

Neighbourhood Policing – Calderdale District

Helping Youngsters

AROUND 1,000 young people from 28 schools across Calderdale have been receiving lessons aimed at helping keep them safe on the streets and in the home.

West Yorkshire Police teamed up with Brooksbank School, Calderdale Health Promotion, Calderdale Road Safety, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Metro and the Coastguard to run an advice-packed Safety for Life course.

Pupils aged 10 and 11 were given exciting scenarios requiring quick thinking, common sense and safety knowledge.

Schools Liaison Officer for Calderdale, PC Janet West, said: "We hope our input has made the youngsters think about situations they may find themselves in and also about how their actions affect other people."

Contact us

CALDERDALE has four Neighbourhood Policing Teams, all divided into smaller districts.

The main contact details are:

■ Halifax Outer – 01422 337097 (Ovenden, Illingworth, Mixenden), 01422 363731 (Park & Warley)

■ Halifax Town Centre – 01422 337033

■ Lower Calder Valley – 01422 360333 (Brighouse, Rastrick, Hipperholme and Lightcliffe, Northowram and Shelf), 01422 318096 (Elland)

■ Upper Calder Valley – 01422 318176 (Upper Valley supervision), 01422 318096 (Greetland and Stainland), 01422 318156/318145, inc voicemail (Sowerby Bridge, Ryburn and Rishworth, Luddendenfoot and Mytholmroyd), 01422 318181 (Hebden Bridge), 01422 318197 (Todmorden).

Officers may be out patrolling so please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

You can also e-mail Calderdale.NPT@westyorkshire.pn n.police.uk

For more information visit:

www.westyorkshire.police.uk/npt

Calderdale turns up the heat

A SPECIAL unit set up to improve the way police in Calderdale handle 'volume crime' like violent crime, criminal damage and theft, has dealt with more than 2,000 arrested suspects in its first eight months.

The Calderdale Division set up the Volume Crime Unit in February this year. It aims to improve the quality of service and speed up investigations into the types of offences that represent the majority of crime in the district.

The 30-strong team has seen a rise in

the number of offenders brought to justice – investigations that result in people being charged to court, fined or cautioned.

Inspector Dave Sheard, who heads the unit, said: "Our aim is to offer victims of crime a speedy response and positive resolution to the crime in which they have been involved. This includes street thefts, shoplifting, violent offences, criminal damage and domestic violence.

"My officers are all very experienced at

dealing with these types of offences and are able to secure swift, reliable responses to ensure offenders are dealt with appropriately. We support the Neighbourhood Policing Teams from across the division by absorbing some of the workload that volume crime generates.

"The Volume Crime Unit is committed to carrying out thorough and productive investigations that result in convictions. This not only brings offenders to justice but also demonstrates how seriously

police take all criminal matters.

"Our aim is to make Calderdale a safe place for everyone to live. The unit deals with a lot of offenders who commit street crime to feed their drug habits. We hope the fact that we have made so many arrests and had a significant number of successful convictions serves as a reminder to those who are intent on committing crime that they will not be tolerated. We will not allow them to get away with causing misery to law-abiding citizens."

Youngsters on board with transport safety issues

CALDERDALE'S young people are driving forward initiatives to make transport links in the region safer for them to use.

Over the past year members of the Young Citizens' Panel (YCP) at Ryburn School in Calderdale have been conducting surveys and completing reports about what young people think of West Yorkshire's transport system.

The aim of their research was to find out what young people across the area think of public transport. The panel was asked to canvas opinion from 100 pupils at their school. They then devised their own surveys and questionnaires and asked young people for their views about safety on public transport and in transport terminals, the reliability and cost of public transport, as well as their opinions on the overall service provided.

Ryburn School was selected, along with two other schools, to unveil their findings to directors from Metro at a meeting at the start of October.

They were asked to present their findings by using an innovative presentation style and produced a photographic display.

"I am really pleased with the response from young people across the region, it shows that they want to



Ryburn School pupils with (left to right) Metro Director Sheena Pickersgill, Insp Janet Ballance and PC John Simpson, both from the Force's Community Safety department, and teacher Nick Evans.

be involved in improving safety on the services they use," said PC John Simpson, Community Safety Schools & Youth Liaison Officer.

"The results of their work show that in general more than 80 per cent of those who took part in the survey usually feel safe on the region's networks, which is a positive result. I hope this trend continues and that the ideas generated by the YCP can be put into practice to

enhance the safety of all passengers.

"This initiative has shown that young people are committed to helping the community of their schools and districts. They have worked really hard to interpret their findings and present them in an easily accessible and appealing way."

Metro's Director General Kieran Preston said: "Metro is delighted to be involved in this presentation. Through

our SAFEMark, Junior SAFEMark and My Bus programmes, we encourage young people to use public transport safely, and it is good to see that they are taking this message on-board with their own initiatives. We recognise the importance of attracting young people to use public transport and their contribution in helping shape the transport agenda for the next generation of public transport users."

Arrests as suspected drugs market smashed



A suspected drug dealer is arrested in Calderdale.

SUSPECTED drugs markets in Calderdale have felt the impact of a massive police operation by West Yorkshire's Drugs and Organised Crime Unit and Calderdale division.

Early morning raids took place in the Pellon and St Johns areas of Halifax and the West Bowling and Great Horton areas of Bradford.

Supported by the Calderdale Neighbourhood Drugs Team, Operations Support Division and local Neighbourhood Policing Teams, 22 people were arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to supply drugs and money laundering offences.

Cars worth around £330,000 in total were seized during searches of

residential properties, along with large quantities of cash and what is believed to be cocaine. It follows an intelligence-led investigation into suspected drug trafficking networks in Calderdale spanning almost two years.

"Operations of this kind are particularly well received by local residents," said Detective Superintendent Colin Prime from the Homicide and Major Enquiry Team. "The knock-on effects of drug dealing should not be under-estimated. Drugs have the ability to breed crime, intolerance and violence in all sections of our communities. I am delighted with the success of this operation and confident it will significantly disrupt drugs trafficking in Calderdale."