
Welcome to the first issue of the Safer and Stronger Partnership Newsletter. This electronic newsletter provides an opportunity to share information about current and forthcoming work across the Partnership.

It's a great way to keep up-to-date and generate ideas about working together to make the best use of resources and achieve maximum impact in local communities.

We hope you'll find this newsletter useful and that you'll want to contribute to future monthly editions.

If you do want to contribute please contact the Safer and Stronger Partnership on 01934 426752 or email community@n-somerset.gov.uk

Community Award for Katie Roces-Koo, Fair Share Development Worker, North Somerset Council

Katie received the Mayor's award from outgoing Weston-super-Mare Town Mayor, Dr. Mike Kellaway-Marriott on Thursday 20 May in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the town through her community work in Weston-super-Mare.

Katie works in the Stronger Communities team and leads on work in Central Ward supporting and developing the capacity of groups to provide services that local people need. This is a two year initiative jointly funded by North Somerset Council and Quartet Community Foundation, which will reach its conclusion in December 2010.



Much of this important work means contact with those in the community that are the most disadvantaged and vulnerable. This has resulted in the development of new groups such as the Alliance for Ethnic Harmony, as well as ongoing support to projects such as the Streetsafe bus and ChAT.

Contact:

Katie Roces-Koo 01934 613100

Katherine.Roces-Koo@n-somerset.gov.uk

Community researcher training

Are you interested in the area where you live? Have you ever thought 'That should be better' and wondered how to do something about it?

If a lot of people feel the same and get together, there is more chance of something being done. All it needs is someone to gather together opinions and feed them back to whichever agency provides the service, maybe the council or housing association.

There is now an opportunity for anyone to train as a Community Researcher. This is exactly what it sounds like; you research your community to find out what needs to be improved, or what people want to happen to make their area better. Then you tell whoever needs to know so they can do something about it.



Statutory organisations make increasingly difficult budget decisions and need to know that the way money is spent meets the needs of local residents. If you think you could be someone who could help get things done, maybe this training is for you.

You can see the results of some studies carried out recently by community researchers in North Somerset on our website www.n-somerset.gov.uk.

For more information about becoming a community researcher contact the South West Foundation on 01275 333 666, email info@southwestfoundation.org.uk or see [South West Foundation](http://SouthWestFoundation.org.uk).

You can also contact our [Stronger Communities](#) team.

Community Safety Partnership Plan

The 2010/2011 Community Safety Partnership Plan is now being implemented. This document sets out the community safety priorities which the Safer and Stronger North Somerset Partnership will work towards in the next year. The plan is being implemented alongside the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and Drug Treatment Plans to ensure related issues are addressed in a joined up way.

The Community Safety Partnership Plan was developed from the outcomes of the last partnership strategic assessment which utilised a range of multi agency data, partner surveys and public consultation. The strategic assessment provided analysis at a neighbourhood level – helping to identify key issues and priorities in local areas.

The key community safety priorities for the coming year are:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour**
- **Domestic Abuse**
- **Reducing Reoffending**

Historically, the partnership has adopted a broad range of priorities which have reflected volume crime in the district. The shift to a smaller number of priorities for 2010/2011 represents a departure for the partnership and is recognition of the fact that by concentrating our limited resources on key areas of concern we can maximise the benefit to our local communities.

Work in relation to these priorities is already well underway and a review of existing partnership structures is taking place to ensure we are best placed to meet them.

Updates in relation to key pieces of work will be featured in future editions of this newsletter. In the meantime, if you would like a full copy of the partnership plan or have any queries, please contact Amy Hurst (amy.hurst@n-somerset.gov.uk).

It's back ... the Streetsafe Bus



The Streetsafe Bus returned to Weston-super-Mare Town Centre on Saturday 19 June. The bus provides a safe haven for anyone whose night out has gone wrong and the Streetsafe team help ensure people get home safely. The team also provides on the spot treatment for minor injuries and has helped more than 300 people.

Operating hours are 10pm to 2am and the bus will be at Big Lamp Corner every Saturday until September.

Are you interested in joining the Streetsafe team? Would you like to join the 'Friends of the Streetsafe Bus' to raise awareness and funds? Could you host a collection tin to help raise funds for the bus? If you can help, please contact Jo Mercer on 01934 426752 or e-mail jo.mercer@n-somerset.gov.uk

Safer & Stronger Summer 2010



The Safer and Stronger Partnership is encouraging people to stay safe and enjoy the summer 2010 in North Somerset. A z-card leaflet has been produced which highlights some key local events as well as top safety tips. These include messages about safer drinking, personal safety and behaving responsibly. There is information about local and national services including helpline numbers for FRANK (confidential drug advice 0800 77 66 00), Drinkline (confidential alcohol advice 0800 917 8282) and the National Domestic Abuse 24-hour Helpline (0808 2000 247). The cards were produced in time for the football world cup – a time when a risk of domestic abuse increasing nationally has been identified by the Association of Chief Police Officers.

Copies of the z-card have been widely distributed including to local GP surgeries and providers of overnight accommodation. Please contact Ted Sherman (ted.sherman@n-somerset.gov.uk) if you would like copies to distribute.



Performance update

April 2010 saw the end of several Safer and Stronger Partnership Local Area Agreement (LAA) stretch targets. Stretch targets to increase reports of domestic abuse and to reduce drug related deaths were 100% achieved and a stretch target to reduce criminal damage was 80% achieved.

In 2010/11, the Partnership's focus is on maintaining reductions in serious acquisitive crime and assaults with less serious injury, reducing offending and increasing public confidence and volunteering. By mid-June, assaults with less serious injury were continuing to fall – with a reduction of 21.2% (58 fewer offences than the same time last year). Serious acquisitive crime levels also remain low.

Coming up in next month's issue

- Community Engagement Plan and an update on the Faith Audit