

# communicate

April to May 2008

Compiled and edited by Julia Pack & Mick Holland

## The future's bright... Communicate's now in colour!

Spring is finally here – new buds on the trees, new animals being born and a brand new look to 'Communicate' newsletter.

Appreciating the benefits of good communications with you, the residents of the Borough of Southend-on-sea, the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) has agreed to finance this newsletter to make it bigger and better than ever before!

On a monthly basis, we aim to bring you news of what's being done by various organisations within the CDRP to make the borough safer. Each issue will include a focus profile on a key member of staff working for one of the CDRP partner organisations, useful contact numbers, crime prevention tips from Essex Police's local Crime Reduction Officer, interesting statistics, feature articles and more.

We want to show our residents just how much work goes on behind the scenes to make Southend a safer place to live. 'Communicate' is a work in progress, so any suggestions you may have to improve this publication will be gratefully received and taken on board – we are keen to ensure this is a useful newsletter that gives you the information you want from us. Any questions that we can include in our 'F.A.Q.' section would also be appreciated.



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## CDRP cash injection - now that's handy!

The Help the Aged Handyvan scheme has received a cash injection that will see its services enhanced in the Southend area.

Thanks to donations of £30,000 from London Clubs International (LCI), and £20,000 from the Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), the Help the Aged HandyVan service will be able to make hundreds of older people's homes in Southend safe and secure this year.

The Southend HandyVan has operated in the area since 2002 and provides a free home security service for those aged over 60 with less than £20,000 in savings. The HandyVan fitter, Ron Patchett will assess security and safety needs in an older person's home, fit locks and other items such as spy-holes, door chains, and carbon monoxide and smoke alarms.

Southend CDRP Manager, Simon Ford, said: "Good home security goes a long way to reducing the risk of becoming a victim of burglary. HandyVan offers an excellent service that provides the town's elderly residents with the peace of mind and confidence that comes with feeling more secure in their own home. The CDRP recognises this service as invaluable and we're pleased to continue our support of its good work".

Call local Handyvan fitter Ron Patchett on 0845 026 1055, to find out more about the service.



# 39 step up to receive accreditation

Thirty-nine individuals from Southend community organisations were welcomed into the extended police family during a ceremony on Monday 14th April.

Made up of staff from South Essex Homes (12), Estuary Housing Association (16) and YMCA (11) – they each received their official accreditation certificate and ID card under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS). The organisations themselves also received a certificate of accreditation. It was believed to be the largest CSAS presentation ceremony that has taken place in Essex.

CSAS was launched following the Police Reform Act 2002, which gave Chief Constables the opportunity to accredit members of the policing family who are not employed by the police service, giving them powers to assist us in working together to provide reassurance to our community, reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

Once accredited, they are able to carry out a host of different functions which can include dealing with issues such as graffiti, fly-posting, litter, abandoned cars and alcohol confiscations.



Front row L-R: Traci Dixon (SEH), Anita McGinley (SEH), Chief Inspector John Walker (Southend District Commander), Jay Smith (CSAS Manager HQ), Insp Scott Egerton, Charlotte Dickens (Estuary), John Levy (YMCA)

Mike Gatrell, Chief Executive of South Essex Homes says: "This is a positive move forward for both our staff and residents. Accreditation will enable our staff to take positive action to tackle anti social behaviour and improve the communities in which our residents live. Becoming part of the extended police family further improves our partnership with Essex Police".



## CDRP Person of the Month

Our objectives in Leigh are to continue to reduce crime, detect more crime and to provide reassurance to all those in the neighbourhood. We are holding regular Neighbourhood Action Panels for Chalkwell and for Leigh and Westleigh in order to identify local priorities for each Ward.

Aiming to help solve those priorities, we are working on a number of on-going operations in the area targeting anti-social behaviour such as underage drinking and graffiti.

One such initiative dealing with youths drinking has been very successful. We have regularly been patrolling Leigh over the weekends stopping and searching groups of youths and seizing large quantities of alcohol for destruction. By patrolling with Outreach workers, who are able to offer the youths help and advice on alcohol and its effects, we are looking at ways to tackle this issue in the long term too.

Crime in Leigh has been reduced by nearly 25% compared with the same period last year. That's 423 less crimes or more importantly, 423 fewer victims of crime. Help us to reduce this even more by letting us know what's going on in the road where you live.

### **PC Chris Abbott**

Neighbourhood  
Specialist Officer for  
Chalkwell Marine

To contact PC Abbott:  
Call: 01702 431212  
extension 37135  
Mobile: 07866 545291  
[chris.abbott@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:chris.abbott@essex.pnn.police.uk)

# F.A.Q.

## What is CDRP?

CDRP stands for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

## What makes up the CDRP?

It involves numerous local organisations, all of which have a part to play in the fight against crime and disorder, not only the Police. They include Southend-on-sea Borough Council, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, Primary Care Trust and South Essex Homes, to name but a few.

## What does the CDRP do?

The CDRP meet regularly in order to pull together expertise from each partner organisation to then use a joined up approach to deal with local issues of anti social behaviour and crime.

## But how does that help me?

By improving the relationship and communication between our organisations, we are streamlining the processes we use to deal with issues and providing a better service to the public. We are working to hard to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour to make Southend a safer borough in which to live, work and visit. We think it's important for our residents to *feel* safer too so we aim to reassure members of the public that steps are being taken to deal with issues that affect each and every one of us.

# Street Scene

The Clean Neighbourhoods Team would like to thank all members who have provided information on a number of anti-social issues that have negatively impacted on the street scene.

Reports received of irresponsible fly tipping by neighbours, has resulted in a number of persons admitting their actions, and being made to clear their mess up. If you have any concerns of overgrown and rubbish filled gardens, rubbish being dumped on the street, litter and graffiti problems, please contact Southend Council on 01702 215000, and log your Request for Service with our call centre who will provide you with a unique reference number if you need to update any provided information.

**Karon Grant**  
**Street Scene Team Manager**  
**Waste & Street Scene**  
**Department of Enterprise, Tourism and the Environment.**

# Southend's Crime Reduction Officer **Lorna Watson** writes for 'Communicate'

With the warmer weather approaching it is time to think about gardening and home security.

For example, the garden shed contains items that could be used to break into your property such as hammers, screwdrivers, chisels etc. It is recommended that such items are locked in a secure box or crate, preferably with a hasp, clasp and padlock.

It is advisable to secure larger items to each other with chains or cable with a good quality padlock. The shed itself should be secured with a good quality lock that is bolted to the door and frame not just screwed. It is also worth post-coding garden tools either by stamping the postcode and house number onto the handle or using an invisible ultraviolet marker pen.



# Essex Police Summary 2007-08

Crime figures down, more offenders brought to justice, and more officers on the beat - these are the highlights of a successful year for police in the Southend district.

Despite our fantastic results, which beat the targets set for our area by Headquarters, our officers are far from complacent, as they continue in their drive to reduce this number further still.

In Southend we benefit from one of the best CCTV systems in the country, which is used to tremendous effect as a deterrent for would-be offenders, an extra set of eyes for the police and an evidence gathering facility.

We also make optimum use of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition system (ANPR), which includes some fixed cameras around the town and some mobile units that are used at check points which we set up at busy destinations. The cameras read number plates and cross reference them with the Police National Computer and DVLA database to catch motorists who are flouting the law.

With Neighbourhood Policing now firmly established in the town, police officers are now identifiable and approachable around local neighbourhoods and they enjoy an excellent relationship with their communities. By holding regular beat surgeries in easy-to-reach locations, they are in the heart of communities, which has enabled them to truly discover what issues affect the residents they serve.

On 30<sup>th</sup> April, the South Eastern Division of Essex Police underwent an internal restructure meaning that all of the division's officers are now part of Neighbourhood Policing Teams, working to the Neighbourhood Inspector and they have specific responsibilities for their assigned area.



Ch Supt Dave Folkard

The previous response teams which covered the entire division will be disbanded.

Divisional Commander, Chief Superintendent Dave Folkard, explained: "The objective of this internal restructure is to ensure we have the right number of officers, in the right places, at the right times. We are confident that this will make our workforce more efficient and effective, which in turn will benefit the people of South East Essex."

Reported Offence	Total 04/2006-01/2007	Total 04/2007-01/2008	% Reduction in Number of Offences
Theft of Vehicle	515	391	24.08%
Theft From Vehicle	892	795	10.87%
Vehicle Interference	178	118	33.71%
Domestic Burglary	659	496	24.73%
Wounding	1433	1240	13.47%
Robbery	225	150	33.33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3902</b>	<b>3190</b>	<b>18.25%</b>

## Neighbourhood Policing Teams

Southend Central – 07817 968114  
 Southend High Street – 07791 315961 or 07791 421302  
 Southend Seafront – 01702 613449  
 Chalkwell Marine – 07866 545291  
 Blenheim – 07817 968093  
 Eastwood – 07816 661693  
 Shoebury – 07710 086590  
 Southchurch – 07976 325346

S.M.A.A.R.T. – to discuss anti-social behaviour issues  
 01702 423504

Southend-on-sea Borough Council – to report graffiti incidents  
 01702 215000

## Useful numbers

CDRP Manager  
 Simon Ford — 01702 215185

Crime Reduction Officer  
 Lorna Watson — 01702 423187

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator  
 Mick Holland — 01702 464199

Media & Communications Co-ordinator  
 Julia Pack — 01702 423138

Large print versions of Communicate can be produced upon request

