



21 July 2010

Ref: 30/2010

Media Release

We're making Portsmouth safer together

The Safer Portsmouth Partnership has just published its Community Safety plan for 2010/13. The plan highlights that overall crime fell by 8% in 2009/10, the figures for April to June show that crime is continuing to fall with 339 less incidents than last year.*

The Safer Portsmouth Partnership is a multi-agency organisation who work to make our city a safer place to live, work and visit. Members of the partnership include Portsmouth City Council, Hampshire Constabulary, NHS Portsmouth, Hampshire Probation Service, Hampshire Fire & Rescue, Wessex Youth Offending Team, the University of Portsmouth and representatives from the voluntary sector.

The plan lists the partnership's overall priorities for the coming three years, these include tackling drug and alcohol misuse, working with young people at risk of offending and tackling re-offending by adults. Tackling violence, particularly domestic abuse, also remains a partnership priority.

Copies of the partnership plan will be distributed to council offices, libraries and police stations. The plan is also available to view online at www.saferportsmouth.org.uk

David Williams, Chief Executive of Portsmouth City Council, and Chair of the Safer Portsmouth Partnership said, "I am encouraged by the news that crime in Portsmouth is still falling. This further reduction means that crime in Portsmouth has reduced by 15% in the five years since the SPP was set up.

The plan for 2010-13 lays out the priorities for the next three years. We aim to further reduce levels of crime in the city."

Councillor Eleanor Scott, Cabinet member for community safety said: "Everybody wants their family to live in a nice area that allows parents and their children to be safe and feel safe. Because times are tough financially, we need to make good choices that improve community safety not just now, but in the long term.

"Becoming a safer city does not just mean happier residents, it has the added bonus of attracting new business, investment and visitors to Portsmouth, bringing much desired income. This is why we need to continue to focus on reducing crime and fear of crime."

Chief Superintendent David Peacock of Hampshire Constabulary said, "Last year, the Safer Portsmouth Partnership helped reduce the number of burglaries in the city by 28 per cent and there were around 1,000 fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour.

"It's encouraging to see as these are two of the issues people in Portsmouth tell us they're most concerned about.

"Reducing crime is a partnership effort and one of the most important partners is the community itself.

"As a police force, we'll continue to focus our efforts on what matters most to people and while my officers are out catching burglars and dealing with those who engage in anti-social behaviour, you can help too.

"Make sure your home is as secure as possible, keep an eye out for your neighbours' property and contact us if you see anything suspicious or to let us know about nuisance behaviour where you live."

Notes to editors

In 2009/10 -

- 6,719 crimes were solved
- 857 people supported through our domestic abuse service (Early Intervention Project – EIP)
- 3,300 people saw the Be Safe Stay Safe roadshow
- 1,200 people got help with their alcohol problem
- Community wardens responded to 3,776 calls
- 496 racist incidents were reported to the Racial Awareness Service last year
- 742 people received effective drug treatment – that's a 13% increase
- 98 families were supported through our preventing youth offending project – that's more than double compared to last year)
- There were 1,049 less anti social behaviour incidents compared to 2008/09
- 700 alcohol test purchases were undertaken

***iQuanta statistics (April-June 2010)**

339 less incidents compared to April-June 2009.

5% improvement year on year

Crime has fallen a total of 9% in 15 months.

About Safer Portsmouth Partnership

Safer Portsmouth Partnership is a group of statutory and voluntary community organisations that meet regularly and work together to reduce crime, substance misuse and the fear of crime. Our goal is to make Portsmouth a safe place to live, work and visit.

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