

East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership

WORKING TOGETHER

Spring 2011
Newsletter

Agencies will work in partnership to reduce incidents of crime, disorder, and anti-social behaviour whilst improving public confidence and addressing the fear of crime locally.

Community Safety Partnership Priorities

Over the past three years we have continued to work in partnership to reduce crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and improve public confidence in the services that respond to incidents and reports of those issues. Building on our success in previous years, last year we were also successful with the following results achieved:

TOTAL CRIME DOWN ↓ by 11.6%

Violent Crime ↑ 4.7%

Burglary Dwelling ↓ 17.6%

Theft from Vehicles ↓ 30.2%

Criminal Damage ↓ 17.1%

Anti-Social Behaviour ↓ 18.5 %

(All Figures based on 12mths to Feb 2011 compared with previous 12mth period)

The Partnership has agreed to carry forward these same priorities into 2011/12. Therefore we will continue to tackle the following:-

Burglary

Theft from Vehicles

Violent Crime (including Domestic Abuse)

Improving Public Confidence in Services **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Improving Road Safety (speeding, inconsiderate parking & anti-social driving)

OUR TOP ACHIEVEMENTS

- Local Action Groups have continued to help communities resolve crime and anti-social behaviour issues and support local community safety initiatives.
- 5 Community Action Days were held across the districts to support and inform communities.
- All 10 Community Colleges in both districts received 'Last Orders', a play about the consequences of using alcohol. This was performed to all Year 9 pupils.
- The Mid Devon Community Alcohol Project was launched to tackle underage sales and to support licensees.
- We raised the profile of Domestic Abuse issues by organising a Noisy March and Charity Rugby Match.
- We trained over 80 staff working in local communities on 'Neighbourhood Management', which includes problem solving methods.
- 40 front-line staff received Alcohol Intervention Training so they can now recognise the signs of alcohol abuse and can 'sign post' individuals to appropriate alcohol services.



East & Mid Devon Community
Safety Partnership

East Devon Office:

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Tel: 01395 273802 Email: gmoore@eastdevon.gov.uk

Mid Devon Office:

c/o Mid Devon District Council, Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane,
Tiverton, EX16 6PP

Tel: 01884 234997 Email: jryder@middevon.gov.uk

East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership

Mid Devon Community Alcohol Project

You must be 18 years of age to purchase Alcohol

Mid Devon Accepts - Proof of Age

PASS Accredited Cards

UK Driving Licence

Passports



If you're caught using fake, or someone else's ID it will be retained for Police checks - YOU could face PROSECUTION

Communities Working Together

EDUCATE, SUPPORT, ENFORCE

This project was launched during 2010 and involved Mid Devon District Council, the Police and Devon County Council's Trading Standards Dept working together with the licensed trade on the issues of underage sales in relation to age restricted products e.g. alcohol, cigarettes etc.

Through education, enforcement and joint working the project will -

- Give retailers more confidence to deal with underage sales.
- Make young people more aware of the consequences of purchasing age restricted products.
- Tackle the issue of fake ID cards.
- Make town centres safe places to visit at night and to improve public perceptions about this.



VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Can you spare 2-3 hours a week?

We are looking for volunteers who are understanding and who can get on with people of all ages, cultures and backgrounds. Anyone can apply. No previous experience of this kind of work is necessary. We supply all volunteers with basic training. If you would like to volunteer with us, or have been a victim of crime and would like some support, please call our helpline:

0845 676 10 20

New Police & Crime Commissioners (PCCs) will commission community safety work

The Coalition Government are to introduce PCCs from May 2012, intending that this will give the public direct influence over action on crime in their local area. PCCs will replace the existing Police Authorities and will work closely with community safety partners. They will hold agencies to account on behalf of constituents and are going to be responsible for community safety funding.

PCCs will be independently and democratically elected to represent their local area and understand local concerns. Our PCC will represent Devon, Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly. The concern of this Partnership is that funding will go to the 'hotspot' areas such as Plymouth, Torbay & Exeter, with the safer, more rural towns and communities not receiving support for preventative work. The funding that we have received in the past has enabled us to support and fund such projects and initiatives.

ALARM FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

The Community Safety Partnership was able to support victims of crime by providing Victim Support with funding to purchase and distribute personal attack alarms.

The project is intended to help ease the fear of people who have been the victims of burglary or domestic abuse incidents within their homes.



Neighbourhood Management



Many agencies have responsibilities to provide key services within communities and neighbourhoods. To ensure that this is efficient and cost effectively delivered, they need to have good communications with residents. Services may include waste management, health, highways, play areas, policing and other civic responsibilities.



Understanding neighbourhoods and those who live within them is key to ensuring that residents receive the service they want and need. The benefits of understanding communities and the improved methods of communicating with them means that concerns can be tackled before they escalate into more serious problems.



Over 80 staff from a variety of agencies including the Police, East & Mid Devon District Councils, (Housing, Environmental Health and Estates Services), Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, Youth Workers and Health, have recently attended a training course aimed at improved working with neighbourhoods. This has included community problem solving methods.



The one day course was held at several locations in East & Mid Devon and was specifically designed for the Community Safety Partnership by colleagues from the Police.

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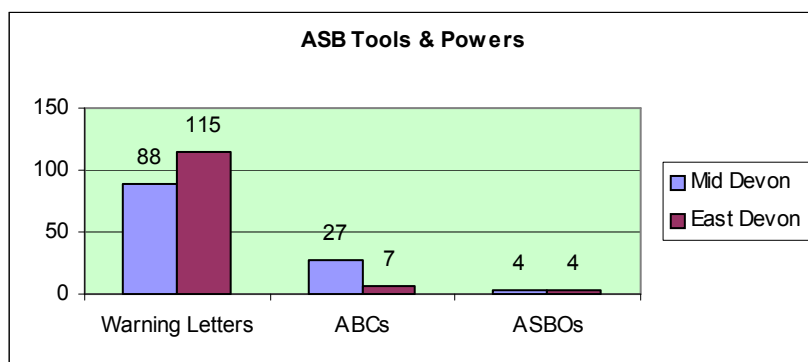
TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

For the second year running, incidents of anti-social behaviour in the rowdy, nuisance and inconsiderate categories, reported to the Police, has fallen (-18.5%), as have incidents of criminal damage (-17.1%). The Partnership is confident that this reduction is mainly due to the joint working between staff from a number of agencies and organisations.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator work is carried out by the two Community Safety Officers, Gerry Moore in East Devon and Julia Ryder in Mid Devon. They both liaise with a variety of agencies including Police, housing providers, schools, Devon Youth Service, Youth Offending Team (YOT) etc, to deal with those causing unacceptable behaviour. Not all such behaviour is caused by young people but many of the young individuals who do come to notice have dysfunctional family backgrounds where poor parenting skills are evident. Often there are elements of drugs, alcohol and domestic abuse within the home. Whilst this is not an excuse for the behaviour of these young people, it is often an underlying reason for it.

Where possible we attempt to deal with anti-social behaviour quickly by issuing warning letters in the hope that we can 'nip it in the bud'. If the behaviour does not improve the Co-ordinators will convene a multi-agency meeting to look at the background to the behaviour and what interventions or sanctions can be put in place to have the desired effect and protect the community. This may include Acceptable Behaviour Contracts or in worst case scenario, application to the courts for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, Premises Closure Orders (for up to three months) or Repossession of a Property owned by a social landlord. Where behaviour effects a geographical area Police can use dispersal powers to split up groups that gather to cause anti-social behaviour.

During the period April 10—Feb 11, the following tools & powers have been used:-



Dispersal Powers have been used (Section 30 & 27 Alcohol related) in Exmouth, Seaton and Uffculme.

Premises Closure Orders have been used in Woodbury and Cullompton.

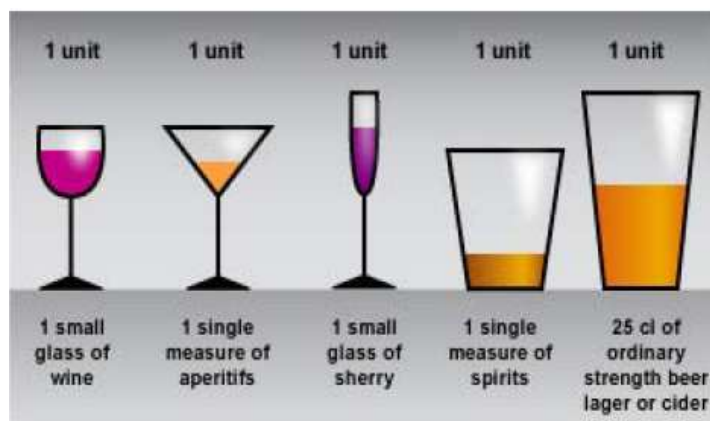
The new Coalition Government is currently consulting on a review of the tools and powers available to Police and local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour. This includes replacing ASBOs and injunctions with something

similar but with something that is intended to be easier to obtain via the court process.

Alcohol Interventions training

This training has been provided by the **Devon Drug and Alcohol Action Team** and **Addaction**. It equips staff with the knowledge and skills to help give advice to individuals who may be at risk of developing alcohol related problems.

The East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership facilitated two courses held in Tiverton during February and March. 40 staff from agencies across both Districts, including the Police, Fire Service, Health, Children's Centres, schools, District Councils and the voluntary sector, have attended this very popular course. It has the potential to reduce the wide ranging number of alcohol related problems for individuals and for society in general.



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Domestic Abuse Raising Awareness

During 2010, the Community Safety Partnership was able to raise public awareness of this under-reported but extremely significant and very often violent crime. We were able to promote support services available to victims and families that need advice.



Devon Drug & Alcohol Workers Support the Red Card

- **A Charity Rugby Match** was held in Tiverton and played between officers from Devon & Cornwall Police and Tiverton Rugby Club. The match, which was played in good spirits, raised £550 which was donated to Stop Abuse For Everyone (formerly Women's Aid) and Victim Support. This will help them continue their valuable work in tackling domestic abuse in the Mid Devon area.

- **A Noisy March** was held in Seaton to coincide with Domestic Abuse Awareness Week in November and was well supported with good press coverage. It was followed by an information event at the town hall.

- Senior Officers from Devon Drug & Alcohol Services supported the Red Card initiative that was launched across Devon during the 2010 World Cup to **'Give Domestic Abuse the Red Card'**.

ALCOHOL EDUCATION FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

During the last year funding has been made available through the Safer Devon Partnership for all secondary schools in East and Mid Devon to receive performances of **'Last Orders'**, from the Solomon Theatre Group.



This hard hitting drama based on a true story, deals with the consequences of binge drinking and the impact of alcohol on a person's ability to make decisions. This performance is aimed at Yr 9 students (ages 13-14 years) and is followed by workshops which explore issues such as alcohol related anti-social behaviour and underage purchases.



What is Community Messaging?

Community Messaging is a targeted messaging service that allows the Police to contact subscribers with a message to help prevent or solve a crime in a local area.

Community Messaging also allows you to find out about Police led community meetings, what your local Police are doing about issues affecting your area, as well as local crime statistics and trends.

You can choose to receive messages by faxed letter, phone or email.

See www.devon-cornwall.police.uk or phone 08452 777 444 for more information.

Useful Contacts

East Devon District Council Customer Services 01395 516551

Mid Devon District Council Customer Services 01884 255255

Devon County Council 0845 1551015

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service 01392 872288

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Police Non-emergency 08452 777 444

Police Emergency if a crime is happening now 999

or offenders on scene

csc@eastdevon.gov.uk

customerfirst@middevon.gov.uk

www.devon.gov.uk

www.dsfire.gov.uk

www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

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