

# Neighbourhood Policing – Calderdale District

## Tell Your Neighbours

Residents in Calderdale can help to tackle problems in their communities by raising issues with their local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) officers at regular meetings and surgeries. Members of the Neighbourhood Policing Team are holding meetings regularly in each of the district's 17 wards to help identify problems and work with local people and other partners to draw up ways of resolving them. Details of forthcoming meetings and recent work by NPT officers are available on the dedicated Neighbourhood Policing section of West Yorkshire Police's website [www.westyorkshire.police.uk](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk)

## Safer streets

**Twenty suspected drug dealers were arrested in a wide-reaching clampdown on the supply of Class A drugs in Calderdale.** The three-day operation - part of the 'Tackling Drugs, Changing Lives' initiative – saw the majority charged with drugs offences and put before magistrates. Detective Inspector John Mountain, of Calderdale CID, said: "We pursue those involved in the illegal supply of drugs to rid our streets of the fear and misery drugs cause." Anyone with information about drug dealing can Dob in a Dealer by calling **Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111**.

## Junior justice

Calderdale Schools Liaison Officer PC Janet West joined forces with representatives from partner agencies to give Year 10 pupils an insight into criminal law and the justice system. The day, which opened with pupils performing a short play, was designed to show young people how the system can affect their lives, how the police and courts exercise their powers, and the wider impact of crime on the community.

# 'Angels' on the streets of Halifax

Neighbourhood Policing Team officers joined forces with partner agencies this summer to make Halifax a safer place to enjoy a night out.

Continuing pioneering work which began last year, officers joined partners, including Calderdale Council, Churches Together in Halifax, Halifax YMCA, St John Ambulance and local licensees, to provide a reassuring, high-visibility presence and practical help to people on the streets of the town centre marshalls.

Under the "Street Angels" banner, volunteers run a drop-in centre at the Fair Trade Café in Crossley Street, where people can seek help and advice on Friday and Saturday nights.

Volunteers also patrol the town and are in contact with police patrols, local doorstaff, licensees, CCTV operators and trained Nightlife Marshalls.

St John Ambulance volunteers have given life-saving first aid and helped to reduce the burden on the local casualty department.



Inspector Vince Firth, of Calderdale Town Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team, briefs officer and representatives of partner agencies - Picture courtesy of Evening Courier, Halifax

Inspector Vince Firth, who leads the Town Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: "By working in partnership

we have been able to have a major impact. We have seen a reduction in drink-related violent crime and people

also have the perception that the town centre is a much safer place."

## Unit focuses on improving local service

A special unit set up to improve the way police in Calderdale handle "volume crime", such as violent crime, criminal damage and theft, has dealt with more than 1,000 arrested suspects in its first four months.

Calderdale Division formed a Volume Crime Unit in February this year to improve the quality of service and investigation into the types of offences that represent the majority of crime in the district.

The work of the dedicated 30-strong

team has led to an improvement in the number of offences brought to justice – investigations that result in people being charged to court, fined or cautioned.

Inspector Dave Sheard, who heads the unit, said: "What we are offering is a

speedier response to victims including domestic violence victims – better results in terms of thorough and productive investigations that result in convictions, and an improvement in the support we give to victims of crime."

# Work together to lock out crime



Front row from left, Ricky Richardson, Pennine Housing 2000, Coun Grenville Horsfall, chairman of Calderdale Safer Communities Partnership, Ch Insp Karen Ravenscroft, Ch Insp Steve Cotter, Supt Alan Ford, Joanne Thornton, and DCI Martin Jordan. - Picture courtesy of Evening Courier, Halifax

**A scheme aimed at cutting burglaries in Calderdale is now helping to tighten up security at even more homes across the district.**

Earlier this year the Division joined forces with Pennine Housing 2000 and Calderdale Safer Communities Partnership to launch a "target-hardening" initiative to cut repeat victimisation. Statistics show that once someone has been burgled they are far more likely to be targeted again.

Under the scheme, specially trained teams of housing staff assess burgled homes and fit them with free safety devices to beef up security and reduce the chances of them being hit again.

The initiative has now been extended to cover any homes that officers identify as being vulnerable, not just those that have been burgled.

Chief Inspector Steve Cotter, of Calderdale Community Safety, said: "The target hardening scheme has been helping us to cut repeat victimisation at homes that have been burgled once already. Extending the scheme to include any homes identified as vulnerable should help us to cut burglaries even further."