important stage of the training programme was the development of a self-completion questionnaire that would be administered to residents in Sunningdale. The use of a questionnaire was thought to be the best way to obtain quantitative information on a large sample of the community in a short period of time. Two questionnaires, one for young people and one for adults, were designed by the group of young people with the support of ICR and NBA (see appendices 2 and 3). The young people constructed questions on topics that they felt were important to their area. Attention was drawn to the specific techniques employed to design questions. ICR processed this data in the form of two pilot questionnaires.

Young people piloted the questionnaires among their peers and among a few adults in Sunningdale. The pilot process indicated that some alterations and adjustments were

required. It also revealed that the questionnaires only took five to ten minutes to complete and that young people and adults had few difficulties filling them out. This pilot study provided the young people with an initial experience in administering questionnaires and conducting survey work.

1.4 The sample

Having agreed on a final draft of both questionnaires, a meeting was devoted to discussing who was going to be surveyed (target group) and how the dissemination of the questionnaires was to take place. It was decided to survey the opinions of young people aged 11 to 18 and adults trying to ensure a balance between sub-age groups and between males and females. To maximize the number of responses and advertise the research project, posters were designed and displayed around the area.

The young people were given a three-week period to identify respondents and complete the survey. During the first week, the young people chose to use their personal relationships and contacts to administer the questionnaires. This method turned out to be too limited to reach the expected sample of respondents. Lack of spare time during the school week, difficulties in reaching some young people in the area, and the young people's lack of confidence in speaking to adults, added to the low turnout of completed questionnaires at that time.

It was then decided that the questionnaires would be handed out door-to-door around Sunningdale. Staff from ICR and NBA participated in this survey on the streets and provided assistance on how to conduct a door-to-door survey. The presence of adults on this day also helped young people build up their confidence when speaking to adults. In some cases respondents opted to fill out the questionnaire on the spot, while others opted to return the completed questionnaires to the community house. Another way of getting the questionnaires returned was to hand them out and come back to collect them 15 minutes later, a strategy that proved quite successful.

All in all, 84 questionnaires were returned: 59 adults and 25 young people. The adult's and the young people's questionnaires are similar but contain a number of questions which are specific to each age group. Findings in Section 2 will combine the results from both questionnaires on these shared questions, while the age-specific questions will be considered separately.

When all the questionnaires were gathered, data was processed in the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The results were analysed by young people together with staff from NBA and ICR. Some of the young people were also involved in the input of data on the computer.

1.5 Conducting interviews and focus groups

As part of the research training and survey work, it was agreed that the young people would hold focus groups with political representatives from the four Unionist parties in the area, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), Ulster Unionist party (UUP),

Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) and Ulster Political Research Group (UPRG), the PSNI, and with a group of other young people. North Belfast Alternatives facilitated the meetings/interviews with the politicians and with the PSNI. The meeting with the young people was held at the local youth club. As part of the exercise, the group finalized questions for the two focus groups (see Appendix 4) and these questions were sent to respective groups a week in advance. The meeting with politicians provided some young people with the opportunity of addressing a political representative for the first time. Representatives from the four political parties had all been formally invited to take part in the meeting and had all agreed to attend. However, the opportunity to hear a range of opinions was severely limited as only one politician out of four attended the interview. One of the three other politicians who could not attend provided a written statement.

All of the meetings were videotaped by a volunteer from NBA to complement the forthcoming report.

1.6 Working with young people

Working with young people can be quite stimulating for researchers as they provide a fresh outlook on issues affecting our society. On the other hand some limitations arose during the research project.

One of the concerns was the age-range of the group of young researchers. Although it was deemed interesting to mix young people from various age groups, the experience turned out to be difficult at times. Due to their age, the teenagers had different interests and levels of maturity. Some found it more difficult to grasp research concepts and methods. Some were too young to concentrate on a topic for a period of time. During meetings ICR staff had to meet the high expectations of the more mature 16-to-18-year-olds while trying not to discourage younger people and attempting to sustain their participation and interest. The age of the participants also affected, to a certain extent, the outlook of the research, as the youngest had a somewhat limited view on matters happening in the area. Moreover, despite their regular attendance at meetings, young people appeared at times uninterested. This might have to do with the fact that the programme was stretched over too long a period (12 weeks).

To tackle those problems, the ICR staff would, at the beginning of each meeting probe the motivation and the mood of the group and vary the content and the length of the meeting accordingly. A volunteer from NBA also assisted in facilitating the group. Moreover, a night out at Pizza Hut was organized to cement the group and to acknowledge and further encourage the work carried out by the young people.

The ICR staff and volunteers also took into account the various interests and abilities and skills of the teenagers. For example two of the young persons were given the responsibility of taking photographs of the area to be included in the report.

Section 2: Survey Findings

2.1 Demographic Information

The respondents all lived in Sunningdale. The age-groups varied from 11 to 61, and a majority of respondents were found in the older age-brackets. Among the respondents, 54 % were female and 46 % male.

Table 1: Age-breakdown of respondents

Age	Number of respondents	% of respondents
11-17	25	30
18-28	11	13
29-39	12	14
40-50	18	21
51-61	7	9
61+	11	13
Total	84	100

Respondents were also asked to indicate their employment status. The largest share of respondents, 38 %, were either in full-time or part-time employment, followed by 30 % in school. Among school pupils, 44 % were at Key-Stage 3.

Table 2: Employment status among respondents

Employment status	Number of respondents	% of respondents
In school	25	30
Employed full-time	26	31
Retired	11	13
Unemployed	9	11
Employed part-time	6	7
Housewife	3	4
At university/further education	2	2
Other	1	1
Total	84	100

2.2 Facilities and amenities-community environment

A majority of the respondents (54 %) agreed with the statement that Sunningdale was a friendly area and 32 % strongly agreed that Sunningdale was a friendly area. Only 11 % disagreed/strongly disagreed with the statement. When asked about facilities for young people in the area, a strong majority of 93 % said there should be more facilities for young people in the area. This was an opinion shared by both young people and adults.

Respondents were also asked to indicate what facilities they thought young people in the area used.

Table 3: Facilities used by young people

Facility	Number of respondents	% of respondents
Community centre	53	65
Youth club	35	43
Leisure centre	16	20
No facilities in area	14	17
Playing fields	11	13
Swimming pool	11	13
Outdoor pursuit centre	4	5
Sportsclub	4	5
Cinema	1	1
Ice-rink	1	1
Ten pin bowling	1	1

There was a certain discrepancy between age-groups regarding the use of facilities by young people. More respondents among the older age-groups referred to the Community centre while only a small number of young people referred to this as a facility they used. However, the youth club was placed high both among adults and young people.

Respondents were also asked to pick one new facility for young people in the area. The most popular facility was an outdoor pursuit centre (24 %) followed by a sports club (19 %).

Table 4: Facilities requested by respondents

Facility	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Outdoor pursuit centre	19	24
Sports Club	15	19
Youth Club	14	18
Community Centre	6	8
Playing fields	6	8
Ten pin bowling	5	6
Cinema	3	4
Leisure centre	2	3
Don't know	2	3
Drop-in centre	2	3
Other	2	3
Skate-park	1	1
Better/cheaper public transport	1	1
Ice-rink	1	1

As was the case with the use of facilities, there was a certain discrepancy between the age-groups. Among both young people and adults, an outdoor pursuit centre scored high, adults in general favoured a community centre and a sports club and young people tended to favour facilities such as ten-pin bowling and a youth club.

2.3 Crime and anti-social behaviour

Respondents were also asked whether or not they felt safe walking in the area at different times of day. As seen in Table 5 below, a majority of respondents said they felt safe walking in the area during the day, but this number fell 'during the night' and further decreased 'at night during the weekend'. 75 % of men said they felt safe at night compared to only 49 % of women.

Table 5: Feeling safe walking in the area

Time of day	Number of respondents	% of respondents
Daytime	72	86
Night-time during the week	51	61
Nighttime at weekend	39	46
With other people	40	48
Never safe	-	-

When asked about the type of activities relating to violence and disorder that had occurred in Sunningdale, the three most common replies were under-age drinking (86%), followed by graffiti (82%) and dog-fouling (80%). Again, there were discrepancies between the various age-groups. Younger people referred to 'drugs' and 'adults hanging around' as particular problems while adults pointed to underage drinking and dog fouling.

Table 6: Types of violence and disorder occurring in the Sunningdale area

Activity	Number of respondents	% of respondents
Underage drinking	70	86
Graffiti	67	82
Dog fouling	63	80
Teenagers hanging around	60	76
Littering	60	76
Damaging/vandalising property	61	75
People making noise	51	65
Drugs	51	63
Fighting with the police	41	62
Burglary	48	59
Joyriding	47	58
Fighting with people from same area	40	49
Attacks on elderly people	37	46

Attacks on young people	29	36
Attacks on ethnic minorities	26	32
Rioting	26	32
Adults hanging around	21	27

As underage drinking came across as a particular problem, young people in their questionnaire were asked how easy it was to get alcohol in the area from pubs/clubs and off-licenses: 48% said it was 'easy' and 40% answered 'don't know'. When asked if alcohol played an important role in affecting young people's behaviour, 88 % said alcohol increased the risk of violence and disorder.

2.4 Concern about crime and anti-social behaviour among adults

In the adult questionnaire respondents were asked how concerned they were about certain activities. The largest number of people expressed concern/great concern about underage drinking (94%) followed by drugs (91%) and burglary (90%). In general, females were more concerned about issues such as 'graffiti', 'fighting with people from your own community', 'fighting with the police' and 'attacks on ethnic minorities'. Males, on the other hand, were more concerned about 'attacks on old people', 'burglary' and 'damaging/vandalising property'.

Table 7: Concern about violence and disorder among adults

Activity	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Underage drinking	44	94
Drugs	43	91
Burglary	42	90
Attacks on elderly people	39	89
Attacks on young people	35	88
Damaging/vandalising property	42	85
Dog fouling	41	84
Groups of teenagers hanging around	37	84
Joyriding	35	84
Graffiti	41	82
Littering	41	80
Attacks on ethnic minorities	34	79
Fighting with the police	31	78
Paramilitary activity	28	77
People making noise	35	76
Fighting with people from your own community	28	74
Rioting with neighbouring communities	23	62
Groups of adults hanging around	17	47

As was the case in the previous section, ‘under-age drinking’ was the issue which respondents felt ‘concerned/very concerned’ about. Incidents, such as burglary, which scored low in the list of activities taking place in the area, scored high in this section.

2.5 Personal experience of crime and anti-social behaviour among adults

When asked if any of the respondents in the adult questionnaire had been a victim of a particular activity, the largest number of respondents (42 %) said that they had not been victims of any of the listed activities. Of those who had, their experience was most likely to have been of ‘car-theft/burglary’ (38 %) and ‘verbal abuse’ (28 %).

Table 8: Experience of violence and disorder among adults

Activity	Number of respondents	% of respondents
No experience	21	42
Car damage/theft	19	38
Verbal abuse	14	28
Damage to property	8	16
Threats by young people	6	12
Assault/attack	4	8
Burglary/theft	3	6
Threats by adults	1	2
Mugged	-	-

These figures were the same for males and females, except for ‘verbal abuse’. More men (38%) had experienced this compared to females (21 %).

2.6 Anti-Social Behaviour and/or crime

In the adult questionnaire respondents were asked to define a series of activities as crime or as anti-social behaviour. They were given a list of activities first and asked if they considered them to be crime, having to make a choice between 3 boxes: Yes / No / Don’t know. Later on, respondents were given the same list but this time asked if they considered the activities to be anti-social behaviour.

The findings shown in Table 9 reveal that, except in a few instances, respondents perceive these listed activities as both crime and anti-social behaviour. A clear boundary between the two concepts is made only in six instances. This might indicate that the two concepts are not clearly defined in people’s minds. The only type of activities that are clearly classified as anti-social behaviour are graffiti, groups of teenagers or adults hanging around, dog fouling, littering on the street and people making noise. However, such activities as damaging property, burglary, rioting, fighting, or attacks on people and underage drinking are perceived both as crime and anti-social behaviour and score very high in each category. This may indicate that respondents consider those activities as more serious, especially as they were first asked to define them in the crime section (see questionnaire for the order of

appearance of questions). The fact that they perceived them also as anti-social behaviour with a high percentage underlines their concern about those activities.

Table 9: Definition of crime and anti-social behaviour according to type of activities by adults

Type of activity	Crime % yes	Anti-social behaviour % yes
Graffiti	55	84
Damaging/vandalising property	100	100
Burglary and theft	100	94
Joy-riding	98	96
Rioting with neighbouring communities	73	84
Fighting with people from your own community	74	86
Fighting with the police	81	86
Attacks on young people	96	92
Attacks on elderly people	96	96
Attacks on ethnic minorities	96	90
Drugs	100	98
Underage drinking	84	94
Teenagers hanging around	32	66
Groups of adults hanging around	30	60
Dog fouling	50	67
Littering on the streets	52	69
People making noise	41	69
Paramilitary activity	81	70

Given the small size of the sample of respondents the number of people who did not answer certain questions was significantly high. Around 10 out of 59 persons did not fill in boxes when asked to define crime and anti-social behaviour. It may indicate that participants did not wish to give their opinion on certain issues either for personal reasons or because they did not feel safe. Interestingly, the number of respondents who did not give an answer when asked to qualify paramilitary activities rose to 16 (in the crime section) and 19 (in the anti-social behaviour section). The numbers also rose to 13 and 14 accordingly when people were asked to qualify “adults hanging around”.

2.7 Involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour

Both young people and adults were asked about the age of people involved in public disorder and crime. The age group most referred to, both by adults and young people, was young people aged 12-17.

When young people themselves were asked in what activities they had been involved, the majority of them referred to littering (50 %) and noise (45 %). Activities such as attacks on elderly people and young people did not register at all. None of the young people said they had been involved in paramilitary activities.

Table 10: Young people's involvement in violence and disorder according to young people

Activity	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Littering	10	50
Noise	9	45
Teenagers hanging around	8	40
Fighting with people from your own community	6	27
Graffiti	6	27
Fighting the PSNI	5	23
Drugs	4	18
Damaging/vandalising property	3	14
Rioting with neighbouring communities	3	14
Joy-riding	1	5

When asked why people were involved in crime and anti-social behaviour, adults, more than young people, attributed it to alcohol. However, the majority of young people who had been involved in crime and anti-social behaviour (58 %) said that the main reason for it was that friends were involved, followed by boredom (53 %). Young people in their questionnaire also said that the relationship between young people and adults in the area was satisfactory (40 %) and very good (24 %).

2.8 Paramilitaries

All respondents were asked about the role of paramilitaries within Sunningdale. A majority of respondents, 68 %, saw no role for paramilitaries, compared to only 18 % who were in favour and 13 % who did not know.

Several reasons were identified as to why paramilitary groups should not have a role within Sunningdale. The two main major reasons indicated by respondents were 'violence is not an option' and 'the area has suffered enough'.

Table 11: Reasons why paramilitaries should not have a role in Sunningdale

Reasons	Number of respondents	% of respondents
Violence is not an option	35	61
Suffered enough	31	54
It is the role of the police	29	51
Involved in selling drugs	29	49
Involved in crime	20	35
Don't know	4	7
Politicians doing a good job	2	4

It was possible to discern a difference between age groups. For example, more adults than young people said that it was the role of the police to 'police' the area and not paramilitaries. It is interesting to note that only 4% of the respondents felt that the 'good work that politicians do' had any impact on reducing the role of paramilitaries in the area.

2.9 Policing

Respondents were asked about the role of the police in Sunningdale. A majority of respondents (70 %) said the police did not do enough to control crime in Sunningdale. When respondents were asked if they thought the police favoured one community more than another, 45 % said 'yes' and 26 % 'no'. The classification by respondents of a particular activity as crime and/or anti-social behaviour had little bearing on how adults would respond. In both instances a majority of adults (70 % and 79 %) would turn to the police.

2.10 Summary

This survey of attitudes to crime and anti-social behaviour in Sunningdale showed that in many instances young people and adults have a similar view of facilities and levels of disorder and violence in the area. There was also a shared criticism of the role of the police and facilities.

3. Qualitative findings

The final part of the research involved interviews and focus group work carried out with local politicians, PSNI Officers, and young people.

Local politicians

As previously mentioned, only one politician showed up for the actual meeting, the UUP representative. The DUP representative provided a written statement.

The DUP representative, an MLA and MP, and the UUP representative, a councillor and MLA, both made the point that they, as elected representatives, had received comments about crime and anti-social behaviour in the Sunningdale area. They also made the point that Sunningdale, like many other areas in North Belfast, had experienced problems such as unemployment and that work was needed to improve the quality of life of its residents.

Regarding issues such as crime and anti-social behaviour, they both argued in favour of a more active policing of the area and for stronger links between the police and local residents. Equally important, the politicians said that the relationship between young people and adults in the area had to be improved.

Both representatives indicated that more facilities for young people were needed. The DUP representative made the point that there was 'a shortfall in services' for young people in the area. The UUP representative made the point that facilities needed to be better utilised. The DUP representative, in his written statement linked the levels of anti-social behaviour and facilities for young people:

'there needs to be greater police presence and more communication. This has to be allied to better facilities for young people in particular.'

The PSNI

Three PSNI officers attended the focus group and faced the questions from the young people. The PSNI officers, all with an extensive experience of police work, made the point that Sunningdale as an area did not differ that much from any other areas in North Belfast. As officers working in the area they had come across issues relating to young people causing annoyance (YCA) but as policemen on the ground, they had no real bad experiences of policing in Sunningdale. One of the policemen referred to the relationship between the police and young people in the area as 'great'.

They made the point that car crime had increased and that older people in the area had expressed their fear of being attacked. In the case of Sunningdale, most of these activities tended, in their experience, to involve people from outside the area. Regarding anti-social behaviour, they said that Sunningdale, in comparison to other areas in North Belfast, had avoided larger riots and serious public disorder. According

to the officers, even activities such as underage drinking, were not a big issue in Sunningdale.

They, like the politicians, saw a link between activities/facilities for young people and levels of anti-social behaviour and argued in favour of more things for young people to do. As members of the police they said that the only way for them to work effectively was in co-operation with the community, including young people.

Young people

The research team, together with a volunteer from the NBA and the young people involved in the research, met up with 10 young people aged 12-22 attending the local youth club.

The meeting, which was quite informal, involved talking with young people about living in the area. Based on this meeting, it became clear that local young people perceived there were very few activities for them in Sunningdale. The youth club, which operated out of the local church, and which was open on Friday nights, provided a certain outlet, but it was closed during the summer.

Lacking other options, some of the 'older young people' referred to the area by the gates of Cavehill Country Park and street corners as favourite spots 'to hang out'. The use of the park by young people had also led to complaints from local residents about anti-social behaviour and abuse of alcohol and drugs. The young people did not see themselves as a threat to residents in the area and considered their activities as normal behaviour, but they agreed that drinking did take place. This had led to altercations with the police whose actions were deemed unjustified by some of the young people as they thought they had not provoked them. On those occasions they indicated that the police did not treat them with enough respect.

The young people also said that they felt restricted to their area, that the Cavehill Road, for example, was 'not safe'.

All of the young people spoken to wanted more facilities, such as a youth club open seven days a week and open longer hours. Some of the males wanted to have better sports facilities, like an AstroTurf pitch, similar to the one at the Waterworks.

4. Conclusions

The research project carried out in Sunningdale met its two main purposes, as identified by North Belfast Alternatives, LINC and ICR. The findings from the survey and interviews provide an initial insight into Sunningdale residents' opinions and views on crime and anti-social behaviour.

- Findings from both the survey and focus groups indicated that Sunningdale is a relatively small community with a majority of adults feeling more concerned about anti-social behaviour activities than crime. Young people aged 12-17 are perceived as playing a role in these activities. Young people themselves, however, perceived those activities as normal behaviour since there was nothing to do in the area.
- There was an agreement among respondents that there were limited facilities for young people.
- Underage drinking was perceived by a majority of respondents to be of particular concern.
- A majority of respondents indicated that Sunningdale was a friendly place to live in. However, there was a general consensus in the community that the area was dangerous at night especially at weekends.
- A majority of respondents indicated that people in general turned to the police to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime. However, they felt that the PSNI could do more to curb those activities. The general consensus among respondents was also that the PSNI favoured the Catholic community over the Protestant community.
- Young people indicated that the PSNI did not treat them with enough respect.
- A majority of respondents made it clear that they wanted paramilitary groups to have no role to play in the area.
- There was also limited, if any, faith in politicians among respondents.
- There was an agreement among politicians and the police that the area was not as badly affected as other areas in North Belfast. There was a general consensus that the policing issue was very topical and that partnership was the way forward.

Involving young people in community issues through a research project had a number of positive outcomes:

- It enhanced their self-confidence. They showed they could engage in positive activities benefiting the community as a whole. It has challenged the negative image young people have in communities.
- They came in contact with adults from their community, with representatives of political parties and with members of the PSNI. It enabled them to create new relationships with people from whom they felt alienated.
- It enabled them to reflect on and analyse issues affecting their lives. This may, in the long term, enable them with an opportunity to become more active in issues affecting their community.

Reference

Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (2001)
Ballysillan Community Safety Project. Belfast

APPENDIX 1 QUESTIONS FOR THE POLITICIANS:

1. What political party are you from?
2. Why did you become a politician?
3. How long have you been a politician for? How long have you been a councillor/MLA/MP?
4. What is your perception of Sunningdale?
5. Do you think Sunningdale as an area has declined over the last couple of years regarding crime and employment?
6. Have people complained to you about anti-social-behaviour and crime in Sunningdale?
7. If crime and anti-social-behaviour is an issue in Sunningdale What improvements would you like to see for Sunningdale?
8. Do you think there are enough facilities for young people in Sunningdale?
9. What would you do to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour?

APPENDIX 2 QUESTIONS FOR THE PSNI

Interview with PSNI-officers:

- 1) How long have you been in the police? What made you decide to join the police?
- 2) Have you ever used your gun?
- 3) Have you always worked in North Belfast?
- 4) What types of problems/issues have you come across in Sunningdale?
- 5) If you were to compare Sunningdale with other areas in Belfast and North Belfast – similarities/differences?
- 6) Do you find Protestant areas different from Catholic areas?
- 7) How do you find young people's reaction to the police in Sunningdale?
- 8) How has policing changed since a) the ceasefire b) the change from RUC to PSNI?
- 9) Are there certain times of the year that are more difficult to police than other?

APPENDIX 3 PROGRAMME

Sunningdale Research Project

Week one: 10 March

- What is research?
- Aim of the research
- What the research will involve
 - a) Questionnaire
 - b) Interviews – focus groups
- Think about issues that we can focus on in our research project

Week two: 17 March

- Main themes and issues in Sunningdale:
 - a) Questionnaire-design. Type, style and number of questions – based on previous weeks discussion. Piloting-why?
 - b) Interviews – Who? Where? When?

Week three: 24 March

- Present pilot questionnaire and the following day hand out questionnaires.

Week four: 31 March

- Discuss how piloting went. Problems and changes – start questionnaire.
Discuss progress regarding interviews

Week five: 7 April

- Break for Easter?

Week six: 14 April

- Get questionnaires back. How did it go?

Week eight: 28 April

- Preliminary results/analysis. What were the main findings? What came out of the interviews?

Week nine: 5 May

- Summarise interviews and questionnaire. Identify main themes and findings. How are we going to disseminate the findings?

Week ten: 12 May

- Next steps?

SUNNINGDALE SURVEY 2004

by young people

We are a group of young people from Sunningdale, and together with North Belfast Alternatives, LINC Resource Centre and the Institute for Conflict Research, we are carrying out a piece of research on the Sunningdale area.

The aim of our research is to seek people's opinion on various aspects of life within this area with a view to improving relationships between residents of the estate.

We would be very grateful if you could spare some of your time to fill out a questionnaire or to take part in an interview.

Questionnaires are anonymous and data is collected in a confidential way.

For further information, please contact Joan Totten on 028 90717077

Thank you

