

# JUSTICES SEEN JUSTICE DONE

**The Casey review, which looked at working with communities in the fight against crime, showed there is a gap between what the public want on crime and justice and what they think they get. Wakefield district has now become a neighbourhood crime and justice pioneer area. The council, police and partners are working together to make the district a safer place. Here is an update on what has been going on**

## Community crime fighters

AS part of the new neighbourhood crime and justice pioneer area status, 50 people are being selected by Wakefield Council, the police and partner agencies to become Community Crime Fighters.

The voluntary role involves people being advocates for their communities, speaking on their behalf to the police and criminal justice agencies.

The CCF programme is a training and support scheme for members of the public who are already active in their community and want to learn more about tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.

The scheme will provide champions with extra information and training on the service they should expect - for example the new national Policing Pledge, as well as what they can do if they see problems.



This will help the champions to work with services to tackle crime and provide information to others in the community. People are currently being put forward for a special training day. Glensy Johnson, (pictured left), and Sue Thomson are among the six CCFs already trained and active in the

community. For more information contact police on **01924 293218** or email [wakefield.ncjc@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wakefield.ncjc@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk)

### Justice journal - update from neighbourhood crime and justice coordinator Chief Inspector Paula Booth

WORK is now well under way to start delivering on the Casey review in the Wakefield district.

The initiative focuses on reducing crime, creating safer communities and increasing public confidence.

Meetings have already taken place between partners and I've also been on a whistle-stop tour of the area as part of the Policing Pledge roadshows.

We are also looking at how anti-social behaviour is dealt with. Victim Support is in the process of conducting a survey with 500 victims of anti-social behaviour across our district, which will identify what services would make the whole process a better experience for victims.

I am keen to hear the views of any victims of crime or anti-social behaviour on how the process worked for them and how it could be improved.

Chief Inspector Paula Booth can be contacted via e-mail at [wakefield.ncjcwestyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wakefield.ncjcwestyorkshire.pnn.police.uk) or call **01924 293218**.



### New iPortal launched

A REVOLUTIONARY project to bring up-to-date information about local communities direct to people's homes is being piloted across the district.

West Yorkshire Police is developing an experimental iPortal website to allow users to tap in a postcode and request localised information from all the West Yorkshire Police sites.

And Wakefield District Police has linked up the system with Wakefield Council, meaning local residents can get customised information about both police and council services and news.

Computer users are being invited to help test the new system and feedback any comments or issues by logging on to <http://iportal.westyorkshire.police.uk>

### New community prosecutor project

THE Wakefield district has been chosen to pilot a community prosecutor project.

The scheme will be launched later this month and will see the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) work with the police to take community priorities into account when making casework decisions.

This means prosecutors will be able to help police tackle crime and disorder issues in the local community and respond to local concerns.

### Housing agency action

WAKEFIELD and District Housing (WDH) is working in partnership to create confident communities where people want to live peacefully, enjoying their homes without the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

In 2008/09, WDH served 59 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs), obtained 16 injunctions for nuisance behaviour and evicted 12 tenancies where household conduct was proved too unsatisfactory for their neighbourhood to endure.

Eviction proceedings are a last resort and WDH works closely with partner agencies such as Wakefield Council and the police to make sure support is provided to those that need it most.

Most problems can be resolved early so please contact WDH immediately if you are suffering nuisance behaviour by calling WDH OneCall on **0845 8 507 507**.



## Community payback time

CITIZENS have been voting to have their say on which areas will benefit from the community payback scheme.

Community payback, managed by West Yorkshire Probation Service, is a demanding punishment that can be handed out by the courts.

Offenders, who can receive up to 300 hours of payback, might find themselves hacking back dense undergrowth, clearing rubbish or scrubbing graffiti from walls. They are required to wear high-visibility jackets to make sure the public are aware of the work they are doing.

Recent votes have seen five areas chosen

as potential places for offenders to carry out improvements and the public were also invited to nominate their own areas for attention.

More than 330,000 hours of community payback is carried out by offenders each year in West Yorkshire.

It is not only a demanding punishment for criminals, but also benefits local communities.

For more information about community payback in Wakefield visit [www.westyorksprobation.org.uk](http://www.westyorksprobation.org.uk) or call **01924 361156** to suggest projects to payback the community.



### Pioneer Chief hits the road

WAKEFIELD district's new neighbourhood crime and justice coordinator Chief Inspector Paula Booth hit the road to meet local residents.

She joined the recent Neighbourhood Policing Team events (NPT) - held to give people details of their local NPTs and the Policing Pledge - to talk about the district's new neighbourhood crime and justice pioneer status.

It follows a major review led by Louise Casey, the former head of the Government's Respect Task Force, which examined how to engage communities better in the fight against crime and raise public confidence in the criminal justice system.

Chief Inspector Booth is at the forefront of work to give the public a greater say in the way their streets are policed and how offenders are dealt with.

She said: "Although I am a police officer, this is not just about the police, it's about working across all the agencies for Wakefield and the people of Wakefield."