



SaferPeterborough partnership helps create strong and supportive communities

A SaferPeterborough partnership is coordinating local authority, police, health, fire and rescue and the probation service resources to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and to ensure that Peterborough is a place where people feel safe.

By undertaking two 'Face the people' consultations each year, the partners obtain representative views (hundreds of completed questionnaires from each event) about the concerns of local residents. Those concerns influence the priorities of the partnership, which currently cover serious acquisitive crime, anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, violent crime (including alcohol-related crime and disorder), sexual offences and road safety.

In early 2009 The SaferPeterborough substance misuse team was awarded an 'excellent' rating by the Healthcare Commission for making significant improvements to local drug abuse services, covering areas such as diversity, residential rehabilitation and in-patient treatment.

Young people have been actively involved in campaigns through activities such as:

- Designing logos for personal safety pages on social networking websites Facebook and Bebo
- A Youth Got Talent contest, which led to performances at Peterborough Festival
- The creation of short films highlighting anti-social behaviour problems
- A 'Safe Summer' campaign during which outreach workers engaged with young people in their communities to discuss the dangers of binge drinking. This climaxed with an MC Clash music and dance event.

During the year, the partnership expanded its crime fighters programme following a successful launch of the initiative, which was announced by the Home Secretary in 2008.

Other campaigns have specifically targeted domestic abuse, hate crime and alcohol-awareness.

Peterborough pubs and clubs have supported a Behave Or Be Banned (BOBB) programme that excludes people who misbehave on licensed premises.

In addition, the partnership has worked with the Cambridgeshire Police Shrievalty Trust and the Salvation Army on initiatives that offer home safety guidance and practical security measures for older people, especially those that have suffered from a burglary.

Public engagement was also secured by asking people to nominate their priorities for action under a highly-visible 'Justice Seen, Justice Done' Community Payback project that put offenders to work cleaning up areas of the city under the supervision of the Cambridgeshire Probation Area.

During the year police re-focused an existing 'week of action' format to mount special campaigns that targeted areas where high levels of burglary have been reported. Special resources were also deployed to counteract alcohol and firework crimes and anti-social behaviour in the Hallowe'en and Guy Fawkes Night period.

An arson task group consisting of partnership members distributed stickers reminding residents to store their wheelie bins in a safe place after collection day to prevent them being targeted by arsonists. A wide range of activities have tackled road safety issues, such as drink and drug driving, seat-belt use, observing school crossing patrols and parking safely near schools.

Other safety promotion activities included an anti-begging poster campaign, bus advertising and a complete SaferPeterborough 'livery-wrap' around two city council Local Link buses.

The SaferPeterborough partners include Peterborough City Council, NHS Peterborough, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, Cambridgeshire Police Authority and the Cambridgeshire Probation Area.