

## Reducing crime and re-offending

### Police Summer Camp is massive success

A summer event for youths which is run by the police and funded through seized criminals' cash has been a massive hit for the fifth year running.

Police Summer Camp gives 500 young people the chance to see the different areas of policing as well as learn useful skills such as first aid, team work and stranger safety. The event is run in partnership by Bradford College and West Yorkshire Police.

The camp is funded by money seized from criminals using the Proceeds of Crime Act. This directs cash that criminals earn back into communities for projects that help make them a safer place.

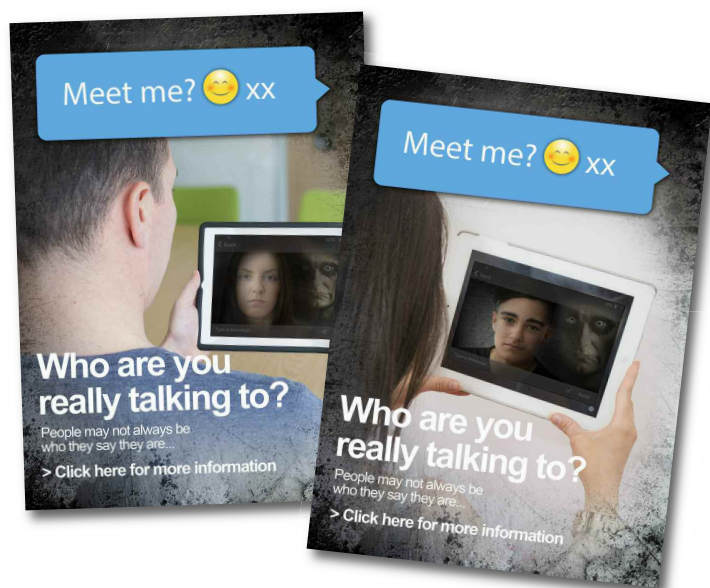
The children visited Carr Gate Training Complex where they were introduced to the police horses, public order training, police dog handlers and were treated to a fly past by the police helicopter as it returned to its helipad.

As well as a fun and educational activity for children to take part in, Summer Camp helps to fill the summer holidays and keep young people off the streets where they could be the victims of crime or become involved in anti-social behaviour. The scheme successfully teaches important life skills and introduces them to a number of positive role models from the different emergency services.



## Reducing crime and re-offending

### Do you know who you're really talking to?



Young people in West Yorkshire are being made aware of the risks associated with internet chat forums and social media websites by a new online multi-agency campaign.

Internet, Facebook and Twitter posts have been released which show an image of two teenagers in an online conversation. The graphic then reveals that one of them is not the person they are claiming to be.

Often offenders set up false accounts using fake photos and names. Some young people engage with strangers online, not knowing who they are talking to, how old they are, or their real intentions. Sexual predators can use online forums to groom their victims and encourage young people to meet up with the intention of committing a sexual offence.

This is another strand of the child sexual exploitation campaign 'Know the Signs' which is specifically tailored towards young people. Chat forums and interactive platforms present risks which make them susceptible to this type of crime.

The messages which are posted across West Yorkshire Police websites and social media will direct users to an online page which features key information and advice.

[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/who-r-u-talking-2](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/who-r-u-talking-2).

To find out more about protecting young people and recognising the indicators of Child Sexual Exploitation go to

[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/cse](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/cse)

### In your area - Kirklees

- Action on unsafe works vehicles and scrap vans in the Birstall area resulted in fines of over £1300, 9 points issued and 33 vehicles tested for illegal 'red diesel', resulting in an on the spot fine for £540
- A mobile bus was parked on Macaulay St outside the bus station for officers to engage with numerous members of the public by giving out various leaflets including summer holiday activities
- Test purchasing in Huddersfield found three of seven off licences sold alcohol to underage police volunteers and these have been fined
- Officers and PCSOs were out in force at the Mirfield show talking to people about crime prevention and community safety



## Reducing crime and re-offending

### Action day in Huddersfield Centre



Beggars, street drinkers and thieves have been taken to task after police made arrests of those causing a nuisance in Huddersfield town centre.

The Huddersfield Neighbourhood Policing Team joined forces with Kirklees Council departments including community safety and licensing officials, Integrated Youth Services, Targeted Youth Support and voluntary services to target those disrupting

shoppers and businesses.

During the day police officers, who were supported by Special Constables, made three arrests for shoplifting, one for theft of a mobile phone and arrested another person for begging. A busker whose street permit had expired was moved on as were two other buskers who had attracted complaints from shop keepers and remained in an area for a number of hours.

Alcohol was also confiscated from eight street drinkers with one given a legal direction to leave an area.

Meanwhile, volunteers handed out anti purse theft 'bells' to residents and provided advice to shoppers on what they could do to protect themselves from pickpockets. Town centre car parks were also checked by Kirklees Council staff to help deter drug use and anti-social behaviour.

### Local kids help solve problem parking

Pint sized 'police officers' have been handing out tickets to bad parkers outside a Leeds primary school with the help of Outer South Leeds Police.

Children from Westerton Primary School have helped officers to patrol the surrounding streets and have given out "friendly" parking tickets that they designed themselves while officers talked to drivers about the risks posed to pedestrians by dangerous parking.

The school has been working with PCSO Nicola Westle to put a stop to inconsiderate parking at pick-up and drop-off times. Westerton, one of the largest schools in Leeds with 750 pupils, worked closely with officers to try and resolve issues by visiting vehicle owners.

Extra patrols were carried out at key times; tickets were issued to offending vehicles and, along with



a Road Safety Officer from Leeds City Council, PCSO Westle gave a talk to all 750 children.

A school assembly and presentation took place to explain what work had been done and certificates and road safety goodies were given to all 15 children who took part.

## Reducing anti-social behaviour

### Warning letters for Great Horton youths

Eight Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) warning letters have been issued to youths in an area of Bradford.

Warning letters are given to individuals who cause nuisance in their communities. It is the first stage of the Anti-Social Behaviour legislation and, if ignored, could lead to a premises closure, or a tenancy agreement being terminated.

Officers have responded to complaints from residents in Great Horton who felt intimidated by ASB in the area.

Local PCSOs have also started daily patrols of the street to reassure the community and feedback from residents has been positive who say that the area is now much quieter. ASB Officers will continue to monitor and speak to residents to ensure they do not encounter any further problems.

If you are suffering from ASB in your community please call us on **101** or ring Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

### In your area - Leeds

- A red van was involved in crime all across Leeds but particularly in Pudsey. An NPT Facebook appeal resulted in the van being found and recovered with the owner even handing himself in to police
- Two PCSOs caught a burglar in the act in the Holbeck area of Leeds as he tried to walk away carrying a television set. The man was arrested and charged
- Around 1000 people attended an open day at Wetherby police station which raised £700 for charity, Wetherby In Support of the Elderly (WISE)
- Officers in Chapel Allerton, Roundhay and Moortown held a day of action to clamp down on anti-social behaviour. Exhibition vans were deployed across the areas with 130 people visiting them to discuss local issues and get crime prevention advice
- 51 people were arrested in a crackdown on drug use at Leeds Festival
- Officers worked with Trading Standards to track down rogue traders selling gutter and roof repairs





## Reducing anti-social behaviour

### New road patrols launched to tackle ASB



Specialist cars are on patrol in Wakefield this summer to target people acting in an anti-social manner.

The Wakefield West Neighbourhood Policing Team has two dedicated patrol cars to deal solely with anti-social incidents. The cars are staffed by officers who have good local knowledge, including long term crime issues and known offenders.

This new initiative is a response to an increase in anti-social behaviour (ASB) during the summer months with lighter nights and school holidays.

Having neighbourhood officers in the cars means calls are dealt with by people who know the issues and can feed information back to partners in Wakefield District Housing and the council.

If you are concerned about anti-social behaviour please contact your local neighbourhood policing team on **101** or ring Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

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### Brakes slammed on Northowram speeders

Speeding motorists on Halifax Road in Northowram have been targeted in response to complaints from residents who were concerned of the increased danger in the rush hour.

The majority of motorists scanned during the operation were driving between 25-28mph though nine motorists were travelling in excess of 35mph and the highest recorded speed was 46mph.

Drivers caught speeding are either required to attend a speed awareness course or will receive a £100 fine and three points on their driving license depending on their previous driving record.

Speed is one of the most significant factors in road traffic accidents, and speed limits are set taking into account the road conditions and the land use around the carriageway. Conducting speed checks



is an important way for the police to make sure that the county's roads are kept safe for all road users.



## Supporting victims and witnesses

### Cold callers kicked out of Pontefract

Residents of two areas of Pontefract are the latest to benefit from a No Cold Calling Zone which protects elderly and vulnerable people from doorstep crime.

The village of Thorpe Audlin and Cavendish Avenue in Pontefract are now part of the scheme which protects residents from individuals who knock on their door unannounced.

The main purpose of the zone is to prevent incidents of door step crime, raise awareness of the activities of rogue traders who target vulnerable people, and give residents the confidence to say no to uninvited callers.

Local police officers will work with partners including the local councils and parish councils, Trading Standards and Neighbourhood Watch groups to make sure the scheme is enforced.



For further information on Cold Calling Control Zones please visit or call Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on **08454 040506**.

### Thornton police club makes a difference



Members of a police youth club have transformed the garden of an elderly lady who had some of her late husband's items stolen from outside her property.

PCSO Tracy-Anne Beasley attended the address of the 78-year-old lady who explained that one of the stolen items was a garden ornament that her husband had bought just before he passed away.

Tracy told her Police Youth Club what had happened and they were keen to help. With donated plants from Keelham Farm shop, Thornton they took trowels, shovels, brushes and pots they weeded and spent two hours working on the lady's garden.

The youth club was set up to encourage young people to do something positive in their community, get fit through exercise, prevent anti-social behaviour and make friends. To find out more go to:

[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/bradford/bradford-west](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/bradford/bradford-west)

## Supporting victims and witnesses

### Art helps to ease victims



A local artist has added a splash of colour to the vulnerable victims' suite at Halifax.

Karen Clitheroe from Hebden Bridge kindly painted a beach scene in the room at the Richmond Close site to help relax victims and their families as they speak to officers about their ordeals.

Detective Inspector Sharon Hewitt of the Calderdale Safeguarding Unit, said:  
"People coming to see us are often at a very difficult time in their life.

"They are arriving at the Police station and reliving extremely traumatic events and we need to make their experience with us as bearable as possible.  
"We approached Karen to see what she could do - we needed a design that was calm and peaceful but was appropriate to the seriousness of the situation.

"After looking through hundreds of designs I think we have struck the right balance. We need people to be comfortable with their surroundings and the feedback so far has already been good.

"As far as I am aware this is the only room like it in the force - certainly the only time I have seen anything like it previously was within the NSPCC "

### In your area - Bradford

- Officers attended at Laisterdyke Cricket Club and fitted 11 vehicles with number plate anti-theft screws
- A prolific shoplifter was jailed for four months and is banned from Keighley town centre shops after being arrested and charged with a string of thefts
- A three-year Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) was given to a 24-year-old for causing distress to businesses and visitors to Bradford
- Elderly residents of Thornton were given advice on cold calling, bogus visitors, and crime prevention. UV pens, crime prevention leaflets and stickers, door/window alarms and window timers were handed out
- Patrols in Shipley by Bradford anti-social behaviour bike team resulted in a scooter seized and the owner prosecuted
- PCSOs attended the Queensbury Donkey Derby to talk to residents about crime prevention and talk to young people about staying safe during the summer holidays



## Tackling local, regional and national risks

### Thieves given a 'Shedache'

Thieves in Kirklees have been warned by police to stay away from gardens, sheds and garages.

Dewsbury and Mirfield officers paid a visit to known burglary suspects in the Norristhorpe area of Liversedge as part of a day long operation to deter shed break-ins and the theft of garden ornaments and equipment.

The disruption visits to local offenders were just one part of a variety of actions which saw police officers visit second hand shops in the area to check for stolen property and remind staff about the need to be vigilant.

Neighbourhood officers also spoke at length with residents to advise them about how to better protect their sheds and gardens.

To avoid shed theft make sure garden sheds, gates, garages and outbuildings remain securely locked when unmonitored. Don't leave items of



value such as tools, lawnmowers or bicycles outside in the garden – lock them away out of sight. Mark valuable items such as ornaments and furniture with your postcode.

To find out more about protecting your property go to:

[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/crimeprevention](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/crimeprevention)

### Remorseful burglar makes amends



Prolific burglar, Damien Wood, owned up to a string of crimes when he was caught in the act and was later jailed for 40 months at Leeds Crown Court.

His confessions aided the recovery of stolen property including a student's laptop with vital university work on it and jewellery with sentimental value and enabled him to own up to a list of undiscovered crimes.

Wood, 37, of Pump Lane, Dewsbury Moor was jailed for the burglary of two schools in Bradford and Mirfield and at a house in Mirfield and asked for 36 other offences to be taken into consideration.

He was arrested and bailed for the burglary of the Bradford School and committed the other two offences while on bail. He was caught after calling a taxi to move his loot, arousing the suspicions of the driver who took his photo and reported him to the police.

Detective Inspector Andy Leonard of Kirklees CID, said: "As part of the court case Wood admitted a large number of burglaries which has meant we have been able to at least in part bring closure to those victims.

"During interview, Wood was able to assist police to recover some valuable property he had stolen, which we have also been able to return including a student's laptop computer which contained vital course work and jewellery which had an important sentimental value to the victim."



## Tackling local, regional and national risks

### Man arrested at airport for stealing cigarettes

Officers based at Leeds Bradford International Airport have stopped a man who was carrying out a cigarette theft scam.

Gheorghe Pacea, originally from Romania, was arrested and charged with theft from World Duty Free at Leeds Bradford International Airport on 28 July.

He had stolen cigarettes to a value of £4,000, having committed the same offence on two

previous occasions, each time leaving on a flight to Heathrow. On the day of his arrest he travelled to Leeds Bradford Airport and, when he was stopped, he was in possession of a modified travel case, which allowed for the cigarettes to be quickly placed inside.

Pacea admitted the thefts and was sentenced at Leeds Magistrates Court to 20 weeks in prison.

### Cannabis farms rooted out in Leeds



Officers in Bramley and Armley uncovered five cannabis farms following a targeted operation, led by PC Chris Davey.

A total of 305 plants with a potential yield of £300,000 was seized along with thousands of pounds worth of specialist growing equipment.

This operation was mounted following intelligence gathered by local police officers and PCSOs. Three of the properties searched were in Bramley and two were in Armley. Four people were arrested and face potential prison sentences. In addition the financial means of the offenders will be investigated and any income derived from their drug dealing confiscated and then ploughed back into the communities that their crime has damaged.

If you suspect that a property in your area may be used for the cultivation of cannabis contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team on **101**.

### In your area - Calderdale

- Over 80 vehicles were stopped and had the tanks dipped for red diesel by Todmorden police with five penalty tickets with fines ranging from £100-£300 for mobile phones, driving without a current MOT and carrying over weight loads
- A Cannabis farm has been found in the cellar of a detached house in Hebden Bridge with 45 plants seized. A 48 year old man was arrested and bailed
- A three-strike burglar was jailed for two and a half years for committing two burglaries in Pellon, Halifax

# An efficient Criminal Justice System

## Wakefield Neighbourhood Police get social

Inspector Ian Williams is chatting live with communities across Wakefield by hosting weekly Facebook forums.

The sessions are held every Tuesday between 6.30pm and 8pm on a rolling three week basis for Central, Rural and North West Neighbourhood Policing Team areas.

Using social media is a way of reaching a large audience quickly and easily in the comfort of their own homes as it is not always possible for officers or members of the public to attend community meetings.

The sessions have not replaced regular community meetings which will continue as normal, but are just another way that people can get in touch with their local officers.

Some questions can be answered on the spot and all the issues raised are proactively looked at and dealt with as appropriate by the NPTs and their partner agencies, with feedback posted on the local Facebook pages.



Anyone from the NPT areas who has 'liked' their local page will be able to log on and take part. To find your local NPT go to:

[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/wakefield](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/wakefield)

## Community Volunteers boost Little Horton



Community Volunteers have been working alongside local officers in Holme Top and the surrounding areas of Little Horton to spread the word about crime prevention.

They knocked on hundreds of residents' doors to chat with people face to face and distributed crime prevention leaflets. Householders received practical advice on steps they can take to secure their property against theft.

The volunteers gave up their Saturday and Sunday evening to make a difference and support their community. Some volunteers used their bilingual skills to enable more people to communicate their concerns to the police.

West Yorkshire police is currently recruiting for volunteers. To find out more go to: [www.westyorkshire.police.uk/recruitment](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/recruitment)



# An efficient Criminal Justice System

## Rain fails to dampen carnival atmosphere



Thousands danced in Chapeltown's streets at the Carnival while young people partied at the festival. Lee Gap Fair near East Ardsley successfully attracted over 3,000 attendees to what is the longest established Traveller fair in the country.

Assistant Chief Constable Mark Milsom, of West Yorkshire Police, said: "We have enjoyed a truly vintage summer for major events in West Yorkshire, beginning on a spectacular high with the Tour De France and continuing this Bank Holiday weekend with the Leeds Festival and Chapeltown Carnival.

It may have rained, but the weather failed to dampen spirits during this year's August Bank Holiday weekend which saw thousands of people enjoying themselves safely, drawing the curtain on an amazing summer of public events in Yorkshire.

West Yorkshire Police has thanked attendees at both the Chapeltown Carnival and Leeds Festival for playing their part in making the events successful and overwhelmingly peaceful and incident free.

"The August Bank Holiday weekend is the busiest of the year and officers work hard for months in advance with the event organisers. We have seen very few incidents of crime or disorder and it has been a brilliant opportunity for local officers to mix with residents in what are really fun events, as can be seen from our Twitter feeds.

"I want to thank those who attended all of these events and played their part in celebrating why Yorkshire is such a special place."

## In your area - Wakefield

- Castleford Academy School pupils have designed posters to prevent the illegal sale of alcohol to underage people
- Road Safety Days took place at St Thomas a Becket School and Kettlethorpe High School in response to a fatal accident in Notton last year involving high school-aged students
- PCSOs attended Willow Park Care Home to talk to people about keeping their valuables safe and avoiding doorstep crime
- Castleford NPT ran a multi-agency operation to check that vehicles were road worthy and not being used for criminal purposes in Glasshoughton
- A cannabis farm was detected and dismantled following an early morning drugs operation in Darnley

## Engaging with communities

### Police station open day attracts crowds

More than 5,000 people flocked to Halifax Police Station as officers threw the doors open to visitors.

Organisers were expecting a good turnout but were delighted and pleasantly surprised as so many people came for a look behind the scenes at the Richmond Close site.

The aim of the day was to meet with members of the public and show them the work that goes into policing the District 24 hours a day, 365 days a year which has resulted in significant crime reductions across Calderdale.

Crowds were entertained by Total Awareness Promotions and acts included an Indian Dance Workshop with Annapurna dance, the West Yorkshire Police band and even the occasional dancing police officer.

Officers were also able to display a top of the range sports car - a Ferrari 360 Spider - which had been seized by officers using the Proceeds of Crime Act.



A great day was had by all and we have had some extremely positive feedback from the local community on social media channels.

### Policing West Yorkshire with Pride



Police officers, Special Constables and Police Community Support Officers turned out in numbers to help keep West Yorkshire's lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender community safe as they celebrated Leeds Pride at the start of August.

The event draws a crowd of around 30,000 people each year for entertainment, a parade through Leeds city centre and then a big party that goes on well in to the night. The crowds listened to speeches from local dignitaries and service providers, including West Yorkshire Police Assistant Chief Constable Mark Milsom, who talked about the need to report all hate crimes to the police.

West Yorkshire Police had an engagement stall at the event where revellers could have their photographs taken in police uniforms and in the cage of a police van. Alongside the light-hearted engagement were important messages about hate crime, bullying in schools and advertising Special Constable recruitment opportunities.