



SSCP Snapshot

Issue 9: November 2009

Welcome to the latest edition of the Sefton Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership's (SSCP) 'Snapshot', bringing you the very latest news from the Partnership straight to your inbox.

In each edition, we aim to keep you informed of the latest projects and success stories related to the key priorities of the SSCP.

If you want to share a recent success or highlight an intervention/initiative, please email a short synopsis (100 words maximum) to Lisa Middleton by Friday, January 22, at:

lisa.middleton@chief-executives.sefton.gov.uk

**The next SSCP Snapshot will be circulated on
Friday, January 29.**

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Partnership News:

- **New Website Goes Live**

Sefton's Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership (SSCP) has a brand new website.

The new SSCP website gives people the chance to find out more about the Partnership, see videos about the work the Partnership does, check out the latest news and initiatives and view statistics on anti-social behaviour, environmental issues and crime.



The website also features the online Partnership Plan, which gives an overview of the work of the SSCP, and the site has pages dedicated to each area committee area for people to find out what the latest priorities are for their area and what is being done to tackle local issues.

In addition, people can also use an online e-form to share their views with the Partnership, or can contact us via email.

Check out the new website at: www.respectsefton.co.uk

- **Thank You From Chairman**

A message from SSCP Chairman, Allan Harris:

“Since I became chairman of the Partnership in June 2009, I have been continually impressed by the efforts of partners in working together to make Sefton a safer and stronger place to live, work and visit.

“This year has seen many successes, including excellent performance in addressing anti-social behaviour, domestic violence and prolific and priority offending. The SSCP has also launched a new website, created a comprehensive Partnership Plan and continues to work toward achieving its LAA indicators and the objectives of the Partnership Plan.

“I know that there will be challenges ahead but I am confident that all those involved in the SSCP will continue to successfully work together to further improve the Partnership and make a difference in our communities.

“I would like to thank you all for your work and dedication in 2009 and I look forward to another fantastic year in 2010.”



- **Sarah Visits Number 10**

Sefton's Crime and Justice Co-ordinator, Sarah Rahmat, visited 10 Downing Street to meet its resident.

Sarah was invited to meet the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, as part of the Community Crime Fighters Awards. The event was for members of the community to be thanked by the Prime Minister for their involvement in tackling crime or anti-social behaviour issues in their area.

Sarah said: “It was a really exciting experience, as I never thought the Prime Minister would invite me to No 10. It was an eye opening experience and a pleasure to shake hands with the man that runs the country.

“The Prime Minister thanked all the Crime and Justice Co-ordinators for the hard work we are doing to promote ‘Justice Seen, Justice Done.’”



Sarah shakes hands with Gordon Brown

- **Working Together**

Members of Sefton's Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership (SSCP) joined forces to make sure that the Mischief period passed smoothly in Sefton.

Partners from Sefton Council, Registered Social Landlords, Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, faith communities and Merseyside Probation Trust worked together over Mischief Night, Halloween and Bonfire Night to provide activities for young people, remove possible Bonfire material and address any incidents of anti-social behaviour.

An events programme offering a number of free activities was on offer to young people during the half-term holiday and around Bonfire Night. Young people were invited to free events at Southport's Dunes Splash World, offering the chance to enjoy an evening at the water park with music, DJs, bands and sports. Other activities included trips to Chill Factory, bowling and an 'Urban Night' at the Plaza Cinema in Waterloo. Youth service providers also ran workshops and diversionary activities.



Free firework displays were provided at Netherton Activity Centre, Bootle Leisure Centre and Winneybrook Park in Maghull, and were attended by almost 20,000 people.

Presentations were made to schoolchildren in the run up to Bonfire Night, highlighting the dangers of fireworks and the results of anti-social behaviour while safety crews are operating. Sefton Security Services carried out patrols at key locations to prevent anti-social behaviour.

Merseyside Police carried out test purchasing exercises in relation to fireworks and alcohol throughout October as part of Operation Banger. Merseyside Police also ran a 'Stay Safe Operation' on Friday, October 30, to take home any vulnerable young people to protect them from any harm.

Leaflets were distributed to residents highlighting the Saturday Skips scheme and raising awareness of potential dangers on Bonfire Night and how to stay safe.

- **Fire Service Thank You**

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service thanked partners which helped to make this year's Bonfire period the safest on record in Merseyside.



Agencies and individuals were presented with certificates by Mike Hagen, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, at a ceremony which recognised partners for their support during the period.

During the Bonfire period, secondary fire incidents in Sefton were reduced by 9.1% compared to the same period in 2008 in an initiative which saw Sefton's Community Safety and Environmental Protection departments, Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service and Merseyside Probation Trust join forces to remove more than 150 tonnes of potential bonfire material.

Tackling ASB/Reducing the Fear of Crime:

- **Soundwaves Success**

Hundreds of young people have been enjoying nights of music, swimming and sports at the popular Soundwaves @ Dunes Splash World events.

The events usually run monthly, but during the summer holidays were held every weekend, with a notable decrease in calls to the police in relation to 'youths causing annoyance' on the nights of the events.

Similar events called Mayhem @ Splash World ran during the Halloween and Bonfire period, with free entry and free buses on offer from key locations in South Sefton to take the young people along to.

Sound Waves is run by Sefton's Positive Futures team with other members of the Sefton Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership (SSCP).

- **On Their Bikes**

Youth workers in Sefton East have been getting on their bikes to engage with young people.

Detached youth workers thought of the idea of covering the area on bikes would be a good way to enable them to get to the different areas of Sefton East.

With the purchase of the bikes and helmets, youth workers have found a new way of delivering their work and it is already proving to be a successful method of working.

Staff are able to cover the areas in double the time leaving enough space to carry out planned and productive work, as well as staying healthy and having fun.



- **Young People Enjoy Free and Active**

The popular Free & Active scheme, which offers free access to leisure activities for young people during the school holidays, has enjoyed another successful summer.

More than 40,000 visits were recorded to the Free & Active scheme during the summer holidays.

This summer, Sefton Leisure Services and Sefton Youth Services joined forces to offer a huge range of free activities, from horse riding and skating to football and swimming.



- **Youth Workers Hit The Streets**

Youth workers in Southport are hitting the streets to find out exactly what it is young people want from their Youth Services.

The Outreach project will see youth workers from Birkdale Youth Centre head out onto the streets and parks in Ainsdale, Birkdale and Southport town centre on Friday evenings to talk to young people.

The project is aimed at getting more information about whether young people are involved in any projects provided by Sefton Youth Service and what activities they would like to see on offer.

Reducing The Harm Caused By Drugs and Alcohol:

- **Christmas Presence Campaign Launched**

The SSCP has just launched its Christmas Presence campaign.

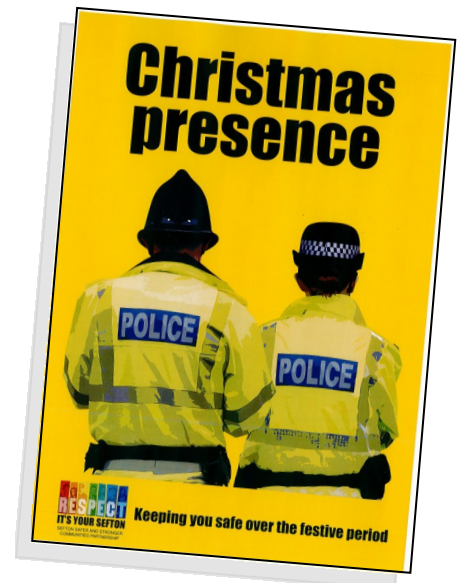
Christmas Presence is aimed at reassuring people enjoying a night out that they are being looked out for and that measures are in place to ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable evening.

The campaign aims to tackle any criminal and anti-social behaviour in the night-time economy and reduce the harm caused by alcohol, through enforcement and reassurance measures.

From now until New Year, there will be a visible policing 'presence' in the busy pub and clubbing areas of Southport and Waterloo, along with licensing visits to premises to check alcohol is not being sold to those underage and safety measures to ensure people aren't carrying any weapons.

Police will be out in the early evenings talking to people encouraging them to have a good time and enjoy themselves but also letting them know that anti-social and criminal behaviour will not be tolerated in Sefton during the Christmas period. Taxi marshals will also be helping people in Southport to get a ride home safely.

An advertising van will be touring the night-time economy areas on Friday and Saturday nights to highlight the campaign, while messages sent to mobile phones through Bluetooth technology will be sent to alert people to the dangers of excessive drinking and reminding them to behave responsibly. Advertisements will also be placed in local newspapers and posters will be distributed to pubs and clubs.



Engaging the Voluntary and Community Sector:

- **Crime and Communities Theme for Meeting**

The theme for the Network South Open Meeting on Tuesday, December 8, is 'Crime and Communities'.

The meeting will include presentations on the Safer and Stronger Communities theme; perceptions of crime; and a day in the life of Police Community Support Officers. It will also explore opportunities for the involvement of Network South members in Community Safety Area Partnerships (CSAPs) and the Community Crime Fighters initiative. Additionally, Crosby Homewatch will be providing tips around staying safe over the Christmas period.

To book a place, call Samantha Smith on 0151-928 2233 ext 118 or email: samantha.smith@seftoncvvs.org.uk

- **Action Plan For Recession**

A Local Resilience Action Plan in response to the recessions is currently being finalised and will include a specific focus on the role and needs of the third sector. There is ongoing dialogue between Sefton CVS and Sefton Borough Partnership around the needs of the Sefton third sector relating to the recession.

- **CVS Directory Launched**

The Sefton CVS Directory of Services 2010/11 (supported by One Vision Housing) is now available and contains contact details for voluntary, community and faith groups and organisations delivering services within Sefton. Copies are available at a cost of £15. To order, forward a cheque, made payable to Sefton CVS, for the attention of Liz Sheldrake, Sefton CVS, 3rd Floor, 3tc Building, 16 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, L22 0NY. For more information email: liz.sheldrake@seftoncvvs.org.uk

Creating Cleaner, Greener, Safer Public Spaces:

- **Success for Operation Collar**

A major pilot scheme to combat dog fouling has been hailed a massive success,

Key findings from Operation Collar, carried out in September and October in St Oswald, Netherton and Orrell areas show that most people carry bags to clear up their pet's fouling.

The five-week long initiative saw Sefton's Dog Wardens, Community Safety Officers and Merseyside Police join forces to tackle the problem.

Dog Wardens and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) patrolled 12 different locations at all times of the day, seven days a week, at targeted locations.

During the Operation, dog owners out walking their pets were approached and asked if they were carrying bags to pick up fouling. If they did, their address was taken and a thank you letter sent to them. A total of 344 people were stopped, and out of them, 296 were carrying bags to bin the fouling.

If they were not carrying bags, they were provided with bags and given an enforcement leaflet warning them that a fixed-penalty-fine of £75 could be issued for not picking up their pet's mess. Addresses were also taken and a warning letter issued to them.

Dog Wardens put up fouling signs and provided floor stencils at the locations warning pet owners to 'Bag It, Tie It and Bin It' in relation to their pet's mess.

Principal Environmental Health Officer, Rob Monks, said: "Operation Collar has been deemed a major success in tackling dog fouling at key locations across South Sefton.

"Working in partnership with Merseyside Police and Community Safety, this initiative has helped try and combat this form of anti-social behaviour by trying to educate pet owners."

- **Bootle Village Clean Up**

The Bootle Village area was given a facelift by Sefton Environmental Department's Community Engagement Team.

Working in partnership with the Bootle Town Centre Partnership, the team organised a clean up of the Bootle Village area on Caspian Place.

The Neighbourhood Liveability Team removed litter, smashed glass and graffiti, and cut back the grass, bushes and trees.

- **Saturday Skips Success**

More than 23 tonnes of rubbish was removed from areas of South Sefton in the run up to Bonfire Night thanks to the Saturday Skips scheme.

The scheme started in January 2009 to offer people the opportunity to get rid of waste responsibly by using skips placed in a different area of Sefton on a Saturday morning every week.

Saturday Skips were placed in five key locations in South Sefton throughout October for people to get rid of rubbish which could have become Bonfire material.



**Left: Bootle Village area before
Below: After the clean up**