



# Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Partnership

## CSU News Edition 1

### Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Unit

Welcome to the first edition of CSU News, which gives details of the work of the CSU during April to June 2010. The Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Unit (CSU) is a new initiative jointly led by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and West Kent Police and will be based in the Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells. When the CSU is fully operational (scheduled for September 2010) it will bring together the Police, the Council and other agencies to give a more co-ordinated response to crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. In the meantime, this edition of CSU News focuses on the on going work of Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Partnership.

### Annual Report

The Partnership recently produced its Annual Report, which highlighted the success of the Partnership in reducing crime and fear of crime within the borough. A copy of the Report can be seen at <http://www2.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/pdf/CSP%20Annual%20Report%202009-10.pdf>

### Partnership Plan



As a statutory Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), the CSP is required to produce an annual Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder from which strategic priorities for the partnership can be identified.

The data provided by partners and the analysis of this data enables the strategic partners to set clear and robust priorities for the partnership and these have produced the Partnership Plan for 2010-11 <http://www2.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/pdf/Partnership%20Plan.pdf>.

### Council and Police working together

We are committed to dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour that matter most within the community. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and Kent Police will be keeping you informed about what actions have been taken – here are just some: A joint agency operation targeting carriers of waste in the Paddock Wood area was organised by the Tunbridge Wells' NTT (Neighbourhood Task Team). During the 4 hours of the operation 19 vehicles were stopped resulting in 7 fixed penalty notices issued by the TWBC Civil Enforcement officers, 3 cautions by the Environment Agency, and 1 vehicle seizure for no insurance. Complaints about dangerous parking in and around schools led to Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) patrolling schools with PCSOs recently. Many schools have no parking restrictions so officers are unable to enforce vehicles with Penalty Charge Notices but important safety advice is offered to encourage people to park more responsibly. CEOs also assist with other community matters such as reporting drivers spotted using a mobile phone to being on the lookout for reported shoplifters. The TWBC Anti-social Behaviour Officer regularly carries out joint visits with police officers and PCSOs in response to complaints from residents. Responsibility for writing and delivering warning letters is also shared to resolve matters as quickly and effectively as possible. Persistent nuisance is referred to the Anti-social Behaviour Task Group for further action, such as issuing Acceptable Behaviour Agreements.



### Community Payback

Since April, groups of offenders from Kent Probation's Community Payback team worked in a number of charity shops in the town, including Oxfam, Mind and the British Heart Foundation. Community Payback has also been used to carry out work at St Peter's Church, Southborough, Toc H Hall and St Matthew's School.

### YMCA Vehicle for Change

West Kent YMCA recently launched Vehicle for Change at a special event held in the TN2 Community Centre in Sherwood. The event brought together local agencies – as potential partners in Vehicle for Change. Funded by the Big Lottery Fund to the tune of £454,567 for 4 years, Vehicle for Change (V4C) is a bus-based, youth-led, outreach project to Engage, Equip and Empower isolated and marginalised young people to prevent disengagement and social exclusion.

### World Cup

While crucial England World Cup matches were being played the Police ran Operation Fortune with eight officers who all worked in pairs, and were stationed outside pubs across the town centre. Police officers also patrolled areas including Sherwood and Southborough. However, fans remained good natured during and after all the matches.

### Residents can have their say

Following the success of Ward Walks in other areas, visits have been made to four areas during June and July 2010: Culverden, Bidborough, St James and Capel.

Ward Walks helps to increase opportunities for the Council and key agencies, to meet people locally to ensure that needs are being met. It also enables residents to speak directly about their local issues and share views about what they think of the area they live in and what could be done to improve it. An update on the community safety section will be in the next edition.

### Fake IDs

The Partnership is supporting a new Home Office campaign, which targets young adults using fake or false identification when attempting to enter pubs and clubs. The initiative will advise young people that if they are caught using fake, or someone else's ID, they could have it confiscated and may be prosecuted. The campaign will be two pronged: continued support for licensed premises in dealing with this issue and a proactive campaign within schools to educate young people about the consequences of their actions. New posters about false ID are now available for licensees to display in their premises to make people think twice about breaking the law.



They reinforce the message that young people using false ID is an offence and using false documents could result in prosecution

under section 2 of the Fraud Act 2006. Although our aim is to

reduce numbers seized, it is pleasing that the proactive work of door staff and licensees, with the continued training and support from Pubwatch is making everyone more aware. Door staff currently retain any identified false ID and pass it on to Kent Police, who in turn either return it to the owner or to the relevant authority. The campaign has already generated extensive media coverage, with follow-up work planned.



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