Welcome

Welcome to the Chesterfield Community Safety Strategy which runs from 2005 to 2008.

Chesterfield Community Safety Partnership brings groups and organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors together to work to achieve our vision which is to make the Borough a safer place in which to live, work, play and invest.

Crime and the fear of crime are key concerns for many of you. We have listened to what you have told us and utilising the findings from the recent Partnership Crime Audit, we have been careful to address these concerns in the priorities we have set.

As a result, our priorities for the next three years are:

- Burglary (domestic and non domestic)and theft
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Violent Crime

Many of you have said how important a number of issues are, which cut across these priorities, and these are also addressed in this strategy. They include:

- drugs
- alcohol misuse
- fear of crime
- the need for meaningful information

We have made significant progress in the last three years and we are grateful for the support we have received from our partners and the community. We look forward to continuing to respond to and work with our communities over the coming three years to make the Borough an even better place.

Councillor Mark Higginbottom
Chair of the Partnership and Deputy Leader, Chesterfield Borough Council

Setting the Scene

The Partnership was created as a result of the Crime and Disorder Act in 1998, which places a statutory responsibility on the Police Force, the County Council, Chesterfield Borough Council, the Police Authority, Chesterfield Primary Care Trust and the Fire & Rescue Service to work together to cut crime and disorder.

“...I am concerned about having my car stolen or property stolen from my car...”
Citizen Panel result
The Act also places a duty on the Partnership to produce a crime reduction strategy every three years, and this document sets out our plan for 2005-2008.

Chesterfield is an historic market town at the heart of the north eastern part of Derbyshire. The population of the Borough is 98,845 (2001 Census). Chesterfield effectively provides employment, leisure and retail services for a population of 250,000 and is famous for its parish church with a crooked spire. The town has expanded as the commercial and retail centre for the area, becoming the second largest settlement in the county.

Progress to date

Recorded crime in Derbyshire over the three-year period from 2001-2004 has increased, though certain offences including theft from a vehicle and non-domestic burglary have seen a reduction. Crime within Chesterfield Borough accounts for 12% of Derbyshire’s geographical county total.

Throughout the last three years the Partnership concentrated on its key themes of burglary, anti-social behaviour, vehicle crime, domestic abuse, drugs and alcohol, town centre violence and hate crime. During that time the Partnership has made a lot of positive progress in its work to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, for example:-

- Free security equipment for vulnerable residents including property marking equipment, alleygating etc
- Developed a number of activities aimed to engage young people e.g. ‘Summer sesh’
- 70% of car parks in Chesterfield Town Centre have achieved the Secured Car Park Award
- CCTV across the borough including Staveley and Chesterfield Town Centre
- Employment of a Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator to co-ordinate activity and develop new services including security improvements
- Introduction of an Alcohol Control Zone in Chesterfield Town Centre
- Identification of Priority and Persistent Offenders receiving intensive supervision from the Police and Probation Service
- Working with the licensees of night-clubs to raise awareness of drugs and drug misuse
- Supporting Chesterfield Pub Watch in Brimington, Staveley and Chesterfield Town Centre
- The STAR Project (Supporting Trading Against Racism), project provided CCTV coverage to retailers
- Advice and support given to victims of all forms of hate crime

“...improved CCTV and secure car parks contribute to feelings of safety in the town centre…”
Citizens Panel Response

“...this is a hidden issue, which impacts on all areas. It is not always physical…”
Support Worker, Women’s Aid

“Need to tackle the dealers...people know where offenders are dealing.”
Newbold resident
The way forward ..... 

The Chesterfield Crime and Disorder Audit published in November 2004 contained a comprehensive audit of recorded information from organisations that enabled a proper assessment to be made of crime trends and disorder over the previous three years. The Audit also included the findings of a number of consultation exercises with local people, these included:-

- a citizens panel of 1000 people
- a number of focus groups held over the Borough
- Community Safety questionnaires distributed to local residents and young people
- formal discussions with organisations that are members of the Partnership

The outcomes from this extensive consultation confirmed the selection of priorities for the Strategy and provided valuable information to be used in the Partnership’s work over the next three years.

Links to other Plans and Strategies

If we are to sustain long-term solutions, this strategy must not be seen in isolation, and we have therefore linked up with the aims, objectives and priorities of organisations such as the Government Office of the East Midlands, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Constabulary and local community strategy.

Priorities for 2005 to 2008

Some of the main concerns of the community and also identified by the audit were “fear of crime”, prolific offenders, drug and alcohol misuse and information exchange, these will be tackled throughout the following priorities:

- **Burglary and theft** including domestic and non-domestic burglary, vehicle crime
- **Anti-social Behaviour** including disorder, criminal damage, hate crime, secondary fires and the perception of anti-social behaviour
- **Violent Crime** including domestic abuse, town centre violence

“... Putting the thinking into Drinking campaign” has been well received by the public”.

Local newspaper report
BURGLARY AND THEFT

Targets - To reduce:

- Domestic Burglaries by 32% from a baseline of 1085 to 738 by 2008
- Theft of Vehicles by 15% from a baseline of 321 to 273 by 2008
- Theft from a Vehicle by 25% from a baseline of 1259 to 944 by 2008

Objectives

- To reduce burglary and theft, particularly drug and alcohol related (includes domestic and non domestic burglary)
- To reduce the level of motor vehicle related crime
- To identify and reduce the number of priority and prolific offenders
- To reduce the number of “sneak in burglaries” and bogus callers

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Targets - To reduce:

- Criminal Damage by 20% from a baseline of 2202 to 1762 by 2008
- The number of secondary fires by 5% from a baseline of 278 to 264 by 2008
- The perception of Anti-social Behaviour by 10% from a baseline of 2988 to 2689

Objectives

- To reduce Anti-social Behaviour, particularly drug and alcohol related
- To reduce the level of criminal damage, fire setting and vandalism
- To identify and reduce the number of priority and prolific offenders
- To reduce the number of Neighbourhood related nuisances
- To increase the reporting of Hate Crime
- To reduce the level of Hate Crime incidents

* This target reflects a minimum of achievement expected by the Partnership.

Please note - Home Office Crime Comparator Baseline data is used for Domestic Burglary, Theft of Vehicle, Theft from Vehicle, Common Assault and Wounding.
VIOLENT CRIME

Targets - To reduce:

- Common Assault by 6% from a baseline 244 to 229 by 2008
- Wounding by 9% from a baseline of 1449 to 1319 by 2008

Objectives

- To increase the reporting of incidents of Domestic Abuse
- To reduce the levels of repeat victimisation of Domestic Abuse
- To identify and reduce the number of priority and prolific offenders
- To reduce the number of alcohol related violence incidents
- To reduce the number of Town Centre violence incidents

Delivering the Priorities

To achieve this reduction in crime will require enthusiasm and committed support from Chesterfield Community Safety Partnership and the communities of Chesterfield borough. The strategy has been designed to make sure that this support is harnessed and developed. We will work with our partners and the community to:

- Improve the communication and exchange of information between partners
- Continued development of effective monitoring and evaluation of partnership Action Plans and initiatives
- Respond quickly to changes in crime related incidents
- Promote the work of the partnership and exchange good practice
- Consult with our communities to ascertain their views in relation to crime and feelings of safety
- Deliver key messages to our communities to reduce the fear of crime

Members of the Chesterfield Community Safety Partnership

- Chesterfield Borough Council
- Chesterfield Primary Care Trust
- CHART Community Representatives
- Derbyshire Chamber & Business Link
- Derbyshire Constabulary
- Derbyshire Police Authority
- Derbyshire County Council
- Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- Derbyshire Fire and Rescue service
- Government Office for the East Midlands
- National Probation Service – Derbyshire Area
- North Derbyshire Youth Offending Service
- Staveley Neighbourhood Management Project
- Connexions

“....some victims of domestic abuse may not want to go to the Police…”
Partnership Focus Group

"...members of the Public have been very supportive of the new initiatives used over holiday periods to reduce town centre violence…..”
Local newspaper report
Questions and Comments

Further information such as the Audit and Strategy documents are available from the Partnership office, or on [www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk).

If you have any questions or comments on this Strategy please contact:

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