

MAKING EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE A SAFER PLACE



The East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership
Final Quarter Newsletter April 2009– March 2010

Welcome to the East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership's 2009-10 Final Quarter Newsletter.

It is our aim to provide an interesting & engaging update on our activities, that hopefully you will find both informative and helpful, and will allow you to become involved in helping to create a better and safer place for us all to live and work.

The following pages contain information of some of our achievements to date & projects/ initiatives sponsored by the Partnership over the last year. Further information about our aims can be found by going to the East Cambs District Council website

www.eastcambs.gov.uk/crime/crime-safety
(there are also links to individual priorities contained within our strategy).

If you have any questions for any other members of the Partnership to do with local crime and disorder issues, please contact our Partnership Co-ordinator – Issy Bridge.

01353 665555



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ste Thornley'.

Ste Thornley, Chair of East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership and Head of Policy and Performance at East Cambridgeshire District Council.

THE PRIORITIES

What did we say we would do between April 2009 and March 2010?

The Partnership has focused on six priority areas for East Cambridgeshire. These took into account the priorities of local residents, crime trends and the Government's National Crime Reduction Strategy. We will continue to work hard on the six priority areas for the remainder of the term left on our 2008-2011 Strategy

The Priorities

Anti-Social Behaviour
Household Burglary
Vehicle Crime
Reducing Re-Offending
Domestic Violence
Communities Together

We also said we would tackle the Impact of Substance Misuse on Crime and focus on Young People's issues in the district

Working together to reduce crime, the fear of crime, and anti-social behaviour: Cambridgeshire Constabulary; Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service; East Cambridgeshire District Council; Cambridgeshire County Council; Drug & Alcohol Action Team; NHS Cambridgeshire; Youth Offending Service; Probation Service; Neighbourhood Watch; Voluntary Community Action East Cambridgeshire; The Police Authority; Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils; Sanctuary Hereward.



Anti Social Behaviour in East Cambridgeshire

In order to tackle concerns about anti-social behaviour in East Cambs the Community Safety Partnership employs a dedicated specialist Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator who has very successfully tackled issues within East Cambs using a variety of methods, including the issuing and monitoring of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts & ASBO's, as well as working closely with the Neighbourhood Panel's to seek multi-agency solutions to anti-social behaviour in East Cambs.

The CSP takes your concerns of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), fuelled by under-age drinking, seriously and as such we have continued to support the Trading Standards initiative (supported by the Police) of Test Purchasing exercises. An underage individual is recruited to attempt to purchase alcohol; every off-license outlet in East Cambs is tested. In 2009/10, 40 initial Test Purchases were made, with an 88% compliance rate. The establishments that failed the initial test were offered reassurance meetings to discuss how to ensure future compliance and re-tested at a later date. All re-visits resulted in no sales being made.

If you are concerned about ASB in your area you can let us know in a number of ways:

Via Neighbourhood Panels - Last year the panel process helped resolve a number of incidents of reported ASB by tackling local issues in a multi-agency approach. You can find out when & where your next Neighbourhood Panel is via the East Cambs DC website www.eastcambs.gov.uk and clicking on N on the A-Z option, alternatively you can contact the Neighbourhood Panel Coordinator, Alan Williams on 01353 665555.

By calling the Police non-emergency* number, 0345 456456 4: ASB incidents can also be reported to the Police Service Centre. This assists the Police to build-up a local picture of 'hotspot' areas to enable them to respond promptly with appropriate solutions. (**Emergencies or crimes in progress should be reported using the emergency 999 number*)

To find out more about ASB, what constitutes ASB; how to report it; and who to contact go to the East Cambs DC website:

www.eastcambs.gov.uk/crime/anti-social-behaviour

Serious Acquisitive Crime (Vehicle Crime & Dwelling Burglary)

We have continued to make good progress with the reduction of theft of vehicles. Theft from vehicles has remained the same. We aim to continue to target vehicle crime in the coming year, with a stronger emphasis on theft from vehicles, by raising public awareness of the risks to loss of property (and subsequent damage to vehicles) when valuables are left unattended in cars via the 'Don't Bother' campaign.

Despite some good progress in the final two quarters of 2009-10 dwelling burglary has risen

slightly against the previous 2008-09 figures. However peak periods have been identified and Cambridgeshire Constabulary will be working hard to raise awareness of home security measures, especially over the Summer season where window & doors are more likely to be left unsecured.

Further advice regarding car & home security can be found on the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website

www.cambs-police.co.uk/crimeprevention/advice

Reducing Re-Offending, Domestic Violence & Communities Together

The Community Safety Partnership has also continued to work on our other priorities: Reducing Re-Offending; Domestic Violence & Communities Together throughout the year. Some of the 2009-10 successes have included:

- Continuing to monitor and support individuals identified as Persistent Priority Offenders (PPO) via the Southern PPO

Scheme to enable them to stop their offending behaviour and re-integrate them back into the community.

**Statistics have shown that 10% of the active offender population is responsible for half of all crime. The Prolific & Priority scheme & strategy was produced by the government in 2004 to tackle the management of this group of offenders. Those who choose not to engage with the scheme, and then go on to re-offend are quickly dealt with by the Criminal Justice System.*

- Continuing to support the 'Freedom Programme' to support women who are victims of domestic abuse.
- Updated & published a directory of services for victims of domestic abuse. An email version of the directory can be found at www.eastcambs.gov.uk/crime/domestic-violence
- Promoted & funded domestic violence training & awareness for professionals working in East Cambs
- Funded a Faith in the Community event to highlight the work of the churches in Ely in supporting vulnerable, elderly & youth within our community
- Contributed to the funding of the Positive Activities project which is aimed at engaging young people/individuals in minority groups, or at risk of offending, in positive activities that would not regularly be involved in community activities.

In 2009-10 the CSP were also able to support the following projects & initiatives to further assist us in meeting our six priorities:

Ely Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)

The Partnership made contribution to two worthy Ely PRU projects: 'On Your Bike' and the Music Project.

The bike project is now a well established part of the student's curriculum and has proven a great success.

The bike project allows the students to learn all aspects of bike maintenance & cycle safety, as well as the added benefit of keeping fit by going on bike rides as part of their curricular activities. The students have since expanded the project to include an annual sponsored cycling event. In the Spring of 2009, 5 students, accompanied by 3 instructors took part in a 70 mile sponsored cycle along the Peddars Way. They raised over £500 for Cancer Research. The money this year was used to purchase camping equipment so that they can take part in further sponsored charity cycle events, some of which will take place over several days.

The Music Project sees students taking part in creating & performing their own music, using computer-based equipment. The British Symphonia have supported the PRU in this venture and the students have also made a CD of their music.

Fenland Elite Bus

The Fenland Elite Bus is a mobile youth facility aimed at the 11-17yr age group and is equipped with a DJ music deck, ipod player, PS2 and X-Box, as well as having 2 computer stations. There is also a small tuck-shop available for

purchasing of snacks and refreshments. It is also used as a Community Learning venue. For further information about the bus, youth club times/venues etc please contact fenlandelite@hotmail.com

Ely Youth Café

Every Friday evening at the Cathedral Centre (opposite the Cathedral Green) the Ely Youth Initiative runs a drop-in style café aimed at youths from 11-17. The Café offers a place for young people to sit and listen to music, catch-up with their friends, or even play on the Nintendo Wii. Light food and refreshments are also available. The Café is open from 7pm until 10pm. More information about Ely Youth Initiative can be found at www.eyi.org.uk.

High Barns Youth Club

The club at High Barns is aimed at 10-16 yr olds. The sessions are aimed at engaging youths from the area in a variety of sport taster sessions. The youth club is run from Larkfields on Thursday evenings. For further details contact 01353 612800.

Targeted Policing

The Partnership contributed funds to the Police to provide additional police patrols to target specific operations based on intelligence & analysis, events or crime series. The activities focused around peaks in criminal activity and spontaneous crime series & hotspot crime areas. Over the year this led to the issuing of 17 warrants for Drugs & Acquisitive Crime, resulting in a number of arrests & successful prosecutions.

Dwelling Burglary Packs

The Partnership contributed funds to buy 100 burglary packs to be used as part of follow-up reassurance visits, to those who have been victims of dwelling burglary. The packs included information and advice from the Home Office and the Police regarding home safety as well as SmartWater kits, which is a forensic marking system. The feedback from those who received the follow-up visits & packs was very favourable and burglary victims reported feeling more reassured & safer as a result.

Community Cohesion Support Officer

The Partnership joint funds a Community Cohesion Support Officer for Southern Cambridgeshire. The overall aim of the Officer is to provide a third party reporting service for hate crime and

offer support, information and advice to victims and witnesses. In 2009 the focus has been on re-launching the Open-Out scheme with a website and materials developed to raise awareness of hate crime, what it is & how to report it. The Officer is based in East Cambs two days a week. More information about the Open-Out Scheme can be found at www.openoutcambs.org. The Community Safety Partnership funds were also used to:

- Contribute funds to the Locality Team to put on a series of six monthly discos in Littleport, with an number of themed community safety messages for young people about staying safe & safe relationships.
- Purchase ASB materials to support the Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) in Jubilee gardens and to produce safety posters and information around Halloween

2010-11 Focus/Events/Projects

The Community Safety Partnership will continue to support all six of the chosen long-term priorities in the forthcoming year. Our Annual Strategic Assessment, which collates data from a number of sources & agencies, concluded that the priorities we have been working on since 2008 are still relevant to the needs of East Cambs.

The Partnership will also continue to fund projects & initiatives that best fit our national and local targets in order to achieve our ultimate aim of reducing crime, and fear of crime in East Cambridgeshire.

If you would like to know more about the Community Safety Partnership you can find further information (including links to other sites) on the East Cambridgeshire District Council website:

www.eastcambs.gov.uk/crime/crime-safety

The Community Safety Partnership will also be supporting the following events with their own information stall:

- **Soham Skate Park Open Day**,
Soham Recreation Ground: Saturday 17th July, 12 noon till 4:30
- **Ely Police Station Open Day:**
12:00 - 16:00, Sunday 19th September 2010
- **Week of Action**
(Date still to be announced). We will be dedicating a week in the forthcoming year to showcase a range of Community Safety Issues.

Our Community Safety 2010-11 Action Plan & 2008-11 CSP Plan are now available to view or download from the East Cambs DC website by clicking on Community Safety from the following webpage www.eastcamb.go.uk/crime/crime-safety