

Partnerships - how we are working together to make you feel safer



Chairman of Safer Walsall Partnership
Cllr Zahid Ali



Chief Superintendent
Kevin Bullas

Hello and welcome to our newsletter

Here in the Walsall borough, we are working together to ensure this town is a safer place to live work and visit. This leaflet showcases just a few of the many partnership initiatives that are happening in your area.

For more information, visit our websites:
www.west-midlands.police.uk
www.walsall.gov.uk

Community Payback

Community Payback can be given to offenders as part of a 'community sentence'. Offenders carry out up to 300 hours of unpaid work, which not only benefits the community but also means the offenders pay back the community for their crimes.

Projects can include removing graffiti, picking up litter, repairing community centres, clearing undergrowth from paths and other public areas or working on environmental projects. Offenders must wear bright orange high-visibility

jackets marked 'Community Payback' while they're working, so you can see they're paying back for their crimes.

To nominate a project speak to your neighbourhood team or phone: 0121 248 2688 or visit the website www.swmprobation.gov.uk



Come and meet us
Web: www.west-midlands.police.uk
Tel: 0345 113 5000
to find out more about meetings with police and partners

Community projects undertaken so far by offenders include:

- Barnett's Lane Cemetery – clearing up overgrown vegetation
- High Gate open space – cutting back overgrown bushes in an ASB hotspot
- Rosedale School, Willenhall – creating a pond and wildlife garden
- Willenhall CHART – painting and decorating the youth centre
- All Saints Church, Darlaston – cutting back bushes at the front of the building

Community resolutions

Since April 2009, police have been using community resolutions to empower officers to use their professional judgement when dealing with 'lower level' offences such as low-value criminal damage or disorder.

Community resolutions put the needs of the victim first. Both the victim and offender agree a course of action, which could be an apology, repairing any damage caused or an offer of compensation.

In a recent incident officers were called to deal with the vandalism of a communal lift in a block of flats.

Five teenage boys were identified and arrested for criminal damage. An emergency residents' meeting was called and all parties agreed that the best punishment was for the lads to put right the damage they had caused. One Saturday morning, the boys were tasked with cleaning the lifts, foyer and the grounds outside.

Tackling rogue traders

Police and Walsall Trading Standards have launched Operation Doorstop, a joint campaign to target rogue traders and pushy doorstep sellers.

Rogue traders attempt to trick vulnerable people into letting them into their homes by offering to carry out gardening, guttering or roofing work as well as general maintenance work.

When incidents are reported to police or Trading Standards, they will attend together. Traders working on properties are routinely questioned by officials to check they are genuine.

A trader register has been established, which legitimate traders can sign up to. For details and to search for a reliable trader visit www.TraderRegister.org.uk/Walsall or call 01922 652246 and we will conduct the search for you.



Conversation with a purpose

Almost 5,000 residents have been surveyed as part of a major consultation to address crime and safety concerns in the Walsall borough.

The initiative, called 'Conversation with a Purpose', has been created by Safer Walsall Partnership and aims to engage with all sections of the community by finding out what residents are concerned about in their neighbourhoods.

Covering every issue from lack of local amenities to concerns about anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping, the consultation will pinpoint exactly what issues residents want dealt with as a priority.

Partner agencies will then work together to deal with the priority issues raised.

Tackling anti-social behaviour together

Anti-social behaviour (ASB), which covers everything from graffiti and litter to abandoned vehicles and threatening behaviour, can have a major impact on the lives of local communities. A number of initiatives have been set up to tackle all forms of ASB as well as reduce residents' fears and perceptions of ASB. One campaign, Operation Safe Street, involves local police working with Walsall Council, West Midlands Fire Service, Walsall Housing Group and Walsall NHS. The operation uses a number of measures to tackle ASB, including dispersal orders to break up groups of youths, more CCTV cameras and increased police patrols in hotspot areas.

Officers will also talk to youngsters in local schools about the issues in an effort to deter them from any ASB in the future. Parenting Orders, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, warning letters, injunctions, Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) and Criminal Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (CRASBOs) will also be issued to anyone continuing to cause ASB. Environmental crimes can be punished through on-the-spot fines for littering and dog fouling and fines of up to £50,000 or prison sentences can be handed down for fly-tipping. If you are affected by ASB, call the dedicated ASB hotline on 01922 648291.





INSIDE Community Payback • Tackling rogue traders • Conversation with a purpose • Tackling ASB together • Community resolutions



Creating Stronger Safer Neighbourhoods in Walsall

Useful Contacts



West Midlands Police
0345 113 5000
www.west-midlands.police.uk

West Midlands Fire Service
0845 5000 900
www.wmfs.net

Crimestoppers
0800 555 111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Anti-Social Behaviour Actionline
0845 605 2222

Victim Support
0845 303 0900
www.victimsupport.org.uk

National Domestic Violence Helpline
0808 2000 247

Walsall Council
01922 65 00 00
www.walsall.gov.uk

West Midlands Police Authority
0121 626 5143
www.west-midlands-pa.gov.uk

MyNeighbourhood

You can view the most recent crime patterns and anti-social behaviour (ASB) information for your neighbourhood on this interactive site. It also provides useful links to police and partnership agencies at: www.myneighbourhood.info

Directgov

Public services all in one place

Find out what's happening with your police

All police forces in England and Wales have a responsibility to work closely with you and to keep you safe. Find out what you have a right to expect from them, how to get in touch with them, and more: www.direct.gov.uk

In an emergency always dial 999

West Midlands Police Authority

We make your voice heard in policing

The Authority has nine councillor and eight independent members. We set the strategic direction of the police – including the budget – monitor performance and hold the Chief Constable to account. We use what you tell us to make policing better.



We recently ran a 'Listening Campaign' to hear people's views on policing. Police Authority Chairman Derek Webley spoke to people across the West Midlands. You can find out what people said at www.wmpa-listeningcampaign.co.uk

An effective police authority responds to the public we serve – the issues you face and problems that need fixing. Our website not only tells you what we do, but includes a 'Tell us your views' page. Use this to get your point across: www.west-midlands-pa.gov.uk You can also contact us by phone on 0121 626 5143.

Working for you to ensure your police service can effectively meet your needs

Crime figures for your area

Latest crime figures for Walsall policing area show:



TRUST & CONFIDENCE

The number of people who agree that police and partners are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime that matters within their area.

78.42%

It is measured by our Feeling the Difference annual survey of 21,000 people across the West Midlands. The target is 85%.



DOMESTIC BURGLARY

2007-08	1,477
2009-10	1,589



VEHICLE CRIME

2007-08	3,205
2009-10	2,133



ROBBERY

2007-08	428
2009-10	441

HMIC* Inspections of West Midlands Police	2009-10
Local crime and policing	Fair
Protection from serious harm	Excellent
Confidence and satisfaction	Fair

About this leaflet

Printing and delivering this leaflet costs just 7p per leaflet. Because police, local government and post code boundaries are not always the same, a small number of leaflets are delivered to addresses that are either outside West Midlands Police or not in the right Local Policing Unit. This creates a small risk of error or confusion. A 100% accurate delivery would cost at least four times as much. This would waste taxpayers' money that is better spent on frontline policing. We apologise if you received this leaflet in error and kindly ask you to recycle it.

*Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) is an independent body responsible for examining and improving the efficiency of the police service in England and Wales