

4/11/16

Home visit conducted on Friday 4th Nov 16. And emotional support was provided. At the time Mr. Curtis was having problems remembering the timeline of dates pertaining to incidents, said he was quite friendly with Simon Cordell - leading up to current events - and was somewhat perplexed as to the sudden change in the attitude of the accused.

Mr. Curtis and other alleged residents felt the problem could have something to do with a resident named Miss Debra Andrews who has since moved. Mr. Curtis made reference to Simon Cordell boasting in having something to do with her departure.

Mr Curtis was trying to recall events and said it could have been in the month of July, when Simone Cordell shouted abuse and swore at him and threatened to burn his flat down Mr. Curtis did not call the housing or police to report the threat. His friend, another resident who did not want his name mentioned, said that it was it was on 6th July. Mr. Curtis could not quite remember when the second incident occurred but said that it was around mid-September. Simon Cordell approached Mr. Curtis outside his flat, when Mr Curtis was on his way to the fields and threatened him. A lady called Karen also a resident of Burncroft witness the threat and asked Mr. Cordell to the leave him alone. With encouragement from other residents - Mr. Curtis called the police a few days after the threat to make a report.

Mr. Curtis said the police a lot of police some with riot gear-entered his flat with officers posted to the front and rear of the building. They managed to coax Mr. Cordell out of his flat and arrested him.

The case has since been heard in court and Simone Cordell pleaded not guilty. He has been bailed with conditions - to stay away from Mr. Curtis and also not to enter the Burncroft area.

Mr. Curtis is required to stand witness in court on the 17th Nov 2016. However, Mr. Curtis is feeling quite anxious and feels there may be reprisals to him giving evidence. I asked Mr. Curtis if he would like me to attend the hearing in support he said yes, he would not mind. I also visited another resident Christine to get her account of things.

Action

Contact the witness service and arrange a pre-court trial visit and other assistance.

Possibly arrange transportation on the day of the hearing - and for the pre-court trial visit any other assistance

/support we can provide Mr. Curtis with.

Jean Barton ASB Victim Support