

Richmond upon Thames Community Safety Partnership Newsletter

March 2011



Introduction

Welcome to the March edition of the Richmond upon Thames Community Safety Partnership newsletter for partners and residents involved in reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime in Richmond upon Thames. The newsletters are intended to provide readers with headline stories about local, regional and national community safety news items, events and consultations in an easy to read format. If you have any comments please e-mail David Noakes at d.noakes@richmond.gov.uk or telephone me on 0208 891 7214.



Richmond upon Thames News

- **Drug users to be tested on arrest** Since 1 March 2011 anyone arrested in Richmond upon Thames for an offence involving drugs has been tested for heroin and/or cocaine under the new Test on Arrest Drug Intervention Programme, launched by the Community Safety Partnership. The aim of the tests is to make Richmond a safer place and ensure drug users engage in appropriate treatment. The tests are carried out via a mouth swab at either Richmond or Teddington police stations for those who are Richmond residents. An official launch will take place on Wednesday 13th April at the Clarendon Hall.
- **Great response to All in One Survey** Over 13, 500 local people haven taken the opportunity to have their say about their local areas through the All in One survey run by Richmond Council. This represents 17% of households in the borough and one of the initial findings show that 92% of local people were happy with their local area. The level of crime was identified as a priority.
- **New structure for the Council's Community Safety Partnership Team** At the beginning of April a new team structure will begin to operate in response to the wider efficiency savings programme at the Council to deliver against the reductions in public sector funding. The new structure will include the creation of a single Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Co-ordinator post, out of the 2 previous posts, and a new full time ASB Officer post to replace the previous part-time position. Sadly some long standing colleagues will be leaving including Anne Lawtey (Community Planning Manager), Juliette Taylor (Community Safety-Engagement), Robert Munday (ASB Co-ordinator) and Peter Kirkham (Hate Crime Co-ordinator). More information about these changes will follow as a number of posts are still to be recruited to in the new structure.
- **Youth Crime Conference "Stay Safe, Stay Secure, Stay Together"** The 17th Richmond upon Thames Youth Crime Conference was held at the RFU on Wednesday 16th February and attended by 130 year nine pupils from ten of the borough's secondary/independent schools. Students were given the opportunity to consider rights and responsibilities looking at crime, the consequences and effects, through workshop sessions, drama presentations and discussions and were also invited to design a poster to promote "Your Voice" an interactive forum for young people aimed at stimulating discussion about stronger, safer communities. 97% of the pupils that attended scored the event as either excellent/good overall.



News from London

- **The Mayor of London Mayor launches mobile phone anti-grime application in Twickenham** A new mobile phone application to allow people to report graffiti, fly tipping and other environmental issues was launched on Thursday 10th March in Twickenham by Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London. The application, which is called “Love Clean London” and is free to download, allows people to take a photo of the environmental issue, confirm the location, pick a report category and then send the report with the push of a button to the relevant London borough. The launch was attended by Lord True, the Leader of Richmond upon Thames Council, and Cllr Tony Arbour, the Cabinet Member for Performance.



News from Parliament

- **Crime on your street revealed** From the 1st February a quick postcode search on an interactive police website www.police.uk will allow residents to find out what crime and anti-social behaviour has happened in their area. The Policing Minister Nick Herbert said the maps were a “very important step in accountability and transparency” and would help ensure the police are responsive “to what the community wants”.
- **Police stop and search powers scaled back** The Home Secretary, Theresa May, lays a parliamentary order as a part of a commitment to making counter terrorism powers fairer and more effective. As of the 18th March the police will only be able to stop and search people without reasonable suspicion where it is considered necessary to prevent terrorism.
- **New streamlined approach to anti-social behaviour** Councils, police and other local agencies will be forced to support victims of persistent anti-social behaviour as part of plans to give them better tools and powers outlined by crime prevention minister James Brokenshire. A public consultation about the introduction of a number of new measures to better protect communities from the serious harm caused by criminal and anti-social behaviour was launched on the 7th February 2011 and continues until the 3rd May 2011. If you want more information or to feed into the consultation go to <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/consultations/cons-2010-antisocial-behaviour/>



Dates for Your Diary in March and April 2011

- **Community and Police Partnership Meeting** (bi-monthly public meeting of the community, police and council. All welcome) - **Tuesday 29th March 2011 at 7pm** in York House, Twickenham.
- **Hampton North Safer Neighbourhood Team-** crime prevention stall on **Wednesday 6th April between 5-7pm** at All Saints Church Hall, The Avenue, Hampton, TW12
- **Operation Lockout events (crime prevention information, bike and phone marking)** **Thursday 7th April 12pm-2pm** at the Quadrant (outside Tesco), George Street, Richmond