

# teamwork

## Keeping our Community Safe

Safer South Derbyshire Partnership

### Area 1 (North West) Safer Neighbourhoods newsletter



# A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE

South Derbyshire is one of the safest areas in England and Wales to live, according to the latest Home Office figures.

In a table listing 381 crime and disorder reduction partnership (CDRP) areas, South Derbyshire was 64<sup>th</sup> lowest, with a rate of 32 British Crime Survey comparator crimes recorded per 1,000 residents between April 2007 and the end of March this year. The average rate for England and Wales as a whole was 54 crimes per 1,000 residents.

The table uses figures for seven key offences, including violence against the person, sexual offences, domestic burglary and theft of motor vehicle.

During 2007/08 there were just six domestic burglaries per 1,000 South Derbyshire residents, a massive drop of 27% on the previous year, and there was a similarly significant fall in the number of sexual offences, down by 29%.

Chris Smith, Safer Communities Manager, said: "We hope that the residents of South Derbyshire feel reassured by these figures.

"They show that the level of crime in South Derbyshire continues to fall and all Partnership members, which include the police and District Council, are delighted."

April this year saw the Partnership produce its strategy for 2008 – 2011 and among its four key priorities is reducing fear of crime.

Over the three years of its previous strategy (2005 – 08) the Partnership helped reduce Domestic Burglary rates by 45%, Theft of Vehicles by 21%, Theft from Vehicles by 21% and Violent Crime by 6%.

**The next North West area Safer Neighbourhoods meeting is at 6:30pm on Monday, December 1 at Hilton Village Hall We hope to see you there!**

September 2008

## Vans become even handier!

The very successful Safer Homes scheme has been extended in the district.

It was set up by the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership four years ago, to install safety and security measures such as door and window locks in the homes of vulnerable people.

And now, thanks to a successful joint bid by all the district and borough councils to the Regional Housing Board, a contribution from Derbyshire County Council and the involvement of other partners, a second "handy van" has been introduced.

As well as the security services offered by the existing van, the new van also carries out fire safety checks, fits smoke alarms, and installs items such as grab rails, all with the aim of helping people remain safe and mobile within their own homes.

With home security in mind, residents have



been reminded over the last few weeks to ensure their properties are secure after an increase in the number of burglaries in domestic and non-domestic properties in Egginton, Etwell and Hilton.

Police patrols were increased and the number of burglaries has dropped again.

It is worth checking that your doors and windows are secure and don't leave them open when you go out.

## Village Hall help offered

A crime assessment has been carried out at Hilton Village Hall by Crime Reduction Officer PC Eileen Banton and Safer Communities Manager Chris Smith after several incidents of damage and ASB.

Representatives from the Village Hall met with Chris and Eileen at the site to discuss ways to reduce the issues and recommendations were made.

These include making environmental changes and the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership has offered a financial contribution towards any that the Parish Council decides to make. It will be discussed at the next meeting on September 24.

We'll update you on progress in our next newsletter.

# School benefits from CCTV camera system

In 2007 over £6,000 worth of damage was caused to Heath Fields Primary School in Field Avenue, Hatton which Headmaster Gordon McBurnie said as well as impacting on finances also had an effect on the running of the school because classrooms and the kitchen had to be closed.

Hatton resident Danny Taylor applied for funds from the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership's Safer Neighbourhoods fund on behalf of the School for the system and it agreed to make a contribution of £5,000.

As a result, a state-of-the art system consisting of 14 dome cameras, hemisphere lighting, a hard drive recorder capable of storing up to three weeks footage and a monitor have all been installed. Signs saying that the system is in operation have also been put up.

The new equipment appears to be having a dramatic impact on criminal damage and anti-social behaviour with police saying that since its introduction there have been no incidents on the site.

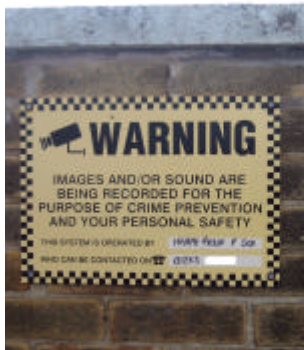
The total cost of the equipment together with training and maintenance was over £11,000 and local companies provided the additional money required.

Those who have made a contribution are Caring Hands, Creative Days Nursery, Dove Fleet Deliveries, Dove Valley Community Project, Hatton Sports and Social Club, J B E Engineering, J W Glass, Midlands Co-op, O'Connor Electrical Ltd., Particle Technology and the Salt Box Café.

The Safer Neighbourhoods Fund is a small grants programme that aims to give local people the opportunity to initiate and develop projects to make their community safer.

The Safer South Derbyshire Partnership recognises local people are crucial to the development of safer neighbourhoods and is looking to encourage worthwhile projects, that will help reduce crime and the fear of crime.

We particularly encourage projects that help with our priority



issues for 2008 to 2011 - violent crime, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, fear of crime and acquisitive crime.

The Safer Neighbourhoods Fund for South Derbyshire is £30,000 per year, £5,000 per area.

Application forms are available on the South Derbyshire District Council website [www.south-derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.south-derbyshire.gov.uk) and from the Partnership.

## A sm-art answer

The idea of decorating the Skate Park in Hilton came from young people who initially discussed the idea with village PCSOs.

The PCSOs asked the Teenage Action Group if it could help and it did so by applying for Safer Neighbourhoods funding. Safer South Derbyshire awarded £1,650. Contributions also came from a village resident and the parish council.

Around 40 young people joined in the project over a period of five days, creating some very attractive artwork in the park.

Other projects that have benefited from Safer Neighbourhoods funding in Area 1 are:

- Hatton Multi Use Games Area lighting;
- Lighting for Peartree Court, Etwall, Hatton
- Youth Club Positive Outcomes project,
- Roller doors for Hilton Village Hall and
- Security fencing for Etwall Bowling Club.

## Useful contact numbers



**Safer South Derbyshire Partnership - 01283 595924**

**ASB helpline - 01283 595795**

**Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111**

**Police Non Emergency number - 0845 123 33 33**

**Next Step (against domestic abuse) - 01283 229 854**

**Victim Support - 01332 349 956**

**Youth Information Shop - 01283 217666**