

Safer Derbyshire News

"So What?"



Edition 1 - 2009

This is the new Safer Derbyshire '**So What?**' newsletter, aimed to inform people in Derbyshire about projects and what we are doing to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Community safety is about making our neighbourhood safer and a better place to live and work. There are eight Community Safety Partnerships covering the County contributing toward targets and delivering projects in your area. For more information about your Partnership, go to www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk - In Your Area.

Safer Derbyshire is a multi-agency partnership between Derbyshire County Council's Community Safety Unit, Adult Care and Safeguarding, Research and Information Team, Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team, Derbyshire Youth Offending Service, Police, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service and Derbyshire Probation Service.

We have already worked closely with our partners to deliver projects. The Dusk til Dawn pilot project was highly successful with 5,000 bulbs being distributed to those over 60 across Derbyshire. A prize draw was included in the pack and the winner from Cromford received a FREE burglar alarm and fitting! (pictured right). The winner said "I don't win much and was really pleased to win an alarm. I feel much safer about going on holiday and leaving my home empty now." A further 17,000 bulbs are available from the Gold Card magazine this Autumn.



We also work closely with Derbyshire Intergenerational Strategy on a gardening project called Grow-2-Grow. There are currently five projects across the county, with up to 80 young people at risk of criminality learning gardening skills from the older generation. This project coincides with a reduction of 400 young people being dealt with by the courts compared to the previous year, and has also been illustrated as a case study in the 'Guide of ideas for planning and implementing intergenerational projects.' available in 30 languages.

A 24 hour third party reporting and helpline is available for victims and witnesses of Hate Crime. The aim is to encourage people to tell someone if they witness or fall victim to verbal or physical abuse because of their race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or transgender status. This was launched in October 2008, and is funded by Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Constabulary and Derby Community Safety Partnership. Derby County Football Club is supporting this helpline, and provided a perimeter board to promote this service in August 2009.

STOP HATE CRIME
0800 138 1625
24 HOUR HELP LINE

See overleaf for information about projects currently running and what to look out for over the next few months.



What are we doing to reduce Anti-social Behaviour?

We have been working closely with schools and a local theatre company to develop a theatre-in-education programme for Year 8 students. This will be piloted in six schools from November 2009 to January 2010. It will address young people hanging around in large groups and the underage purchase and consumption of alcohol.

Did you know that young people are more likely to be a victim of crime? We have been consulting with young people to identify their concerns on being a victim and how to report crime. This will shape our priority to provide young people with information on staying safe and reducing anti-social behaviour, reducing the number of young victims of crime and the consequences of this and to increase confidence in reporting crime.

How are we helping to reduce burglary?

Whilst Derbyshire has a very low burglary rate, it is important to ensure that the level of repeat victims of burglary is also reduced. A project has been extended after a successful pilot scheme in Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire and Bolsover. The latest scheme will be delivered in Amber Valley, Erewash, South Derbyshire, High Peak and Derbyshire Dales from August 2009. Victims will be referred to the project by a police officer who will arrange for the alarm to be fitted. The scheme will provide the victim with a high quality burglar alarm free of charge if they are in receipt of benefits, or for a small contribution of £75 if they are not. The people in the pilot project has not become a repeat victim of burglary.

How are we increasing local confidence and reducing fears?

We are working all the time to ensure that people feel confident in their homes as well as in the community, through Liberation days, Community Safety Weeks held in local libraries, publicising information on staying safe and helping our partners with a range of projects.



Look out for Operation Relentless 2009 - “Safe and Confident”. This is running from 28th September to 8th November. The focus is on delivery of activities and consistent two way consultation with local communities to improve public confidence. The areas of focus are ASB, crime and providing opportunities for young people and members of the community through a range of activities.

Browse the website: www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk to keep up to date with what's happening with Community Safety in Derbyshire

Editor recommends the ‘Our Priority’ Section this issue and to register for monthly news alerts on the left panel of the website.