

Bi-Monthly Bulletin from

- Community Safety Team**
- Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)**
- Domestic Abuse Unit**
- County Research Group**



September 2010

Community Safety Team

Manager: Helen Turner

1. Safer Officer Group – 2nd July 2010

- ✦ The status of NI115 (substance misuse by young people) and NI21 (public concern over ASB and crime being dealt with by council and police) are both amber as the surveys previously used to measure these performance indicators have now been abolished.
- ✦ An increase in alcohol related violent crime was noted. This follows a national trend and Cambridgeshire Constabulary have taken the lead on developing a partnership violent crime strategy to deal with the issue.
- ✦ The increase of domestic violence cases referred to the MARAC (multi-agency risk assessment conference) is continuing its upward trend and a review of referral thresholds is ongoing with a view to reducing the number of referrals that receive a multi-agency response.
- ✦ Preventing Violent Extremism – partnership event held together with Kent District Councils to identify best practice examples. An action plan for Cambridgeshire is currently being drafted.
- ✦ Local Community Safety Partnership reports highlighted concerns over ASB and the increase in violent crime.

2. Safer and Stronger Strategic Board - 15th July 2010

- ✦ Cllr Andrew Hansard from Huntingdonshire District Council was elected Vice-Chair of the Board.
- ✦ The Cambridgeshire 3rd Sector Assembly has now been officially established and the aim of the Assembly Board is to support voluntary and community sector infrastructure, ensure smaller organisations have a voice and increase representation of Black and Minority Ethnic Groups.
- ✦ Home Office funding to community safety across Cambridgeshire has been reduced by 10.4% in this financial year and grants to local CSPs have been cut to reflect this reduction with immediate effect. This reduction will also affect funding for the PPO Scheme and funding for the domestic violence advocates.
- ✦ The LPSA reward grant has also been withdrawn for 2010/11 which initially put the delivery of domestic violence services at risk. However, County Council has now secured funding to support the Domestic Abuse Unit until the end of March 2011.
- ✦ The Board supported the proposal made by CCC community safety team to organise a workshop in January 2011 to equip members of the Board and local CSPs to meet their new statutory responsibility to reduce reoffending, ensure value for money and address the “Big Society” and community engagement agenda. Details to follow.
- ✦ Cambridgeshire Public Service Board has established a task and finish group authorised to make changes to the LAA/Cambridgeshire Together structure to “slim down” the model and reduce numbers of meetings.
- ✦ Presentations were given on the new Localism agenda and the CCC/NHS joint needs assessment of migrant workers.

3. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

ASB strategic issues are being addressed by the countywide NI17 Group, led by Constabulary, and with representation from CCC, Probation, Police and local community safety partnerships. The Group met in July and agreed to do some exploratory work on shared services and a joint ASB hotline.

Locally, we are pleased to see how the special DCLG grant awarded to Cambridgeshire earlier this year has been put to good use. One of the projects which successfully bid for funds was the "Petersfield project" led by the Cambridge City CSP and which aimed to reduce the level of anti-social behaviour experienced by residents on Sleaford Street where a local play area had become the favoured assembly point for a group of street drinkers. Local police also confirmed the residents' reports of suspected drug taking and dealing, rowdy behaviour and damage to parked cars and property around the area.

The park before it was developed:



lights to bathe the area in a soft white light to resolve one of the major issues with the park which was that it was under-lit at night and attracted the unwelcome visitors.

The park, which is now complete, contains a new meeting/ seating area, a play mound, a sandpit with a diggable dinosaur, a disabled-accessible rotating play unit, a wooden see-saw and a play car. The boundary of the play space is made of a green stone-fence with laser cut figures on the outside. It is designed to "funk up" the frontage of an urban scheme with the overall aim to provide a more welcoming and attractive environment to sit and chat in, and to say "let's play!" Since the redevelopment, there have been no reports of ASB.

The park after the redevelopment:



Detective Inspector Mark Alexander (mark.alexander@cambs.pnn.police.uk) has been seconded to the Project Manager post to develop the IOM programme for the County, including Peterborough.

The Executive partnership group has developed an action plan which includes: developing a governance and performance framework, communication plan and will result in an IOM programme at police BCU level by March 2011.

5. [NI21 – a question of confidence](#)

In the past, NI21 would have been measured via the Place Survey which asked local residents a number of questions about their local area and NI21 was specifically about residents' confidence in police and council that they were dealing with local concerns over crime and ASB.

The Place Survey has now been axed under new government initiatives but the Cambridgeshire partnership has formulated a joint vision which aims to reduce the fear of crime and increase confidence in services across the county:

Engaging communication, accessible to all and consistently delivered by partners, which raises awareness and creates confidence amongst Cambridgeshire's communities on how services deal with crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB).

This will be achieved by:

- Develop a framework for effective partnership communications
- Develop key confidence messages
- Create a communications action plan with key deliverables
- Create reactive communications in times of need

Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)

Managers: Susie Talbot and Vickie Crompton

Addaction's new alcohol service:

From 1st July Addaction have been delivering a new adult alcohol treatment service that can be accessed from accommodation in Cambridge, Huntingdon, St Neots, Wisbech and Ely. Contacts details on their web site: http://www.addaction.org.uk/?page_id=73

New access in Fenland and East Cambs has broadened previous provision while a growing presence in GP surgeries has increased provision in community settings. This free confidential service is available to anyone who has concerns about their own or someone else's alcohol use. It can be contacted directly on their referral line **0800 021 3064**, through GPs, or via a growing number of health professionals and community services working with Addaction.

Addaction Ely Office:

DAAT and Addaction held an Open Day to promote Addaction new office with a stall in Ely market on the 5th of August.

DAAT and Addaction staff were available to advise parents and grandparents on how to talk to their children/ grandchildren about drugs, how to make the necessary distinctions between drugs and to discuss the relative levels of harms. Members of the public also had opportunities to visit the new office and talk to drug and alcohol workers about the services on offer. Two potential clients were assessed and agreed to engage with the treatment services.

The service offers a full range of services to East Cambridgeshire residents affected by their own or someone else's drug or alcohol misuse. The support includes:

- ✚ Advice and information
- ✚ Key work
- ✚ Prescribing services
- ✚ Counseling
- ✚ Structured Day Programmes
- ✚ Needle exchange & Harm Reduction Interventions
- ✚ Blood Borne Virus service
- ✚ Complementary therapies
- ✚ Employment, training and education support
- ✚ An accredited Volunteer programme
- ✚ Outreach team
- ✚ Support for concerned others

The office is open weekdays from 9am to 5pm. Appointments can be booked via 01223 723020 or 01223 723069.

The address for the service is:

Addaction
52-54 Market Street, Central Hall
Ely, CB7 4LS

Practice guidelines on parental substance misuse:

The DAAT have been working with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) to ensure that drug and alcohol misuse is being considered by all those working with young people and families. DAAT have developed practice guidance that sets out clearly what practitioners' responsibilities are in terms of assessing parental capacity, referring clients into treatment and sharing information with all the relevant professionals.

From implementing this practice guidance, we seek to create a workforce of professionals who know how to assess how substance misuse might be affecting families and know what to do with the information they collect on families, and either refer them onto a specialist agency or treat them effectively within their own service.

A separate piece of work is also being done to develop a specific protocol between Social Care and adult substance misuse treatment services, as this was identified as a particular area of need. The protocol seeks to make practitioners in both agencies more proactive and to work better together to help families tackle their substance misuse problems.

Support for Housing Providers and relevant organisations:

Housing providers, hostel managers and other organisations working with substance-misusing clients require support in relation to drug-related incidents that may occur on their premises. There have been several changes to the law and many landlords, housing providers and services have been confused as to their legal duty around such issues. It is recognised that it is important to produce a document that outlines the clear legal responsibilities of both organisations and clients around housing, and also offers a sense of confidence amongst those agencies working with the client group.

The Cambridgeshire Drugs Protocol is the result of a positive collaboration between the various agencies. This document is designed to offer guidelines for organisations rather than to be a directive. The DAAT intends to attract a broader range of housing providers to accept the client group to improve their re-integration back into society and away from substance misuse and offending. Five training dates have been scheduled in the Autumn 2010 across the county to re-introduce the protocol to Housing providers and also to provide professionals working in the field with information on Harm reduction, Referral pathway and Drug related deaths.

Residential drug treatment (Tier 4)

In the current substance misuse treatment system, Tier 4 interventions comprise of residential specialised drug treatment (inpatient detox, residential rehab and social care packages) to provide specialised residential treatment to those individuals with high level needs.

In Cambridgeshire, all Tier 4 applications are reviewed and assessment by a Tier 4 panel. The Panel is made up of a group of representatives from all adult drug and alcohol treatment services in Cambridgeshire and chaired by the Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

A service user leaflet has been designed recently. The leaflet provides users with information on how to access/criteria for Tier 4 services, what treatment interventions can be funded and the different types of provision on offer.

For more information, please contact the DAAT office on 01223 699680.

For more up to date information on DAAT, visit www.cambsdaat.org

Domestic Abuse Unit (DAU)

Manager: Simon Keress

New team members

The team has been extended with a new IDVA who after having worked as a police officer for over 30 years will now be working with victims of domestic abuse in South Cambridgeshire.

The team has also appointed a new business support assistant who has taken on the responsibility of all office administration, freeing up valuable time for the IDVAs who can now spend more time away from the office doing outreach work.

Maternity cover is currently being organised for the Fenland area IDVA who will be leaving in October to spend the next year getting to know the two young children that she and her husband have recently adopted.

Please contact the DAU for contact details of the IDVA assigned to your area.

Freedom Programme

A new Freedom Programme for victims of domestic abuse is starting this month at Ramsey Children's Centre. A second programme will also be running in March (Fenland) and there are plans to run a programme later in the year at Bar Hill, just north of Cambridge. Please contact the DAU for details.

IDVA service pilot at A&E, Addenbrookes

A few years ago, Dr Adrian Boyle at Addenbrookes Hospital conducted some research into the number of domestic abuse victims who disclosed the abuse to A&E when attending for treatment but who did not report the incident to the police. The research offered an insight into the true number of victims of abuse as A&E recorded close to four times more victims than Constabulary.

In other parts of England and Wales, IDVA services are based at hospitals and the DAU have therefore decided to run a pilot scheme at Addenbrookes in Cambridge as many victims have indicated that they prefer this model which will allow them to talk to a professional in confidence about the abuse without having to report the incident to the police.

The IDVA based at Addenbrookes will be looking at the type of cases, the number of cases and collate client feedback to assess whether a closer collaboration with the NHS will benefit victims of abuse.

For more information on any of the above, please contact:

Domestic Abuse Unit
St Ives
Tel: 01480 354 353

Research Group

Manager: Mike Soper

Strategic Assessments 2010

Strategic Assessments for 2010 are now underway. The Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group is working with the district Community Safety Partnerships to evaluate patterns of crime in each area and identify priorities to focus upon over the coming year. The results will outline progress on existing priorities and identify emerging areas for improvement. Copies of the 2009 reports can be found here:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/research/rescrime/>

The format of the assessments has changed and is based on the "Problem Analysis Triangle".

The documents will focus on three specific areas of community safety:

- **Offender**
This section will examine common features of an offender against common types of offence. Including: reoffending, youth offending, those on drug interventions and various crime types.
- **Victim**
This is the target of the offender.; a person, or an item/shop - cash, jewellery, electronics, etc. This will look at common features of a victim – such as age or gender.
- **Place**
Where the crime takes place. Hotspots and peak times . Who could manage the risk of this area - i.e. placing a police officer in a set area as a deterrent, or fitting vacant houses with a visible alarm.

This will enable us to consider crime from each perspective, moving away from a focus purely on offence type, to examine what makes an offender, a victim, or crime spot. We will examine how crime concentrates itself with regards to these three areas, and what common trends exist. From this we will be able to identify how best to exert and manage controls on offenders, victims and places.

COMMUNITY SAFETY SURVEY – have your say!

As part of the Strategic Assessment process, we are asking people living in Cambridgeshire about their local area, and how they feel around various areas of community safety.

The survey can be accessed online here:

<http://www.snapsurveys.com/sw/surveylogin.asp?k=128145192348>

It will also be publicised across the county via district websites, neighbourhood policing teams, press releases, and parish council meetings. Hard copies are also being sent to community outlets such as GP surgeries, libraries, post offices, sheltered housing projects and youth clubs.

If you are a Cambridgeshire resident and want to have your say about community safety, let us know what you think, and spread the word to your friends and neighbours in the area.

The deadline for responses is the 30th September 2010.

[SmartWater Evaluation and Perpetuity Research](#)

SmartWater Technology Ltd offer a forensic property marking scheme aimed at reducing the level of burglaries in an area and increasing the number of successful finds. "SmartWater" is a liquid that contains a code which can only be seen under ultraviolet light, allowing property to be marked with a unique identifier, to help return items back to an owner and to prove the presence of an offender at a crime scene. Cambridge City was identified for the Vigilance Programme after significant peaks in dwelling burglary were recorded.

An event will be held on **Friday 10th September in Shire Hall, Cambridge** to present the findings of the evaluation of the scheme in Cambridge City. We will also be hearing from Charlotte Lawson from Perpetuity Research who will be presenting her work on Serious Acquisitive Crime, funded by the Home Office.

Broadly, the findings of the draft SmartWater report are:

- That the community action days were well received by residents.
- That although dwelling burglary in Cambridge has been lower over the last 12 months, SmartWater can not be demonstrated to have played any significant role in this reduction.

Invitations to this event have also been extended to the Cambridge City Serious Acquisitive Crime task group, Serious Acquisitive Crime leads at a County Level and Home Office reps

For more information, please contact the Research Group (Mike Soper or Louise Meats)

Dates for your diary

- ✚ **Monday 6th September** – deadline for submitting response to “Reducing prescriptive regulation for CSPs” consultation (8th September if response submitted directly to GO East). Copy can be found under “publications” on main CCC community safety web site: <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/community/safercommunities/safety/>
- ✚ **Wednesday 8th September** – submit to DAAT (Vickie.Crompton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) any comments that you may have on the Home Office 2010 Drug Strategy Consultation paper: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/consultations/cons-drug-strategy-2010/>
- ✚ **Thursday 9th September** – submit to CCC Community Safety Team your reply to Home Office consultation on “Policing in 21st Century”: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/consultations/policing-21st-century/policing-21st-full-pdf>
- ✚ **Friday 10th September** – Smartwater evaluation results. Presentation by CCC Research Group and Perpetuity Research at Shire Hall, Cambridge.
- ✚ **Wednesday 29th September** – morning workshop on Community Safety and Hate Crime affecting people with learning disabilities and/or autism. Event organised by Cambridgeshire Learning Disability Partnership Board and venue is Woodgreen Animal Shelter, Godmanchester. For more information and to book a place, please contact Frances Ward (Frances.Ward@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) on 01223 715 969.
- ✚ **Thursday 30th September** – deadline for taking Community Safety Survey <http://www.snapsurveys.com/swh/surveylogin.asp?k=128145192348>

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