



## EASTBOURNE CRIME REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

“Making Eastbourne Even Safer”

# Newsletter - March 2010

### We want to hear how safe you feel

What do you think about crime and safety in your neighbourhood? If you live in Eastbourne, the Crime Reduction Partnership wants to know what you think about crime and anti-social behaviour in your local area at the moment – and what you tell us will influence our action to make the District even safer.

continuing to reduce further, however, we want to know what causes concerns to the community so that we can ensure that we do all that we can to reassure people. The results of the survey last year helped us to focus on several areas within the District.

I would encourage residents to have their say, even if they completed the survey last year, and make their views heard on what they are most concerned about in their local area in relation to crime and anti-social behaviour.”

Flyers and posters being distributed across Eastbourne and the survey can be found online at [www.eastsussex.gov.uk/safetysurvey](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/safetysurvey). It can also be accessed via the computers at libraries across East Sussex free-of-charge. If you require a paper copy, please call 01323 466525.

The five East Sussex community safety partnerships – for Hastings, Rother, Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden – have worked with East Sussex County Council's Safer Communities Team to run the survey across the county. This will enable us to collect information from residents across East Sussex, which will be used by all agencies in the

East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership.

### Home Safety Visits

Your local Fire & Rescue Service personnel would like to make an appointment to visit you in your home and carry out a free fire safety check to help reduce the number of deaths and injuries that occur and protect you and your family against the risk of fire.



A visit will involve checking for any potential fire hazards, giving advice where necessary and fitting a smoke detector if applicable. East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service are particularly interested in attending the properties of 'at risk' groups, such as the elderly or single parent families although we will visit anyone who needs our help.

Accidents will always happen but that makes it all the more important to do all that we can

**Have your say on  
crime & safety in your  
neighbourhood**

**Your views are very  
important to us...**

**NEW  
for  
2010**

The results of our 2009 survey helped to direct our work to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in your local area, and throughout East Sussex.

Please tell us what the priorities should be for keeping you safe in 2010 and beyond.

Tell us what you think online at:  
[www.eastsussex.gov.uk/safetysurvey](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/safetysurvey)  
or call 01323 466525 for a paper copy



Chair of the Partnership and Senior Head of Community at Eastbourne Borough Council, Ian Fitzpatrick, “We know that Eastbourne has a very low crime rate which we are

to prevent unnecessary death and injury through fire related incidents in our homes. People always think that a fire in their home will never happen to them, however fire doesn't discriminate. It can happen anywhere, to anyone and ensuring that you have correctly fitted, working smoke alarms is one simple way of helping to keep yourself and your family safe.

For most of us, smoke alarms are now part of our ongoing home maintenance, but in every community there are still a few who are unable to take advantage of this life-saving piece of technology. We would like to access as many of these people as possible, so if you have a friend or neighbour who may benefit from our help or you'd like to arrange a visit for yourself please call our freephone number **0800 177 7069**.

## Sussex Pathways

Sussex Pathways is an independent charity set up to mentor offenders prior to, upon and after release easing their transition into the community, identifying, guiding and encouraging the offenders to engage with appropriate specialist services. It achieves this by enrolling and training volunteers from faith and non faith communities in the skills of social mentoring. By creating working partnerships with specialist agencies/charities Sussex Pathways can make effective methods of referral and encourage collaborative working. Sussex Pathways maintains close working partnerships with the statutory authorities to ensure that the charity is playing a key role in an area of need.



The charity formed in December 08 and started mentoring in January 2009. It has just commenced mentoring its 40<sup>th</sup> mentee. Having trained 30 mentors to date, Sussex

Pathways is about to embark upon its fourth training session for new mentors in March, and is actively seeking more mentors throughout East and West Sussex and Brighton and Hove. The following case history (fictitious name) will illustrate the work:

"When David was released from prison as a homeless person, he did so without any support from Probation. His mentor had become aware of his family history whilst forging a relationship with him whilst he was in custody. David told her that at the age of ten, he had been in the house when his father killed his mother – a trauma that has dominated David's life. By his early teens, he was drinking and taking drugs. He has been in and out of prison for the last fifteen years.

David's mentor worked with him before his release, and spoke to Housing, Social Services, Probation, and family members. She lined up meetings so that, on the day of release, she went with David, to his doctor, to his drugs worker, and to his new accommodation.

That third meeting was an interview for David at a residential project which supports people who have drug, alcohol and mental health problems. His mentor has also arranged a mediator to work with David and his father, hoping to address the destructive family relationships that were causing them both so much pain.

David has challenges ahead. Thanks to his mentor, he faces them from secure accommodation, with support for his drug and mental health problems. He and his father both feel that it is a new beginning for them. Someone is working with them, helping them both on a problem that has overshadowed them for years."

## March Focus

Current figures on crime in Eastbourne as of February 2010:

Overall crime for the 12 month period to the end of February 2010 compared to the 12 month period ending February 2009 is again down by 8% which means 656 fewer victims.



Burglary of houses for the same period – the 12 months to the end of February 2010 is down by 14% from the 12 month period ending February 2009 – a reduction that means that 30 fewer people were victims.

Serious violent crime in a public place has continued to fall with a reduction of over 10% for the 12 month period to the end of February 2010 compared to the previous 12 month period meaning more than 112 fewer victims.

The Partnership Shoplifting Action Plan continues to bite with reported offences falling for a 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive month. Shoplifting is down by 10% for the 12 month period to the end of February 2010 compared to the previous 12 month period, a reduction of 101 offences.

District Commander Ch Insp Jayne Dando's monthly update can be seen at: [http://www.sussex.police.uk/neighbourhood\\_policing/commander\\_message.aspx](http://www.sussex.police.uk/neighbourhood_policing/commander_message.aspx)

