

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Review of the 5th Annual SSP Conference
- News stories from around the NPTs
- Feature on tackling ASB
- Victim Support in focus
- Key contacts

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If you want a story included in the next edition, please submit them to the editor by Friday 5th October

SAFER STOCKPORT PARTNERSHIP NEWS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

JULY 2007

SSP Conference is Best Ever!

The Safer Stockport Partnership held its fifth annual conference on the 14th June at Edgeley Park.

The event, which is unique across Greater Manchester, once again proved to be an overwhelming success with over 200 delegates including councillors, partnership agencies, Council officers and representatives from community organisations in attendance.

This year the main theme was 'Building Respect and Making Neighbourhoods Safer'. Particular focus was on the positive impact the partnership has made to Stockport residents. Updating on the partnership's progress towards meeting key targets for tackling crime, grime and anti-social behaviour was also important.

Addressing the conference were the Leader of Stockport Council - Councillor Dave Goddard, the Council's Deputy Chief Executive - Ged Lucas, Superintendent Rob Potts of Greater Manchester Police Stockport Division and Councillor Hazel Lees - Executive

Member for Communities.

Keynote speeches by representatives from the government Respect Taskforce, EnCams, and Trading Standards North West gave delegates an understanding of the regional and national picture, and helped to contextualise the work of the partnership and provide an opportunity to consider future directions and projects.



SSP Fifth Annual Conference

Another key feature of the day was a number of interactive workshop sessions allowing delegates to get involved in more detailed discussions about specific areas of work, including neighbourhood policing, off-road motorcycle nuisance, the effects of drugs on fami-

lies, and domestic abuse. Superintendent Rob Potts, GMP commented:

"The Safer Stockport Partnership Conference once again demonstrated the tremendous commitment and determination of all the agencies and groups within the borough to reduce crime and disorder and improve the quality of life for the residents and visitors to Stockport".

Hazel Lees added "The effectiveness of the Safer Stockport Partnership is reflected by the numbers of people attending this event. Numbers have grown year on year and it is heartening to know that Stockport's residents have such an interested and involved group of people working together on their behalf."

Enjoy Reading!
Ged Lucas & Neil Wain,
Joint chairs of the Safer
Stockport Partnership

Operation Vigilant

A police operation to tackle insecurities is currently underway. Operation Vigilant involves a staffed police POD being deployed at three set locations, namely Vernon Park, the Peel Centre, and Morrisons, Cheadle Heath.

Crime prevention products and information will be given to the public free of charge, Crime Reduction Advisors will be on hand to offer advice, and Police Community Support Officers from the Central Policing Team will also be in attendance.

The aim of the operation is to encourage residents to make their property and their homes more secure and in turn reduce the number of thefts and burglaries over the summer period.

The locations for events yet to take place are:

12th July, 11am-3pm
Vernon Park, Turncroft Lane

19th July 11am-3pm
Morrisons, Cheadle

29th July 11am-3pm
Peel Centre

Why not come along and get yourself **free** property marking, bike marking kits, and other giveaways

Low crime in May

May saw the best monthly performance in Stockport for PSA1 crimes since the current targets were set some four years ago in 2003.

This meant over 700 fewer crimes than the same month in 2003.

Crackdown on Rogue Traders

"This shows the risks that can be involved in dealing with these kinds of businesses"

Rogue traders operating in the Stockport area have been targeted as part of a joint initiative between Stockport Council, Stockport Police and the Department of Work and Pensions.

The crackdown on rogue traders which took place on Friday 15th June was part of a national initiative called 'Operation Rogue Trader'.

The aim was to tackle the activities of businesses and bogus tradesman that often target vulnerable people in their own homes and carry out poor quality work, often at extortionate prices.

The operation resulted in:

The seizure of two vans being used by traders in the Hazel Grove area as the vehicles had no insurance.

The identification of three people who were illegally claiming Job Seekers Allowance whilst working.

The discovery of incorrect business paperwork and a failure to provide cancellation rights for one company

One arrest being made.

Councillor Stuart Bodsworth, Executive Member for Environment, said: "This shows the risks that can be involved in

dealing with these kinds of businesses.

Our advice is always think very carefully before agreeing to have work done on your property by someone who knocks on your door. You should aim to get two or three quotes from reputable traders, ideally someone who is recommended to you or a local trader who will let you see other work they've done."

Similar events will take place in the future. In the meantime concerns about Rogue Traders or Doorstep Callers should be reported to Trading Standards on 0845 404 0506.

Stockport's Eden Project!



The EDEN Bus

Young people in the east area of Stockport are benefiting from the Eden Bus Project.

For the last few months the facility has been available in the Woodley Precinct in response to problems with youth in the area.

The EDEN bus is a unique mobile youth centre which, aided by youth teams and volunteers from local churches reaches out to socially excluded young people.

The young people can watch a DVD, play on the latest games consoles, play board games or just sit and chat to the team.

The bus offers young people (10+) a safe environment to chill out and have fun, ask for help with issues and build healthy responsible relationships.

The project offers a creative approach to engaging with young people who may otherwise have engaged in anti-social behaviour, or be in trouble with the police. The bus which is staffed by 10-12 volunteers is based in the Woodley

Precinct every Friday night.

Volunteers are also working with the Werneth Young People's centre on Wednesday evenings.

For more information please contact the bus manager Julie Mason on 0161 946 2361.

The East Area Inspector Dermot Morrissey commented, "The SSP recognises and appreciates the efforts of the EDEN project alongside local youth provision in engaging young people".

New Junior Rangers Scheme

A visit by the neighbourhood rangers team to Adswood and Bridgehall primary schools, after which children answered a questionnaire on graffiti, litter and crime, has led to the introduction of a junior rangers scheme.

8-10 young people from these schools will work on a junior rangers scheme over the summer holiday.

At Adswood Primary School, local children will work together

with the neighbourhood rangers on an existing garden in the school premises, whilst at Bridgehall they will be involved in creating a new one.

The children will take ownership of these schemes and will have the opportunity to design their own sweatshirts as well as being treated to a barbeque by way of reward!

As well as picking up new skills, the scheme provides a welcome

diversion for these young people over the summer holidays.

Ben Ahmed, Community Safety Co-ordinator and Area Neighbourhood Rangers Team Manager, said 'This is an opportunity for local young people to feel that they can access local services such as the neighbourhood rangers and take part in environmental projects'.

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Drug Services under one roof

The 21st June saw the formal opening of Pennine Care NHS Trust's brand new combined drug and alcohol facility at Cirtek House in Stockport.

The ceremony was performed by The Worshipful Mayor of Stockport, Councillor June Somekh, during an Open Day which included demonstrations of complementary therapies such as acupuncture, Indian head massage, reiki and reflexology.

The service is a highly successful joint initiative between Pennine Care, the Primary Care Trust, and Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council. Prior to this development, drug and alcohol services



Mayor June Somekh opens Cirtek House

were scattered throughout the Stockport area and it has provided an ideal opportunity to bring a number of services under one roof.

The building has been designed

to maintain service user confidentiality, whilst remaining unobtrusive to the local community. The new premises have also brought a number of benefits for patients, workers and the local community: a modern, comfortable environment in which to work and to receive a service, and an environment in which staff and service users feel valued.

Stockport Drug and Alcohol Services Manager at Cirtek House, Dil Jauffur, said *"This is a welcome advance in Substance Misuse Services for Stockport residents. It is the culmination of successful collaborative working between local commissioners and providers which has resulted in the development of this new facility"*.

"This is a welcome advance in Substance Misuse Services for Stockport Residents. It is the culmination of successful collaborative working."

Getting tough on ASB

The Safer Stockport Partnership is using technology and legislation in its attempts to reduce Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) across Stockport.

Off Road biking signage is being introduced around many of the borough's open spaces. These act as a first warning, meaning bikers can have their bikes seized and destroyed if stopped by the police.



Rangers and PCSOs have been given Head Cameras to record incidents taking place to assist in the gathering of evidence.

The use of recording equipment is also being utilised by four wheels. Two new vehicles will be patrolling the streets of Stockport to crackdown on ASB by gathering video evidence of the perpetrators and reassuring local residents.

The yellow liveried Vauxhall Corsas will be driven by local neighbourhood police officers and are fitted with state-of-the-art

recording equipment.

Evidence gathered on the cameras will be stored on a computer and used by officers and Stockport Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Action Team in subsequent prosecutions.



Agency in focus

Victim Support are the agency in focus for this edition, read on to find out how they are working in partnership, and supporting victims and witnesses.

Since receiving this year's target hardening grant from the SSP in April, Victim Support Stockport has already upgraded the security of 190 households.

The bulk of the work has been carried out on behalf of victims of burglary as part of the SSP's objective to bring the number of repeat burglaries down.

However victims of other crimes have also been helped and these include victims of racist crime, arson, assault and domestic abuse.

Victim Support receives referrals from a wide range of agencies and individuals such as the police domestic violence unit, Women's Aid, Police Community Support Officers, Youth Offending Team and the Witness Service when there is concern over a witness who is being intimidated.

Agencies also refer victims of crime to our counselling service and we are pleased to assist vic-

tims of serious assault who meet the criteria of the criminal injury compensation authority.

On average the office receives 1000 referrals a month and the service relies heavily on the expertise and goodwill of over 60 trained volunteers who give their time and skills freely to help those affected by crime.

For help, advice and referrals please ring 0161 477 9597 or email admin@victimsupport-stockport.co.uk

For information on attending court if you are a witness please contact Jacqui Birnie 0161 968 4987 or 0161 480 1948.



Glynis Clements - a Stockport volunteer who recently won an Outstanding Volunteer award

KEY CONTACTS

Community Safety Unit, 2nd Floor, Victoria House, Stockport, SK1 3XE

Phone: 474 3143 Fax: 474 3144 Email: communitysafetyunit@stockport.gov.uk

NORTH AREA
north.stockport@gmp.police.uk
 Insp. Norman Lawrence
 0161 856 9786

EAST AREA
east.stockport@gmp.police.uk
 Insp. Dermot Morrissey
 0161 856 9973

WEST AREA
west.stockport@gmp.police.uk
 Insp. Dave Turner
 0161 856 9776

CENTRAL AREA
central.stockport@gmp.police.uk
 Insp. Brian Nicholls
 0161 856 9727

Anti-Social Behaviour Reporting Line

To report:

- ✓ Fly-tipping
- ✓ Fly-posting
- ✓ Graffiti
- ✓ Noise nuisance
- ✓ Vehicle-related nuisance
- ✓ Under age Drinking
- ✓ Harassment

0845 833 4444

Non emergency
Police response

0161 872 5050



Dates for your diary and news in brief

Upcoming events.....

A Domestic Abuse Basic Awareness Course is taking place on 12th September 2007. Anyone wishing to attend should contact: Linda Phipps, Staff Development, 7th Floor, Regal House, Tel: 0161 476 4628.

News in Brief.....

Crime figures in Stockport are currently low, with Stockport presently the best performing division across Greater Manchester.

Stockport Women's Aid, Victim Support and other representatives from the Stockport Domestic Abuse Forum are teaming up with Johnnie Johnson Housing to launch a pilot accommodation unit to assist and support women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

This initiative is a good indicator of successful partnership working. Other Registered Social Landlords have offered their support for this pilot and are eagerly awaiting the evaluation.

The work of the Community Safety Unit has been recognized with two projects shortlisted for the WOW

Awards, Stockport Council's in-house awards which recognize best practice.

The two projects are No Cold Calling Zones and 'Out of Crime, Into Treatment and Beyond', a project working with former drug users. The winners will be announced in the coming weeks.



The No Cold Calling Zone initiative has been shortlisted for the WOW Awards

A leaflet outlining the agencies involved in the Criminal Justice Process and the role they play is available from the Community Safety Unit.

Please ring 0161 474 3130 for copies.

The administration of Watch Schemes in Stockport is currently being reviewed. PCSOs will be heavily involved in existing and future schemes and training is currently underway. For more information please email Dermot Ennis, dermot.ennis@gmp.police.uk.

The move towards policing teams based in community buildings is coming to fruition with a police post to open in Bridgehall and a second at Whitehill Fire Station in the coming weeks. A number of additional locations are currently being considered.

The Strategic Assessment for 07/08 has now been completed. If you have any queries please contact Joanne Maskell on 0161 474 3118.

An early warning system informing the public about Rogue Trader activity or Doorstep Callers that may be operating in their area is available on the SSP website saferstockport.org.uk.

The Bogus Caller Group which monitors Doorstep Crime meets every two months. Queries should be directed to chair, Maria Kildunne on 0161 475 0548.