



**Home Office**

BUILDING A SAFE, JUST  
AND TOLERANT SOCIETY

# Crime Reduction Basics

- tackling crime and anti-social behaviour  
in the community

# Introduction

“Crime Reduction Basics” is a two and a half hour training session designed to introduce individuals and groups in the community to the basic principles of crime and disorder reduction and to encourage them to get involved in reducing crime, especially anti-social behaviour.

This session can be used with a wide range of people, from youth groups through to the elderly community and has been written in a way that can be adapted to specific groups.

In this pack you will find:

- guidance on how to use the session notes
- a full training brief, including:
  - information points
  - discussion topics
  - case studies of successful community crime reduction projects
  - handouts of key points and a list of contacts.

On the next three pages you will find further information about how this training session can be used.

# About This Session

## Introduction

This section of the session brief is designed to help you:

- understand the aims and objectives of the session
- prepare to deliver it.

## Aim

The aim of the session is to “Introduce attendees to the basic principles and techniques used in crime and disorder reduction”.

## Objectives

By the end of this session attendees will be able to:

- define crime and disorder reduction
- identify who is involved in their local crime and disorder reduction partnerships and what services they can be expected to offer
- describe a simple problem solving process they can use to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- describe some of the methods used in crime reduction
- identify what they can contribute to crime reduction locally.

## Who is the session for?

This session has been designed for use in the community with groups and individuals such as:

- tenants’ associations
- residents’ groups
- youth groups
- Neighbourhood Watch schemes
- open public meetings
- sports clubs
- social clubs.

In fact any organisation or group of individuals who may be interested in involving themselves in crime reduction will benefit from this session.

## Session Timetable

The session will last about two and a half hours. The table below shows a list of the sections in the session and how long they should take to deliver.

Section No.	Timing	Title
1	20 Minutes	Introduction: Crime and anti-social behaviour
2	20 Minutes	What is crime and disorder reduction?
3	15 Minutes	Problem Oriented Policing and multi-agency crime and disorder reduction
4	25 Minutes	Who's involved in crime reduction in your area and what you can expect from them?
5	20 Minutes	What can be done? - Methods of reducing anti-social behaviour
6	40 Minutes	What can you do? - Your contribution and getting involved
7	10 Minutes	But why get involved?

## How the brief is laid out

This training brief is divided into sections and each one contains all the information you need to deliver it. Each section contains:

- Information to give to the group. This is set out in bullet point lists.
- Questions and activities. Throughout each section there are questions you can ask the group and suggestions for brief activities which they can do.
- At certain points where you have to use local information, you will find trainers' notes in italics explaining what you need to do.
- Handouts and slides. At the end of some sections you will find handouts that illustrate the key points. These can be photocopied or used as overhead projector transparencies. **It is advisable to give the group a copy of all the handouts at the start of the session.**

## **Adapting this session**

The purpose of this session is to provide basic information to community groups so they can start to become involved in reducing crime.

The best way to achieve this is by adapting the session to take into account local problems and concerns. Please feel free to treat this session as a template and modify it to fit local circumstances. You can do this by using it as a vehicle to discuss local crime problems or as a way of exploring the concerns of specific groups in the community.

You will also find that in some sections you need to add local information such as details of local strategies, projects and contact details.

## **Numbers of Participants**

This session has been designed so that it can be delivered to groups of any size. If you are going to deliver this session to large groups of 12 or more you may need help in organising some of the activities.

## **Accommodation Requirements**

These depend on the size of your group. If you are going to use some of the exercises you will need a room large enough to divide the group up into smaller groups.

If you can get hold of an overhead projector and screen, flipcharts, pens and a pen board, these will be of great use. But don't worry if you can't because you can still run the session without them.

## **Course Certificates**

A certificate of attendance is available for this course. If you want copies of the certificate to give out to attendees, these may be downloaded separately from [www.crimereduction.gov.uk/learningzone/crbasicscertificates.pdf](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk/learningzone/crbasicscertificates.pdf)

# Introduction: Crime and anti-social behaviour?

## Information Points

### *Introduction*

- This session is about reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Rather than looking at reducing crime problems in general, the aim of this session is to look at crime and anti-social behaviour in **this** community and ways in which you can become involved in reducing it.

### **Crime and Disorder Statistics**

- Each year the Home Office publishes the results of the British Crime Survey.
- The Survey shows that, between 1999 and 2001/02, crime fell overall by 14%. This figure includes falls in burglary of 23%, in vehicle thefts of 14% and in common assault of 28%.
- The 2001/2002 survey also recorded figures for anti-social behaviour. This is classed as any “individual’s behaviour (that) causes alarm, distress or harassment to one or more persons not in the same household as him/herself.”
- Anti-social behaviour can include a whole range of problems. The British Crime Survey for 2001/2002 reported the following percentages of adults as saying that the following were a very or fairly big problem in their area:

- noisy neighbours or loud parties	10%
- teenagers hanging around on streets	32%
- rubbish or litter lying around	32%
- vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property	34%
- people being attacked/harassed because of their race or colour	9%
- people using or dealing drugs	31%
- people being drunk or rowdy in public places	22%.

### **Trainer’s Note**

*Handout One* gives details of the findings on anti-social behaviour from the British Crime Survey. You can refer the group to it now to help them answer the questions that follow.

## Questions and Activities

Spend about ten minutes getting the group to define what the crime and disorder problems are in their area. The questions below will help.

- What do the group see as the major crime and disorder issues in their area?
- Are any of the problems of anti-social behaviour found in their area?
- What effects do these problems have on the area and on them as individuals and a community?

If possible record some of the key points on a flipchart. These will be used in Section 5: What can be done? - Methods of reducing anti-social behaviour and crime: case studies of good practice and Section 6: What can you do? - Your contribution and getting involved

## Information Points

### *About this session*

- The rest of this training session looks at ways in which crime and anti-social behaviour can be tackled in this community.
- This session looks at:
  - what is crime reduction and two different approaches to reducing crime
  - problem oriented policing and how working in partnership can reduce crime
  - what the police and other organisations can do to reduce crime
  - examples of how crime and anti-social behaviour can be tackled, including using Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts
  - what you can do to help reduce crime
  - why you should get involved in crime reduction in your community.

# What is Crime and Disorder Reduction?

## Introduction

- This section looks at:
  - a definition of crime and disorder reduction
  - who is already involved in reducing crime in this community
  - situational and social approaches to crime and disorder reduction.

### ***What do we mean by crime and disorder reduction?***

## Information Points

- Crime and disorder reduction means “Reducing the opportunity for a crime or disorder to take place.”
- It is not possible to prevent all crimes taking place, but it is possible to reduce the fear of crime and its impact.
- Crime reduction involves a range of activities, which include improving the physical security of vulnerable targets, improving the environment in an area and working to provide a better quality of life.
- Crime prevention or reduction has usually been seen as the responsibility of the police, but a whole range of other agencies are now involved, including the Local Authority, Health Service, Fire Service and community groups.
- Effective crime reduction doesn't have to be large scale and expensive. There are plenty of things that can be done locally on a small scale that have a significant impact on reducing crime.

### ***Two approaches to crime reduction***

## Trainers' Notes

*This section introduces situational and social approaches to crime reduction. The main emphasis is on showing the difference between the approaches. At the back of this session brief **Handouts 2 and 3** show definitions for both approaches.*

## Questions and Activities

Ask the group what kind of activities you might do to reduce crime disorder and write the answers down on a flipchart or pen board if you have one available.

The information points below can be used in a discussion of crime and disorder reduction.

## Information Points

- Crime and disorder reduction uses a variety of methods to achieve its aims.
- One of the approaches to crime and disorder reduction is called situational.
- Situational crime and disorder reduction involves altering the physical conditions of potential sites where a crime might take place.
- Situational crime reduction can involve:
  - Target Hardening - for example fitting better locks to homes, or improving fencing round a home to make it more difficult to break into.
  - Removing vulnerable items from the places where they can be stolen or damaged.
  - Removing the means to commit crime - such as ladders, and builder's rubble that can be used as tools by an offender.
  - Improving the visibility in an area, for example by cutting down high bushes and plants so that offenders can be seen more easily.
  - Controlling access to areas, for example in blocks of flats or sheltered housing, so that unauthorised people cannot get in to commit an offence.

## Questions and Activities

- Can the group think of any other methods for improving physical security?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of this approach?

*It will be useful to have a flipchart on which to record the group's answers.*

- Another approach to crime and disorder reduction is social.
- Social crime and disorder reduction involves working with potential or actual offenders to divert them from committing a crime. It also includes improving the quality of life for victims and potential victims of crime, and people in general.
- Social crime reduction can involve:
  - providing alternatives to crime for young people such as clubs and youth shelters
  - taking out Anti-Social Behaviour Orders or Acceptable Behaviour Contracts against people causing anti-social behaviour
  - providing education programmes that divert people from crime
  - forming Neighbourhood Watch Schemes
  - setting up informal support networks for vulnerable groups such as the elderly
  - regenerating areas by improving their appearance and improving facilities.
- As well as actually reducing the chances of a crime taking place, using situational and social approaches can also reduce the fear of crime in an area.
- It is also better if a combination of approaches is used. So instead of just relying on physical means of reducing crime, combine them with ways of improving the quality of life in an area to greater effect.

### **Questions and Activities**

- Can the group think of any other methods of social crime reduction?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of this approach?

*It will be useful to have a flipchart on which to record the group's answers.*

- Both social and situational approaches can be used on small scale as well as large scale projects. Local projects focussing on small areas can often be more effective than large projects. Big isn't necessarily better.

- This section defined crime reduction and looked at two different ways of approaching crime reduction.
- It is important that these approaches are used in a systematic and co-ordinated way. The next section looks at Problem Oriented Policing and partnership working, which provide the means by which these approaches are put in to practice.

# Problem Oriented Policing and Multi-Agency Crime and Disorder Reduction

## Trainers' Notes

*The aim of this section is to introduce the concepts of problem oriented policing (POP) and partnership working. It also introduces a simple problem solving method, SARA, and emphasises that any project, no matter how small, benefits from a structured approach. At the back of this brief **Handout 4** shows SARA*

## Introduction

### Information Points

- To be effective the crime reduction approaches discussed in the previous section need to be applied in a systematic way.
- This section looks at Problem Oriented Policing (POP) - a systematic way of carrying out crime and disorder reduction projects that has been adopted by the police, other agencies and by groups in the community.
- Although crime reduction was traditionally seen as the responsibility of the police, it has been found that projects work more successfully if other organisations and the community are involved too. So this section also looks at the importance of working in partnership.

## Problem Oriented Policing

### Information Points

- In many areas crime reduction was traditionally seen as the main responsibility of the police.
- Between 1975 and 1995 recorded crime rose sharply. For most of that time the police had to spent much of their time reacting to single incidents without looking at the underlying causes of problems.
- Problem Oriented Policing, sometimes called POP, is a method of problem solving which was developed in the United States and is being adopted by police forces and other agencies in England and Wales.

- POP is about identifying and solving underlying problems within communities, rather than simply responding to individual incidents. It is where the police, communities and local agencies work together to identify specific problems that cause incidents and then tackle them together.
- In order to carry out POP effectively many police forces and other organisations have adopted a systematic way of managing crime reduction work.
- The process is called **SARA**.
- There are four stages to SARA:
  - **Scanning** - where problems are identified using local knowledge and data from a wide range of organisations
  - **Analysis** - where the data is used to identify the problems' causes.
  - **Response** - where solutions are devised to the problem using the situational and social approaches described in the last section
  - **Assessment** - looking back to see if the solution worked and what lessons can be learned.
- POP can be used just as easily for large scale problems and small ones. This example shows how POP can work in practice.
- **Scanning** - shopkeepers and residents on an estate have been complaining about a group of youths congregating outside the local shops. The number of complaints about noise has increased in recent weeks and the police have had to attend a number of times.
- **Analysis** - further investigation of the problem shows that:
  - most of the incidents occur on Wednesday evening between nine and ten
  - a group of between 15 and 20 youths gather outside the shops
  - most of the complaints have been from elderly residents opposite the shops who are intimidated by the noise from the group
  - some under age members of the group have been seen drinking alcohol, which may have been bought from the local off-licence
  - the local youth club opens on Wednesdays' and the youths attend the club.

- **Response** - there were a number of responses to the problem:
  - police spoke to the off-licence owner and warned him about selling alcohol to underage drinkers
  - the number of patrols to the area were increased during the time the youths congregated
  - the elderly residents were encouraged to keep notes of the kinds of incidents they saw in case the information was needed at a later date
  - the youth workers at the club spoke to the group in an attempt to encourage the youths to go home immediately the club closed
  - police spoke to the parents of the ringleaders of the group to get them to be more aware of the behaviour of their children.
- **Assessment** - the situation was monitored for three months after the initial action was taken against the group. This was done by speaking to the residents about whether they felt the situation had improved, random police patrols in the area on Wednesday nights and checks on the off-licence owner. After the initial action was taken the situation calmed down and no further action was required.

### ***Multi -Agency Working***

#### **Information Points**

- One of the major success factors in POP is getting the active involvement of the community and other agencies. In the example of POP in action, local residents and youth workers were part of the solution.
- It is vitally important that crime reduction involves everyone, and not just the police. The next section looks at what other agencies can contribute to crime reduction and the legal framework that requires them to do so.



# Who's Involved in Crime Reduction in Your Area and What Can You Expect From Them?

## *Who's Involved?*

### **Information Points**

- In many areas crime reduction was traditionally seen as the main responsibility of the police until, in 1998, the Crime and Disorder Act became law.
- The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established partnerships between the Police, Local Authorities, Probation Service, Health Authorities, the voluntary sector, and local residents and businesses.
- These partnerships are working to reduce crime and disorder in their area by following this process:
  - Auditing the levels of crime and disorder problems in their area, and consulting widely with the population of that area to make sure that the partnership's perception matches that of local people, especially minority groups, such as members of ethnic minorities or gay men and lesbians.
  - Devising a strategy containing measures to tackle those priority problems. This is to include targets, and target owners for each of the priority areas.
- The strategy lasts for three years, but must be kept under review by the partnership.
- Stemming from the strategy are various projects and schemes, some of which will be very local and some of which will be borough-wide.
- In addition to local initiatives there are also a number of national initiatives, which help to tackle local crime problems such as those on street crime, drugs and vehicle crime.
- Although, under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, crime reduction is the responsibility of everyone in the Local Authority and Police, each organisation may have specialist staff or departments which have a specific responsibility for crime reduction.

## Trainers' Notes

*The information above is relevant to all Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs), but you should now tell the group:*

- *the name of their local CDRP*
- *what area it covers*
- *which agencies are involved - stressing any non-statutory groups and the extent of their involvement*
- *contact information for people with responsibility for crime reduction - **Handout 10** has space for contact details of local agencies*
- *where a copy of the audit and strategy can be found.*

*If possible have this information written down on a flipchart or a pen board.*

### Questions and Activities

Questions to ask the group include:

- are they aware of the local CDRP?
- have they seen a copy of the strategy?
- do they know who their local crime reduction officer or community safety officer is?
- is anyone involved in crime reduction projects?
- if they are tenants of a local authority or housing association, do they know if their landlord has a policy to tackle antisocial behaviour, and if so what is it?

## ***What Can You Expect From Them?***

### **Trainers' Notes**

*As well as being able to identify the agencies that are involved in crime reduction, participants will also need to know what services they can expect from them. The information points below and **Handout 5** give an outline of the kind of help communities can expect from local authorities, and a range of other agencies. As well as the information in these notes you should also tell participants about:*

- *any additional services provided by these agencies*
- *details about specific local services not mentioned in the information points.*

### **Information Points**

- There are a number of organisations that can provide help in reducing crime and disorder. These include:
  - Local Authorities
  - Health Services
  - Fire and Rescue
  - The Probation Service
  - The Voluntary Sector
  - Private Landlords.
- It is important that you are aware of what each organisation provides so that you can ask for help when it is needed.
- The local authority has a legal requirement, under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, to review how their current service provision impacts on crime and disorder reduction and how they can take active steps to reduce crime and disorder. You have a right to ask them for help in reducing crime and disorder.
- The information in the handout can be used to help identify the correct agencies so that you can ask them for help.

## Trainers' Notes

*Handout 5* lists the kind of services that participants can expect in their areas and has spaces to add additional local information. Make sure that each participant has a copy of the handout and then:

- give them details of the contribution made by any local organisations
- allow the group five minutes to read through the handout
- ask them the discussion questions below.

### Questions and Activities

- Which of the services is the group aware of?
- Are there any services that they are not receiving?
- Are there any additional services available locally?

*Explain that in section 6 of this session, there is the chance for the group to think about ways they can get involved, including how they can make sure they get a good service from local organisations.*

## Anti-social Behaviour

### Information Points

- So far this training session has looked at:
  - the types of crime affecting communities
  - a definition of crime reduction
  - situational and social approaches to crime reduction
  - problem Oriented Policing and how it works
  - what the police and other agencies can contribute to crime reduction and their legal responsibilities.
- The next section looks at what is probably the most pressing problem for communities - anti-social behaviour - and how it can be tackled.

# What Can Be Done? - Methods of Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour

## *Introduction*

### **Information Points**

- One of the most pressing problems is anti-social behaviour, and this section looks at this in more detail, especially at Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts.
- Reducing anti-social behaviour is a high priority for the Government, police forces, local authorities and communities.

## *Anti-Social Behaviour*

### **Information Points**

- At the beginning of this training session anti-social behaviour was defined as any “individual’s behaviour (that) causes alarm, distress or harassment to one or more persons not in the same household as him/herself.”
- This is a very wide definition and has been made that way so that anti-social behaviour can cover a wide range of problems.

## Questions and Activities

What activities can be classed as anti-social behaviour?

If possible write the answers down on a flipchart and compare them to the ones below.

## Discussion Points

Anti-social behaviour can include:

- harassment of residents or passersby
- verbal abuse
- criminal damage
- vandalism
- noise nuisance
- writing graffiti
- engaging in threatening behaviour in large groups
- racial abuse
- smoking or drinking alcohol underage
- substance abuse
- joyriding
- begging
- prostitution
- kerb crawling
- throwing missiles
- assault
- vehicle crime
- abandoned vehicles

- So that all these problems can be dealt with effectively, the Government has introduced two new ways of dealing with the people who cause anti-social behaviour - Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs)
- Most of the information in this section is taken from the Home Office Guidance on ASBOs and ABCs. This is the guidance that the police and local authority in your area will follow when dealing with anti-social behaviour.

## **ASBOs**

### **Trainers' Notes**

*Handout Six contains information about ASBOs*

#### **Information Points**

- ASBOs have been in use since 1999.
- Their purpose is to prevent anti-social behaviour by named individuals.
- They can be applied for by police forces, local authorities, registered social landlords and the British Transport Police.
- An order can be granted by the courts if:
  - the Individual's behaviour is anti-social
  - the order is necessary to protect persons from further anti-social acts.
- ASBOs are usually ordered when an application has been specifically made for them, but they can also be granted in addition to a sentence for an offence when the person is convicted.
- An ASBO can cover any defined area within England and Wales or can cover the whole country.
- Orders last for a minimum of two years. There is no specified maximum but the court should make the order only for so long as it considers that it is necessary for the protection of the community from the individual in question.
- The order should contain details of what the defendant is prohibited from doing. The order should be specific about the exact behaviour, and the time and place so that it is clear to the defendant and to those enforcing the order what constitutes a breach.
- Children aged 10 and over can be made the subject of an order.
- There are no reporting restrictions on ASBOs and they work well if they are widely publicised. The court may decide to impose reporting restrictions to protect the identity of a person under 18.

- If an order is breached the defendant can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £5,000 or up to five years in prison. Juvenile offenders can be sentenced to a detention and training order that has a maximum term of 24 months.

## **Trainers' Notes**

*The first case study in Annex A at the back of this brief shows an ASBO in action. At this point it would be useful to use this to explain how an ASBO works. You can copy the case study details for the group if you wish, or use a local example if you know of one.*

## **ABCs**

### **Trainers' Notes**

*Handout Seven contains information about ABCs*

### **Information Points**

- An ABC is a written agreement between a person who has been involved in anti-social behaviour and one or more local agencies whose role it is to prevent such behaviour.
- ABCs were initially used by Islington Borough Council but their use is being encouraged throughout England and Wales.
- The contract is agreed and signed at a meeting with the individual. Where the person is a child or young person, parents or guardians should be encouraged to attend.
- The contract should list the acts in which the person has been involved and which they agree not to continue. If the individual can be involved in drawing up the contract it may help them to recognise the impact of their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions.
- Legal action in the form of an ASBO can be stated as the possible consequence of a breach of the contract. The threat of legal action provides an incentive to ensure that the contract is adhered to.

- An ABC is not necessarily a precursor to an ASBO, but a breach of an ABC can be used as evidence in an ASBO application.
- ABCs usually last for six months, but can be renewed.

### **Trainers' Notes**

*The second case study in Annex A at the back of this brief shows an ABC in action. At this point it would be useful to use this to explain how an ABC works. You can copy the case study details for the group if you wish, or use a local example if you know of one.*

## **Anti-Social Behaviour and The Crime and Disorder Reduction**

### **Partnership**

#### **Information Points**

- CDRPs are responsible for reducing anti-social behaviour as well as crime.
- Each CDRP has been encouraged to appoint an anti-social behaviour co-ordinator and 90% of CDRPs have done this.
- All partnerships are also required to draw up strategies for the reduction of anti-social behaviour in their areas.

### **Trainers' Notes**

*At this point tell the group the contact details of their local co-ordinator and brief details of the local strategy.*

## **The Community's Role in Anti-social Behaviour**

#### **Information Points**

- The Community can become involved in collecting evidence and enforcing breaches of ASBOs.
- Evidence for ASBOs can be based on hearsay evidence. This means that a police officer can provide a statement on behalf of a witness or witnesses who remain anonymous.

- Individuals or groups in the community could provide evidence for an ASBO in the form of diaries or video or audio recording.
- The evidence should contain specific information about dates, places, times, specific descriptions of actions, who was present and who said what.
- If an individual or group is a witness for an ASBO they should have regular contact with the person managing the case who will give them advice and support throughout the process.
- Once an order has been made the community has an important role to play in advising the police or local authority when a breach has occurred.

### ***Dealing with abandoned vehicles***

#### **Information Points**

- Local authorities have a statutory duty to remove abandoned vehicles from the streets, and are your first point of contact. No-one should try to take physical action themselves.
- Local authorities, the police and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) all have powers to remove abandoned vehicles - after 24 hours by local authorities, or immediately by police where it is dangerous, or immediately by DVLA where it is untaxed.
- You can help as an individual or a group by taking an active interest in vehicles parked in your area and report possible abandoned ones to the local authority as quickly as possible. If the authority is slow to react, you can apply pressure by contacting ward councillors, or complaining by letter/telephone.
- Where you have a local warden scheme, targeting of car removal can be made a priority; where there are no warden schemes, tenants or residents' associations can also do regular checks such as collecting evidence on the scale and location of the problem, and on associated issues such as arson, danger to children and the vehicle becoming the focus of criminal activity.

- Some local authorities have set up free disposal services for unwanted cars, or have “abandoned vehicle hotlines”. Where this is not the case, groups can negotiate a contact officer in the local authority to act as a ‘hotline’ person.
- Any evidence collected should be made available to local authorities, who in their role as a member of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership can look at involving others, such as local schools, in addressing the problem.
- You, as an individual or a group, can usefully monitor the success of achieving speedy removal of abandoned vehicles and the extent to which the problem has been brought under control, and bring the results to the attention of the local authority.

### ***Getting Involved***

#### **Information Points**

- In this section we have looked at dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- The next section look more closely at local crime and disorder problems and how you can get involved in reducing them.



# What Can You Do? - Getting Involved

## Trainers' Notes

*The final section is timed to last 40 minutes. For this exercise you will need to break the group down into smaller groups of about six people. At the start of the exercise remind the group of the crime and disorder problems they identified in Section One and give each group a copy of **Handout 8** - the question sheet - and allow them 25 minutes to discuss the questions. At the end of this time ask each group to explain one thing they can do to get involved in crime reduction. There are some discussion points that can be used at the end of this session to give people ideas for how they can become involved. **Handout 9** lists these ideas*

## Case Studies

*The case studies below illustrate how both situational and social crime reduction works in practice. The notes in Appendix A show:*

- *a background briefing to the problem*
- *information about the methods used*
- *details of what the results were.*

*You can use these case studies to show what can be done locally. If it is possible pick the case studies that relate most closely to the problems you identified in section One of this session - If you know of any local projects that show how different approaches were used, you can use those instead.*

*At the start of this section give each group two or three of the case studies. Explain that they can use them as a source of ideas and to help with their discussion of what can be done locally.*

- An **ASBO** has been taken out on a group of youths causing problems in a village. This has led to a decrease in **anti-social behaviour**.
- An **ABC** has been drawn up with a youth causing problems on a housing association estate. This has stopped the **anti-social behaviour**.

- A **tool library** has been set up on one housing estate. The library hires out tools and DIY equipment to subscribers who pay a subscription of £3.00 a year. Because the area looks cared for it has become less of a target **for graffiti, car dumping and vandalism.**
- The **Pit Stop** project, involves young people in activities with motor vehicles. By giving young people something positive to do the project has reduced **vandalism and anti-social behaviour, as well as helping to reduce vehicle crime.**
- The **Rampage** project has set up a skateboarding ramp in a local park. This group has reduced **anti-social behaviour** by young people by providing an alternative activity.
- The example of a **Neighbourhood Wardens** scheme is on a ‘hard-to-reach’ estate. It was launched in August 2001 on a deprived estate suffering a complex range of **social problems**, including high levels of crime.
- A housing association **Gold Service Scheme** was set up on a housing association estate in 1998. Tenants could join if they had no rent arrears and did not commit **anti-social behaviour.**
- The purpose of the **Safer Areas For Everyone** project is to give women the confidence to challenge anti-social and criminal behaviour in the area. Training is given to the women including subjects such as assertiveness, safety issues, body language, calming techniques and first aid.
- This example of a **Community Partnership**, helped crime reduction by setting up an agreement about what tenants should expect from their landlords and a Community Declaration spelling out an agreed code of conduct for residents.
- The **Rewind Drugs Project** provides drugs awareness training to residents and schoolchildren and support and advocacy to families affected by **drugs.** The scheme was set up and run by a Neighborhood Watch Co-ordinator working on her own.

## **Questions and Activities**

- What can you do as an individual to become more involved in crime reduction?
- What can you do as a group to become more involved?
- How can you become more involved with your local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership?
- How can you find out what is happening in other areas and how other residents are helping to reduce crime?
- How can you make sure you get the right level of service from local organisations?

## **Trainers' Notes**

*Discussion points for this exercise can be found on the next two pages.*

## Discussion Points

### • What can you do as an individual to become more involved in crime reduction?

- Join a local tenants group, Residents Association or Neighbourhood Watch scheme if you have the time.
- Pass information on to the police or local authority about crime problems or problem individuals. This could include:
  - what school uniforms are being worn by young people causing a nuisance
  - registration details of vehicles where the drivers are acting suspiciously.
  - a diary of events when there are problems with noise or anti-social behaviour at night
- Report damage to housing, street lamps and graffiti to the local authority.
- Volunteer some of your time to a project or charity in your area.
- Go along to local councillors' surgeries and tell them about the problems in your area.
- Make sure your house and car are safe by using some of the situational crime reduction techniques mentioned in this training session.
- Make your family and friends aware of what they can do to prevent crime.

### • What can you do as a group to become more involved?

- Form a residents' or tenants' group or a Neighbourhood Watch scheme if there isn't one in your area.
- Agree informally to keep an eye on each other's homes and vehicles and report any problems to the police.
- Contact your local community safety officer or crime reduction officer if you have an idea for a project you could become involved in.
- Share information with each other if you hear of any problems in your area.
- Volunteer for any local projects if you have time.

*More discussion points are over the page.*

## **Discussion Points (continued)**

### **• How can you become more involved with your local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership?**

- Find out who's involved in your partnership.
- Give them information and feedback about any problems in your area and how they are being tackled.
- Volunteer for any local projects if you have time.

### **• How can you find out what is happening in other areas and how other residents are helping to reduce crime?**

- The local and national newspapers, radio and television have information about crime reduction.
- Contact one of the organisations listed in handout 7 who have lots of information about what's happening in other areas.
- Speak to your local councillor, community safety officer or crime reduction officer who will have information about what's happening in other areas.

### **• How can you make sure you get the right level of service from local organisations?**

- Find out what services the local authority and other organisations offer as part of the Crime and Disorder Strategy. Handout one is a useful guide to this.
- If you think you are not getting the right level of service tell the person responsible that you are not happy.
- Speak to your local councillor if you aren't happy with the service you are getting.
- Provide feedback to your local tenants or residents association so they can lobby on your behalf.



# Why Should You Get Involved in Crime Reduction?

## Trainers' Notes

*The aim of this section is to get the group to think about why they should become involved in reducing crime in their area. It will be useful if you had information about sources of local funding and how to apply for it. **Handout 10** at the end of this brief also has details of sources of funding.*

### Questions and Activities

Ask the group these questions:

- why do they think they should get involved in crime reduction?
- what are the advantages to the community of them getting involved?
- what are the advantages to them as individuals of getting involved?
- what might they be able to achieve?

### Discussion Points

- Becoming involved in crime reduction makes the community a better place in which to live.
- The area will become a safer place for people to live in.
- The fear of crime will reduce.
- If the community becomes a better/safer place businesses might be encouraged to invest in the area and increase employment etc.
- The act of becoming involved can give individuals and the community more control over what happens to them.
- Being involved can help increase the sense of belonging to a community.
- Becoming involved in crime reduction can pave the way for other improvements, for example in housing, facilities for young people etc.
- A range of small grants is available for groups of residents who may be able to use the money to reduce crime in their area, or to learn about different approaches and best practice.

## Trainers' Notes

*At this point you can use these examples of the types of funding available.*

- The Community Champions Fund awards small grants of generally up to £2000 and is designed to stimulate community activity and to enable individuals (and in some cases groups) to build on the skills needed for effective neighbourhood renewal. Its objectives are to:
  - increase the skill levels of individuals to enable them to act as inspirational figures, community entrepreneurs and community leaders.
  - increase the involvement of communities in regeneration and learning activity.
- **Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chest** provides grants of between £50 and £5000 to stimulate and support community activity in deprived areas, so that more people may become involved in the regeneration of their communities and neighbourhoods. The Community Chest focuses on small, local groups and excluded groups, in the most deprived areas which can help contribute to regeneration of their own neighbourhood.
- **Neighbourhood Renewal Learning Chest** funds support for residents involved in neighbourhood renewal so they can develop the skills and knowledge to become involved in the regeneration of their communities and neighbourhoods. Grants are made between £50 and £5000. Both Community Chest and Learning Chest grants are administered by voluntary sector lead organisations in each Government Office Region.
- **Communities Against Drugs (CAD)** funding is supplied to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships to help them:
  - disrupt drug markets
  - tackle drug-related crime
  - strengthen communities to withstand drug problems.

Each Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership spends its CAD money in different ways to support drug-related crime reduction.

# Annex A: Case Studies

# Anti-Social Behaviour Order - Targeting Ringleaders

## Issue

A group of youths were hanging round a village engaged in abusing drink and drugs, racially motivated incidents and causing damage.

## Approach

Four ASBOs were obtained on the ringleaders, which prohibited them from:

- loitering in particular areas
- entering named shops
- using threatening, abusive or racist language.

The police engaged the community in the process. The local beat manager and local councillor arranged a meeting with local people where they were able to voice their concerns. The police anti-social behaviour representative set out the plan to tackle the problems and explained what support and assistance was needed from the community for gathering evidence.

The ASBOs were used in parallel with other measures. These included:

- targeting shop keepers selling alcohol to under 18s
- tackling the local drugs problems by preventing incoming phone calls to local telephone boxes which were being used to arrange drug deals
- working with the local bus company to make it more difficult for the troublemakers to get to their usual meeting place. Alternative arrangements were made for other users of the bus service.
- following up on the behaviour after the ASBO had been made
- meeting with the community again to review progress
- prosecuting for a breach of the order.

## **Outcome**

Local police measured 24 reports of disorder in the month before the order and five in the month after. There was no evidence of displacement of the problem to other areas. Following the success of the ASBOs local councillors took ownership of the situation and the community committed itself to helping with local initiatives to deter anti-social behaviour.

# Acceptable Behaviour Contract

## Issue

A young person was entering a housing association estate and continually damaging property, smoking and drinking until the early hours and abusing a number of the vulnerable residents.

## Approach

Police and housing staff held an ABC meeting with the young person and his mother. It became apparent that he was not aware of the effect of his behaviour on others and his mother was unaware of his actions. Through discussions at the meeting the underlying cause of the problem was identified: due to lack of space in their accommodation the mother was asking her son to leave the property at night.

An ABC was signed by the young person and the lead agencies. In addition the housing officer placed the family on the priority housing list for more suitable accommodation on the condition that the son kept to the terms of the contract.

## Outcome

The family was moved during the six month period of the ABC. Since signing the contract the young man has not come to the attention of the police or housing staff.

# Tool Library

## Background

The group was formed in September 2000. Originally coming together for a local initiative which helped to encourage people to take up gardening. Their first major project was to help the local primary school develop a garden. The idea of a tool library resulted from the group realising that some members had no tools or equipment. After consultation with the community the viability of a tool library was assessed and it was agreed to set one up.

## Purpose

The purpose of the organisation is to hire out DIY equipment and gardening tools, at a low cost, to residents to enable them to take care of their gardens and undertake DIY jobs around the home.

Eight people currently run the organisation on a voluntary basis (the Management Committee). Five of these are involved in the day-to-day running of the 'Library Shop'. The shop is housed in accommodation provided by a Social Landlord for a peppercorn rent and run solely by volunteers. Currently the shop is only open in the mornings. That is due to change in the near future as more volunteers are being sought to enable it to open from 5pm to 7pm as well.

## Membership and Funding

Membership of the Tool Library in the first year stands at 105, although it is rising sharply. Members are aged between 22-75 years. Cost of membership is £3 per year.

The Library is working in partnership with other local tool libraries to prevent duplication of service. The Tool Library is helping to bring people together and create a sense of community spirit as well as contributing towards community safety.

The Library makes no profit and all money raised through hire of tools and equipment is used to repair and maintain the items available for hire. The group has also purchased carpet cleaners and larger items to hire to members. The shop sells plants and seedlings, items for gardens (bird tables, plant pot stands etc) and

has just started to sell small hardware items (nails, screws etc). The sale of these small items at low cost is very useful to the members as it saves them the travel expenses of visiting major DIY stores that are only accessible by private car or public transport.

The local housing provider has provided accommodation and the Management Committee seek funding through any available channel. Funding is sought through grants to voluntary organisations, Single Regeneration Budget and charitable trusts. A small grant from the local Community Safety Partnership has been made during 2002.

## **Community Safety Implications**

The implications for crime reduction achieved through this small project are immense and though the many outcomes may not be immediately recognisable the project makes a big contribution to making the area a safer place with a more attractive environment.

## **Tackling Crime**

Research has identified that areas which are unkempt and in a state of disrepair are far more likely to suffer from vandalism, graffiti, fly-tipping and abandoned vehicles. Helping the local residents to keep the area tidy will reduce these problems.

Undertaking gardening and DIY keeps people active and assists in maintaining good health. It also provides a positive outlet for time and energy in an area of high unemployment.

Taking a pride in one's surroundings encourages the community to take ownership of its area and subsequently encourages increased participation in other initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch and residents' associations.

Residents drop-in to the shop to talk over gardening issues with other members. Those involved in running the shop have extensive gardening experience and can offer help and guidance to less experienced gardeners.

## **Community & Partnership Working**

A further outcome and one that is difficult to measure, is the impact this project has on reducing fear of crime. The residents are taking pride in their area. Time spent in gardens and allotments can improve relationships amongst neighbours and their participation in the scheme encourages them to get to know other residents, building community networks. The 'feelgood factor' of any project is difficult to record, but living in a pleasant environment, where the community takes a pro-active role in keeping it that way is sure to have many positive impacts on the area.

The group has also organised accredited courses such as First Aid, Paediatric First Aid and a four-day course covering issues around Fund Raising. The group is currently involved in working with a local church to create a new garden and disabled access to bring members of the community together. The church premises are used by many local groups.

Bringing together younger and older members of the community allows relationships to be formed between the generations and encourages members of all age groups to develop a greater awareness and understanding of the local problems and their impacts on people's lives.

## **Results - Monitoring & Local Impact**

The project is not for profit. In the period February - August 2002 (7 months) 506 individuals hired items from the library. Local gardens and green spaces on the estate look tidier and residents feel pride in their area.

## **Good Practice**

The group is involved in several other projects and helps to run an After School Gardening Club.

# **Pit Stop**

## **Background**

The Pit Stop Motor project was established in 1991 by the Local Community Safety Partnership. The project offers young people a range of activities associated with motor vehicles. The project involves young people on a weekly basis and attracts voluntary input from parents on a regular basis.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the project is to give young people a positive way to spend their leisure time. The activities offered work to ensure young people's involvement in crime, both as perpetrators and victims, is reduced.

## **Attendance and Funding**

The project is voluntary and includes children and adults from all walks of life and ages from 7 to 70 years.

During 2001 3,800 young people took part in the project. In total 5,000 individuals (including adults) visited the project.

To make the project accessible to youngsters a charge of 50p per person is levied for a 2 hour session and this covers petrol and insurance.

The project also undertakes outreach work that entails going out with the go-karts and equipment to meet youngsters in their own environment.

Money comes from fundraising activities and grants from other organisations, such as Communities Against Drugs.

## **Community Safety Implications**

The project meets the local Crime and Disorder Strategy objectives to reduce vandalism, anti-social and irresponsible behaviour, to build public confidence and reduce the fear of crime. It will also have an indirect impact on vehicle crime and offences relating to drugs and alcohol.

## **Tackling Crime**

This initiative targets young people at risk of being involved in anti-social behaviour in an area with persistently high levels of crime and disorder.

## **Community & Partnership Working**

The wider community, the Police, the Metropolitan Borough Council Youth Services and the Community Education Dept support the project. The Community Safety Partnership established Pitstop as a pilot scheme.

The project would very much like to develop its own local go-kart track to encourage young people off the streets, particularly with the rise in anti-social behaviour. Offering this diversionary activity will hopefully persuade them of the benefits of socialising with others and encourage them to participate in other activities. Children of mixed ethnic background work together on the project and it seeks to promote cohesive communities through addressing homophobic, race and other hate crime.

Through the project trips are organised to karting tracks as well as residential camping trips where a programme of varied activities including mountain biking, canoeing and orienteering is offered.

## **Results - Monitoring & Local Impact**

The project will be evaluated using statements and evaluation sheets from the young people and photos. Attendance figures will be recorded.

## **Good Practice**

This initiative is based in a high crime area and carries out outreach work across the borough. There are facilities for the disabled and the scheme works closely with the Police, Youth and Community Education Service and local residents' and tenants' groups. It is run by volunteers and young people for the young people of the area.

# RAMPAGE

## Background

Rampage started in 1997 when a parent with her son and friends presented plans and ideas for a skateboard park. The presentation was to the first meeting of the local Youth Forum, and the concept and target was agreed. A ramp park was to be the first project to be supported by the Forum. Over the years, new parents and young people have been involved. With the support from a Communities Against Drugs development worker an external trust was approached and a grant received for £25,000.

The Forum is now in negotiation with the local parks department and proposed site has been put forward. With further support from the environmental agency the project should hopefully start construction in 2003.

## Purpose

The purpose of the project is to give young people a positive way to spend their leisure time. The activities offered work to resolve young people's involvement in crime, both as perpetrators and victims. Between 500 and 1,500 young people would attend the scheme per year.

## Funding

Funding for the scheme came from:

- a Local Trust who donated £50,000
- a Communities Against Drugs (CAD) grant of £10,000
- Community Safety Partnership who gave £2,500

## Community Safety Implications

Young people will have an alternative to using car parks and the market area for skateboarding. This project will give young people a new focus, alleviate tensions with the wider community and help to reduce nuisance levels. The initiative fits the objectives in the local Crime and Disorder Strategy to reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour, and to build public confidence and reduce the fear of crime.

## **Tackling Crime**

The project will divert young people from anti-social behaviour.

## **Community & Partnership Working**

Although Rampage is for young people, the project has been supported by the wider community for the past 4 years. The bid is supported by Communities Against Drugs, the Youth Forum and Regeneration and Leisure Services have been working closely to designate an area of land for the site.

## **Results - Monitoring & Local Impact**

The scheme will be evaluated by the local Youth Committee. The evaluation will measure the project's achievements against its targets and will record the number of young people using the skate park, community consultation and the impact on local crime statistics.

## **Good Practice**

The project has been developed in response to demand from local young people. At a recent public meeting, 72 young people attended to voice their desire for the skatepark.

The initiative also meets a strategic aim of the Leisure in Action 'Strategy for Sport' to establish a local 'wheelspark'. It corresponds closely to the local Crime and Disorder Strategy and is supported by the wider community.

# Neighbourhood Wardens Scheme

## Background

The scheme described here is on a 'hard-to-reach' estate. It was launched in August 2001, on a deprived estate suffering a complex range of social problems, including high levels of crime.

## Purpose

The purpose of the scheme was to establish a neighbourhood warden on the estate to act as a link between the community, the head of the Tenants Association and the Community Police Officer working on the estate. The warden's role was to prevent crime, act as a mentor to children and act as a go between in tenant disputes.

## Funding

The project is centrally funded for three years.

## Community Safety Implications

The project meets the Crime and Disorder Strategy objectives for reducing crime and disorder in designated hotspots, preventing offending by young offenders, and impacting on the connection between drugs, alcohol and offending.

## Tackling Crime

The scheme tackles a wide range of crime problems especially burglary; youth offending and drug problems, anti-social behaviour and social exclusion.

## Community and Partnership Working

Good liaison with the residents through the Tenants Association and Neighbourhood Watch helped the Warden to develop the role. In particular, the community base was assured by successfully running competitions and activities such as young people doing up gardens, and the community has become proactive in helping to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, reporting incidents to the Warden. The community has become visibly more tight knit.

The Neighbourhood Warden Scheme has initiated a voluntary curfew in order to get children under the age of 15 years inside by 10.30pm. It has a clean up

campaign involving young people and children both with and without convictions. It is also involved in reducing problem tenant behaviour, such as supplying illegal substances, fighting, abusive behaviour and other anti-social behaviour.

With regards to Partnership working, a protocol for information sharing and working practices has been drawn up between the Chief Inspector and the Project Supervisor. The Youth Offending Team also works closely with the Supervisor and Warden. Other members of the Steering Group include the Community Safety Officer, local residents, members of the community centre, health visitors and a resident Warden.

### **Results - Local Impact**

Results are very promising. The scheme has seen a 54% reduction in calls to the police and a drop in complaints of anti-social behaviour. Previously, the estate had the highest number of vacant properties in the Authority, now housing voids are greatly reduced: indeed, a waiting list is developing. There has been a big increase in reported residents' satisfaction with their quality of life on the estate. At the last reporting, one tenant had been evicted due to ASB, and three other evictions are pending on the same breach of tenancy or following successful drug convictions.

### **Good Practice**

The estate is seen as an example of good practice. The team will receive a Commendation at a national (UK) Neighbourhood Warden Conference, having been shortlisted from over 300 schemes.

# Housing Association Gold Service Scheme

## Background

This Gold Service Scheme was set up on a housing association estate in 1998. Tenants could join if they had no rent arrears and did not commit anti-social behaviour.

## Purpose

The purpose of this scheme is to develop the rights and responsibilities of tenants and to provide an incentive to improve the estate. Tenants eligible to join the scheme are entitled to quicker repairs, discounts in local shops and a small cash bonus each year.

## Funding

Members receive the equivalent of £1 for every week they are Gold Service Members. This reward is paid out three times a year in the form of Bonusbonds. Bonusbond vouchers can be redeemed at over 25,000 redemption points in the UK, including Boots, Mothercare, Homebase and Iceland. The scheme is funded by an Housing Corporation Innovation and Good Practice Grant.

## Community Safety Implications

The scheme meets the local Crime and Disorder Strategy objective “Responding effectively to nuisance and disorder” and one of its cross cutting themes “Improving locations...(to) help communities to develop local solutions.”

## Tackling Crime

The initiative targets anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

## Community and Partnership Working

The scheme is a partnership between the Housing Association and residents. It is based on residents’ needs, which were established using a referendum and a series of meetings with every resident. As well as promoting individual responsibility for behaviour on the estate, the scheme also promotes community projects. If people want to donate their Bonusbonds for wider community benefit and to stimulate community cohesion, they can pool them in the Community Gold

Scheme. This scheme buys facilities that are available to all tenants, one example being a pool table for the youth centre. The scheme is managed by Community Officers and a Director of Consumer Protection who makes sure that the scheme is delivered fairly.

## **Results**

When the scheme started only 40% of residents were eligible to join. Now 80% of residents are members. This has reduced the amount of anti-social behaviour on the estate.

# **Safe Areas for Everyone (SAFE)**

## **Background**

This project was established in Bradford after the disturbances in 2001. The project is an extension of the local Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the project is to give women the confidence to challenge anti-social and criminal behaviour in the area. Training is given to the women including subjects such as assertiveness, safety issues, body language, calming techniques and first aid.

## **Funding**

The project has been funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.

## **Community Safety Implications**

The project meets the local Crime and Disorder Strategy priorities on burglary, vehicle crime, youth crime, drug and developing local solutions.

## **Tackling Crime**

The project tackles issues of vandalism, anti-social behaviour, graffiti, street crime, vehicle crime and burglary.

## **Community and Partnership Working**

The group is run on a voluntary basis, including both white and Asian women. The funding was available to train 55 people and currently there are 50 members in the project. Members of the group patrol the streets in the afternoons and evenings and, using the negotiation skill they have learned, challenge anti-social and criminal behaviour. One of the success factors has been that women are seen to be successful at dealing with young people and are less confrontational than men.

Project members do not tackle serious situations and have been issued with mobile telephones with a preset number to the police.

## **Results and Local Impact**

The projects aims to reduce the fear of crime felt by women, but it also provides an opportunity for women from different cultures to mix and regain their trust in one another. The group have challenged drug dealers, returned truants to school and helped cut graffiti and vandalism.

# Community Partnership

## Background

The partnership was formed between the local council, social landlords and residents in several problem estates in one area with low community involvement.

## Purpose

The purpose of the partnership is to establish:

- a Joint Estate Agreement between landlords which clarifies management responsibilities and the services residents can expect
- a Community Declaration spelling out an agreed code of conduct for neighbour relations
- a Community Forum giving residents an input into decisions over how things are run.

## Community Safety Implications and Tackling Crime

The partnership contributes to the local Crime and Disorder Strategy targets for:

- residential burglary
- youth nuisance
- anti-social behaviour
- racist incidents
- drug related crime.

## Community and Partnership Working

The partnership helps community and partnership working by bringing together the three groups with a stake in the area - the city council, housing associations and residents.

The Joint Estate Agreement covers issues such as:

- dealing quickly with empty homes to make them safe and secure
- landlords stating clearly to all future residents what is and what is not acceptable behaviour before they offer them a home
- landlords acting against anyone involved in crime such as drug dealing, violence (including domestic violence), harassment and vandalism.

The Community Declaration sets out commitments on:

- using reasonable language with neighbours
- respect for the property of others
- noise disturbances, such as playing music too loud
- crime - watching over other people's property and not supplying drugs on the estate
- children - treating children with respect and taking action if children are being bullied
- community action - keeping the welfare of senior citizens on the estate in mind and supporting minorities and to report problems to the police.

It is hoped that every member of every household on the estate will sign the Declaration. To inform neighbours that they have signed up, they place a 'Community Declaration' sticker in their window.

The Community Forum meets regularly to give residents their chance to have a say on how the estate is run. The Forum receives reports from landlords about their performance on the Estate Agreement. It also promotes the Community Declaration and invites representatives from statutory agencies and City Council departments to discuss other issues important to residents not directly related to the running of the estate. Police representatives also attend the Community Forum. It does not discuss individual problems.

## **Results**

The work carried out by the partnership has improved the area and has contributed to a drop in crime and disorder. This has also contributed to the regeneration of the area.

## **Good Practice**

The partnership offers a good approach for areas of lower community involvement. The local city council is planning to take up the format in other areas and the scheme is cited as good practice nationally.

# Rewind Drugs Project

## Background

The Rewind project was started in November 2001. The project, based on an estate with a drugs problem, was set up and run by a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator who realised that there was a lack of drugs education and advice in her area.

## Purpose

The scheme has two aims:

- to provide drugs awareness training to residents and school children
- to provide support and advocacy to families affected by drugs.

## Membership and Funding

Initially the project was set up and run by its founder working from home and on her own. There was no external funding and the founder paid for all the project expenses herself. The project is now based with the local Neighbourhood Safety Project and has secured funding for three years. The project now employs the founder and a part-time support.

## Community Safety Implications

This project meets the local Crime and Disorder Strategy Objective of tackling substance misuse.

## Tackling Crime

In addition to reducing substance misuse, the project will have an effect on domestic burglary, vehicle crime and anti-social behaviour.

## Partnership Working

The project has worked closely with the local community, the police, the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership the Youth Inclusion Project and the local prison. The founder undertook training as a drugs trainer and facilitator and has used these skills to deliver a basic drug awareness course to young people and adults. In addition the project also provides counselling to drug users and their families.

## **Results and Local Impact**

So far, the project has trained 230 children and 70 adults in basic drug awareness. This has included 10 offenders from the local prison. The local city council has also requested training for their staff. The training provided has increased awareness of the impact of drug related crime on the local community.

The support and counselling service of the project has helped reduce the impact of drug related crime on the estate. For example, by working with a 17 year old heroin addict and his family, the project founder has helped the addict come off heroin and find work.

## **Good Practice**

The success of this project has led to it being recognised as good practice both locally and through the National Neighbourhood Watch Association. The founder has won the local Chief Constable's Award for her work on the project.



# Handouts

## Handout One - Anti-Social Behaviour Crime Figures

**Anti-Social Behaviour is classed as any “individual’s behaviour (that) causes alarm, distress or harassment to one or more persons not in the same household as him/herself.”**

The British Crime Survey for 2001/2002 reported the following percentages of adults as saying that the following were a very or fairly big problem in their area:

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| • noisy neighbours or loud parties                               | 10% |
| • teenagers hanging around on streets                            | 32% |
| • rubbish or litter lying around                                 | 32% |
| • vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property    | 34% |
| • people being attacked/harassed because of their race or colour | 9%  |
| • people using or dealing drugs                                  | 31% |
| • people being drunk or rowdy in public places                   | 22% |

## **Handout Two - Situational Crime Reduction**

Situational crime and disorder reduction involves altering the physical conditions of sites where a crime might take place.

Examples of situational crime reduction are:

- target hardening with locks and fences
- removing vulnerable items from the places where they can be stolen or damaged
- removing the means to commit crime, such as builder's rubble
- improving the visibility around buildings, car parks and public areas
- controlling access to buildings or other areas.

## **Handout Three - Social Crime Reduction**

Social crime and disorder reduction involves working with potential or actual offenders to divert them from committing a crime. It also includes improving the quality of life for victims and potential victims of crime and people in general.

Some examples of social crime reduction include:

- providing alternatives to crime for young people such as clubs and youth shelters
- providing education programmes that divert people from crime
- forming Neighbourhood Watch Schemes
- setting up informal support networks for vulnerable groups such as the elderly
- regenerating areas by improving their appearance and improving facilities.

## Handout Four - Problem Oriented Policing

POP is about identifying and solving underlying problems within communities, rather than simply responding to individual incidents. It is where the police, communities and local agencies work together to identify specific problems that cause incidents and then tackle them together.

In order to carry out POP effectively many police forces and other organisations have adopted a systematic way of managing crime reduction work.

The process is called SARA.

There are four stages to **SARA**:

- **Scanning** - where problems are identified using local knowledge and data from a wide range of organisations
- **Analysis** - where the data is used to identify the problems' causes.
- **Response** - where solutions are devised to the problem using the situational and social approaches described in the last section
- **Assessment** - looking back to see if the solution worked and what lessons can be learned.

POP can be used just as easily for large scale problems and small ones.

## Handout Five - Local Organisations and What They Can Offer

In the table below you will find a list of the kinds of things your Local Authority and other organisations can do to help reduce crime and disorder. There is also a space for you to write in any other local services you are aware of. At the end of the handout there some examples of the kind of service you might expect in different situations. Not all these services will be available in your area so you will need to check what each organisation offers.

<b>Local Authority</b>	
<b>Department</b>	<b>What it can Offer</b>
<i>Housing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforcement of tenancy agreements</li> <li>• Dealing with nuisance neighbours</li> <li>• Rapid repairs for vulnerable tenants</li> <li>• Upgrading of materials used to repair, replace or renovate homes</li> <li>• Links with fire and rescue to co-ordinate crime reduction and fire risk assessments</li> <li>• Effective policy to deal with empty houses</li> </ul> <p>Although many local authorities have sold off their housing stock to housing associations, they still retain an interest in the management of that stock.</p>
<i>Environmental Health</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prompt removal of graffiti</li> <li>• Regular refuse collection</li> <li>• Street cleaning</li> <li>• Removal of drugs litter</li> </ul>
<i>Highways</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving lighting in crime or fear of crime hotspots and footpaths</li> <li>• Keeping shrubbery at the right level to improve visibility</li> <li>• Parks patrols can focus on sites where low level disorder occurs</li> <li>• Liaison with fire and rescue about hedge fires</li> <li>• Providing information for siting CCTV cameras to cover key sites such as cycle racks</li> <li>• Traffic calming on estates or key roads where road safety is an issue</li> <li>• Removal of burnt vehicles</li> </ul>
<i>Planning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making sure that planning applications don't contribute to crime and disorder</li> </ul>
<i>Education</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching about citizenship and crime reduction is part of the national curriculum and local problems can be used as case studies</li> <li>• Educational welfare officers can help with truanting problems which contribute to crime</li> </ul>

## Handout Five (Continued)

<b>Local Authority</b>	
<b>Department</b>	<b>What it can Offer</b>
<i>Social Services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home helps may provide crime reduction advice to vulnerable groups</li> <li>• Working with young people involved in disorderly behaviour through acceptable behaviour contracts and Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts (ASBOs)</li> <li>• Identifying people at risk</li> </ul>
<i>Youth Services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and advice on crime reduction and personal safety issues</li> <li>• Links with Drug Action Teams to provide advice on drug and alcohol issues</li> <li>• Providing detached youth workers for vulnerable areas</li> <li>• Themed events at youth clubs</li> </ul>
<i>Leisure Services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events and activities for young people, especially during school holidays</li> </ul>
<i>Neighbourhood Wardens</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They operate in some areas and work in the community to provide support - different local authorities use them in different ways so you need to check what they do in your area</li> </ul>
<i>Elected Members</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are in an ideal position for passing information between the council and the community</li> <li>• Some authorities have one elected member with specific responsibility for crime and disorder reduction.</li> </ul>
<b>Other organisations</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>What it can Offer</b>
<i>The Police</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice from Crime Reduction Officers</li> <li>• Increased patrols in crime hotspot areas</li> <li>• Support for communities through community policing</li> <li>• Schools liaison officers</li> <li>• Projects to tackle specific crime problems</li> </ul>
<i>Fire and Rescue</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire risk assessments and advice</li> <li>• Identifying repeat locations for hedge and vehicle fires</li> <li>• Identifying repeat locations for hoax emergency calls</li> </ul> <p>From April 2003 section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act will apply to Fire and Rescue Departments.</p>

## Handout Five (Continued)

<b>Other organisations</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>What it can Offer</b>
<i>Health Services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identifying links between crime and disorder hotspots and areas with health problems</li><li>• Awareness and education programmes for drug and alcohol misuse</li><li>• Needle exchanges which reduce drug litter</li><li>• Funding for Health Action Zones. These areas often also suffer from crime and disorder problems</li></ul>
<i>Probation Service</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervision of offenders</li><li>• Support local projects, such as graffiti clearance by using people serving community punishment orders</li></ul>
<i>Voluntary Sector</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area Councils for Voluntary Service can give advice on groups who can support local projects</li></ul>
<i>Landlords</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some non-council landlords have policies for dealing with anti-social and disruptive tenants</li></ul>

### **Local Organisations**

List here any other local organisations you know about and what they offer.

**On the next page are some examples of the kind of help you might receive**

## Handout Five (Continued)

On this page there are four examples of the kind of services that might be available in your area for certain crime and disorder problems. For each you will find details of:

- what agencies to contact
- the minimum service you can expect
- what additional services some partnerships provide.

<b>I have a problem with...</b>	<b>Who to Contact and Minimum Service</b>	<b>Additional Services</b>
Noisy Neighbours	<p>The <b>Local Authority Environmental Health Department</b> can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• investigate the complaint</li> <li>• issue warning notices</li> <li>• confiscate equipment</li> <li>• prosecute offenders</li> </ul>	<p>The <b>local authority</b> can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• appoint specialist officers to deal with night noise</li> <li>• arrange mediation with the neighbour</li> <li>• apply for an Anti-social Behaviour Order (ASBO) if the problem is persistent</li> <li>• define acceptable behaviour as part of a tenancy agreement</li> </ul> <p>The <b>police</b> can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• apply for an ASBO</li> <li>• close down licensed premises for up to 24 hours if the noise nuisance is from there.</li> </ul>
Abandoned Vehicles (As well as being an eyesore, abandoned vehicles can be targets for arson and also attract other types of crime to an area).	<p>The <b>Police</b> can remove vehicles immediately if they cause an obstruction or a danger.</p> <p>The <b>Local Authority</b> can remove abandoned vehicles after a set period of notice has been given.</p>	<p>The <b>local authority</b> can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trace owners of abandoned vehicles</li> <li>• offer an amnesty for owners of abandoned vehicles if they hand them in for disposal</li> <li>• provide a free disposal service for owners to stop the vehicles becoming abandoned in the first place.</li> </ul>

## Handout Five (Continued)

I have a problem with...	Who to Contact and Minimum Service	Additional Services
<p>Harassment (This can be either sexual, racial, stalking or general harassment from neighbours)</p>	<p>The <b>Police</b> will investigate threats and harassment and can prosecute.</p>	<p>Support for the victim is often provided through a multi-agency response, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a designated <b>Neighbourhood Warden</b> who will visit the victim</li> <li>• a nominated <b>Police</b> or <b>Community Safety Officer</b> who will keep the victim informed of progress on the case</li> <li>• <b>Victim Support</b> who can provide guidance and counselling</li> <li>• <b>Council</b> or <b>other landlords</b> can take action against the offender through tenancy agreements.</li> </ul>
<p>Youth Related Crime and Disorder and anti-social behaviour</p>	<p>The <b>Police</b> will investigate any incidents where a criminal offence has taken place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Local Authority</b> and <b>Police</b> can take out Acceptable Behavior Contracts on young people</li> <li>• <b>ASBOs</b> can be used</li> <li>• The <b>Local Authority</b> can offer parenting skills courses to the offenders' parents</li> <li>• The <b>Probation Service</b> can involve convicted youth offenders in restorative projects in the community</li> <li>• <b>Youth Workers</b> can work on projects with potential offenders</li> <li>• <b>Education Authorities</b> can carry out "truancy sweeps" in an area</li> <li>• <b>Schools</b> can provide citizenship lessons as part of the National Curriculum</li> </ul>

## **Handout Six - Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs)**

- ASBOs have been in use since 1999.
- Their purpose is to prevent anti-social behaviour by named individuals.
- They can be applied for by police forces, local authorities, registered social landlords and the British Transport Police.
- An order can be granted by the courts if:
  - the Individual's behaviour is anti-social
  - the order is necessary to protect persons from further anti-social acts.
- ASBOs are usually ordered when an application has been specifically made for them, but they can also be granted in addition to a sentence for an offence when the person is convicted.
- An ASBO can cover any defined area within England and Wales or can cover the whole country.
- Orders last for a minimum of two years. There is no specified maximum but the court should make the order only for so long as it considers that it is necessary for the protection of the community from the individual in question.
- The order should contain details of what the defendant is prohibited from doing. The order should be specific about the exact behaviour, and the time and place so that it is clear to the defendant and to those enforcing the order what constitutes a breach.
- Children aged 10 and over can be made the subject of an order.
- There are no reporting restrictions on ASBOs and they work well if they are widely publicised. The court may decide to impose reporting restrictions to protect the identity of a person under 18.
- If an order is breached the defendant can be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £5,000 or up to five years in prison. Juvenile offenders can be sentenced to a detention and training order that has a maximum term of 24 months.

## **Handout Seven - Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs)**

- An ABC is a written agreement between a person who has been involved in anti-social behaviour and one or more local agencies whose role it is to prevent such behaviour.
- ABCs were initially used by Islington Borough Council but their use is being encouraged throughout England and Wales.
- The contract is agreed and signed at a meeting with the individual. Where the person is a child or young person, parents or guardians should be encouraged to attend.
- The contract should list the acts in which the person has been involved and which they agree not to continue. If the individual can be involved in drawing up the contract it may help them to recognise the impact of their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions.
- Legal action in the form of an ASBO can be stated as the possible consequence of a breach of the contract. The threat of legal action provides an incentive to ensure that the contract is adhered to.
- An ABC is not necessarily a precursor to an ASBO, but a breach of an ABC can be used as evidence in an ASBO application.
- ABCs usually last for six months, but can be renewed.

## Handout Eight - Discussion Questions

Think about the crime and disorder problems you identified in your area at the start of this session. The purpose of this exercise is to give you the opportunity to think about how you could get involved in reducing some of these problems.

Below are four questions. Spend about 15 minutes in your group thinking about some of the ways in which you can help reduce crime in your area and chose one idea that you will share with the main group when you get back together.

### **The questions are:**

- What can you do as an individual to become more involved in crime reduction?
- What can you do as a group to become more involved?
- How can you become more involved with your local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership?
- How can you find out what is happening in other areas and how other residents are helping to reduce crime?
- How can you make sure you get the right level of service from local organisations?

## **Handout Nine - What Can You Do To Get Involved**

- **What can you do as an individual to become more involved in crime reduction?**
  - Join a local tenants group, residents association or Neighbourhood Watch scheme if you have the time.
  - Pass information onto the police or local authority about crime problems or problem individuals. This could include:
    - what school uniforms are being worn by young people causing a nuisance
    - registration details of vehicles where the drivers are acting suspiciously
    - a diary of events when there are problems with noise or anti-social behaviour at night.
  - Report damage to housing and street lamps and graffiti to the local authority.
  - Volunteer some of your time to a project or charity in your area.
  - Go along to local councillors' surgeries and tell them about the problems in your area.
  - Make sure your house and car are safe by using some of the situational crime reduction techniques mentioned in this training session .
  - Make your family and friends aware of what they can do to prevent crime.
- **What can you do as a group to become more involved?**
  - Form a residents or tenants group or a Neighbourhood Watch scheme if there isn't one in your area or join your local group.
  - Agree informally to keep an eye on each other's homes and vehicles and report any problems to the police.
  - Contact your local community safety officer or crime reduction officer if you have an idea for a project you could become involved in.
  - Share information with each other if you hear of any problems in your area.
  - Volunteer for any local projects if you have time.

## **Handout Nine (continued)**

- **How can you become more involved with your local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership?**
  - Find out who's involved in your partnership.
  - Give them information and feedback about any problems in your area and how they are being tackled.
  - Volunteer for any local projects if you have time.
- **How can you find out what is happening in other areas and how other residents are helping to reduce crime?**
  - The local and national newspapers, radio, television and the internet have information about crime reduction.
  - Contact one of the organisations listed in handout Ten who have lots of information about what's happening in other areas.
  - Speak to your local councillor, community safety officer or crime reduction officer who will have information about what's happening in other areas.
- **How can you make sure you get the right level of service from local organisations?**
  - Find out what services the local authority and other organisations offer as part of the crime and disorder strategy. Handout One is a useful guide to this.
  - If you think you are not getting the right level of service tell the person responsible that you are not happy with the service provided.
  - Speak to your local councillor if you aren't happy with the service you are getting.
  - Provide feedback to your local tenants or residents association so they can lobby on your behalf.

## Handout Ten - Contacts

This list of contacts may be useful if you want any further information about crime reduction.

### **Association of British Insurers (ABI)**

51 Gresham Street  
London EC2V 7HQ  
Tel: 0207 600 3333  
Fax: 020 7696 8999  
E-mail: [info@abi.org.uk](mailto:info@abi.org.uk)  
General advice on insurance aspects of home security.

### **Community Champions Fund**

[Community.champions@dfes.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Community.champions@dfes.gsi.gov.uk)  
Community Champions Team  
W1129  
Moorfoot  
Sheffield S1 4PQ

### **Crime Concern Trust**

Beaver House  
147-150 Victoria Road  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN1 3UY  
Tel: 01793 863 500  
Website: [www.crimeconcern.org.uk](http://www.crimeconcern.org.uk)  
Information on crime related topics including domestic burglary and special community pages

### **Crime Reduction Website**

[www.crimereduction.gov.uk](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk)  
Information and training on crime reduction.

### **Crimestoppers Trust**

Apollo House  
66a London Road  
Morden  
Surrey SM4 5BE  
Tel: 0208 254 3200  
E-mail: [cst@crimestoppers-uk.org](mailto:cst@crimestoppers-uk.org)  
Website: [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)  
National charity aimed at reducing crime

## **Handout Ten - (Continued)**

### **Home Office Crime Reduction Centre**

The Hawkhill  
Easingwold  
York YO61 3EG  
Tel: 01347 825 060  
E-mail: [crc@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:crc@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)  
Information and Training on Crime Reduction

### **The Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science**

University College of London  
Third Floor, 1 Old Street  
London EC1V 9HL  
Tel: 020 7324 3000  
E-mail: [jdi@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:jdi@ucl.ac.uk)  
Research information and education on crime reduction.

### **Local Government Association**

Local Government House  
Smith Square  
SW1P 3HZ  
Tel: 020 7664 3131  
Website: [www.lga.gov.uk](http://www.lga.gov.uk)  
National representative body of local government including local authority  
community safety officers.

### **NACRO**

169 Clapham Road London  
SW9 0PU  
Tel: 020 7582 6500  
Website: [www.nacro.org.uk](http://www.nacro.org.uk)  
Information about the care and resettlement of offenders and general crime  
reduction topics.

### **National Neighbourhood Watch Association**

NNWA  
18 Buckingham Gate  
London SW1E 6LB  
Tel: 020 7963 0160  
Website: [www.neighbourhoodwatch.net](http://www.neighbourhoodwatch.net)  
E-mail: [info@neighbourhoodwatch.net](mailto:info@neighbourhoodwatch.net)  
Advice, guidance and training about neighbourhood watch and crime  
reduction

## **Handout Ten (continued)**

### **Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chest**

Further Information can be obtained from the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (0845 828383) and Government Offices

Website: <http://www.neighbourhood.odpm.gov.uk/commchest.asp>

### **Neighbourhood Renewal Community Learning Chest**

Further Information can be obtained from the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (0845 828383) and Government Offices

Website: <http://www.neighbourhood.odpm.gov.uk/clchests.asp>

### **www.renewal.net**

An on-line guide to what works in neighbourhood renewal. renewal.net is for anyone already involved in neighbourhood renewal or wanting to get involved. Documents on the site include How to Guides, case studies, project summaries and more. Wherever possible the documents are based on evaluated evidence.

### **Suzy Lamplugh Trust**

P.O. box 17818

London SW14 8WW

Tel: 020 8876 0305

Fax: 020 8876 0891

Website: <http://www.suzylamplugh.org>

E-mail: [info@suzylamplugh.org](mailto:info@suzylamplugh.org)

Works alongside the Government, police and other agencies to minimise the damage cause to individuals by physical, verbal and psychological aggression.

### **Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS)**

5th Floor Trafford House

Chester Road Manchester M32 0RS

Tel: 0161 868 3500

Fax: 0161 877 6256

E-mail: [info@tpas.org.uk](mailto:info@tpas.org.uk)

Website: <http://www.tpas.org.uk>

TPAS is a national non-profit making organisation that provides information, advice, training, consultancy, seminars and conferences on all aspects of involving tenants in their housing management.

## **Handout Ten (continued)**

### **Victim Support, National Office**

Cranmer House

39 Brixton Road

London SW9 6DZ

Tel: 020 7735 9166

Fax: 020 7582 5712

E-mail: [contact@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:contact@victimsupport.org.uk)

Website: <http://www.victimsupport.com>

Provides emotional support, practical help and information for victims and witnesses. Operates the Witness Service in the courts of England and Wales. Provides a telephone Victim Support line 0845 30 30 900.

### **[www.volcomgrants.gov.uk](http://www.volcomgrants.gov.uk)**

A pilot website detailing grants that are available to voluntary and community organisations.

## **Local Contacts**

Crime and Disorder Partnership

Local Police Crime Reduction Officer

Local Authority Community Safety Officer

Government Office for the Region

Anti-social Behaviour Co-ordinator

## Notes



## Crime Reduction Basics

- tackling crime and anti-social behaviour  
in the community

Is also available from:

[www.crimereduction.gov.uk/learningzone/crimereductionbasics.htm](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk/learningzone/crimereductionbasics.htm)



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