

# Safe in your community



NEWS FROM DERBYSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY ABOUT HOW  
WE'RE WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE YOU SAFER

Winter  
2008



## Commitment to excellent service



JANET  
BIRKIN  
JP

Chairman  
Derbyshire  
Police  
Authority

I'M proud to live in Derbyshire. And I'm proud of our police service.

It's been an excellent first year for our chief constable Mick Creedon. Our force is one of the best in the country – and we're committed to making sure it stays that way.

This leaflet tells you what we are doing for you and your family. What we are doing to make your homes and streets safer.

We're working together to give you the police service you want. But like you, we're feeling the pinch. We haven't got an unlimited budget and we have to prioritise.

Our force is the sixth worst funded in England and Wales. We will continue to press the Government for our full grant.

We're listening to you and tackling problems that worry you. We're keen to hear from you if we're getting it right or wrong.

We will continue to work with you, our partners and the four other East Midlands forces and police authorities to give you the police service you deserve.

Our police officers are doing a great job. But we're not complacent. We know that with your support we can be even better.

## Detecting even more improvement

DERBYSHIRE is one of the safest places to live in the East Midlands.

Crime is still falling. The number of offences went down for the fifth year running - meaning 25,646 fewer victims.

Our crime rate is among the lowest in the East Midlands - and the country. House burglary and vehicle crime are down by more than half and are at their lowest for almost 30 years.

Neighbourhood policing and excellent partnership working means reports of criminal damage fell by more than 2,200 offences. Reports of anti-social behaviour have dropped by more than 8,000.

We've detected more crimes than any of our neighbouring police forces and we're among the top three forces nationally for

solving house burglary.

We receive an average of 450 emergency calls a day – answering them in an average of four seconds.

Tackling violent crime – which rose nationally – will remain a priority with efforts focusing on alcohol-related and domestic violence.

Our police force is still one of the best in the country but it's the sixth worst funded in England and Wales.

As a police authority we'll continue to press the Government for the extra funding we need to face the challenges of policing in the 21st century.

And we'll continue to support Derbyshire Constabulary to deliver a police service that you can be proud of.

INSIDE: What's been happening in your area Responding to your priorities

# Keeping you safe – what’s been happening in your area

A DIVISION COVERING AMBER VALLEY AND EREWASH

## Tackling anti-social behaviour

VOLUNTEERS have patrolled their neighbourhood as part of Community Watch.

Wearing high visibility vests, they’ve been keeping an eye on West Park in Long Eaton and areas of Borrowwash in response to residents’ concerns.

It’s been so successful that reports of anti-social behaviour dropped to zero while local people say they feel safer.

New technology is protecting local residents in Alfreton, Ripley, Ilkeston and Long Eaton. Two portable metal detectors are being used at various locations to prevent people from carrying knives and other weapons.

Three pubs in Long Eaton were closed after local people said they were concerned about drug dealing.

It was part of a crackdown on illegal drugs in the area which resulted in 40 people being arrested or warned for drugs offences and the discovery of five cannabis farms.

We have been working with officers from Nottinghamshire to target criminals travelling across the county border using stolen vehicles. In a month house burglaries were halved.

Responding to residents’ concerns officers tackled problems of young people drinking in the street and in parks around Alfreton. They seized bottles and cans on the spot and also set up test purchases in licensed premises to deter the sale of alcohol to people under age.



B DIVISION COVERING HIGH PEAK AND DERBYSHIRE DALES

## Successful campaigns and operations

A SUCCESSFUL operation targeting the suppliers of illegal drugs in Buxton led to 30 arrests while three cannabis factories were closed down.

A campaign to tackle motorbike thefts in Glossop, Gamesley, Charlsworth, Tintwistle and Hadfield saw offences drop by almost 40%.

Motorists were reminded to lock vehicles and hide valuables during a campaign to cut car crime. Automatic number plate recognition technology helped to identify vehicles being driven illegally.

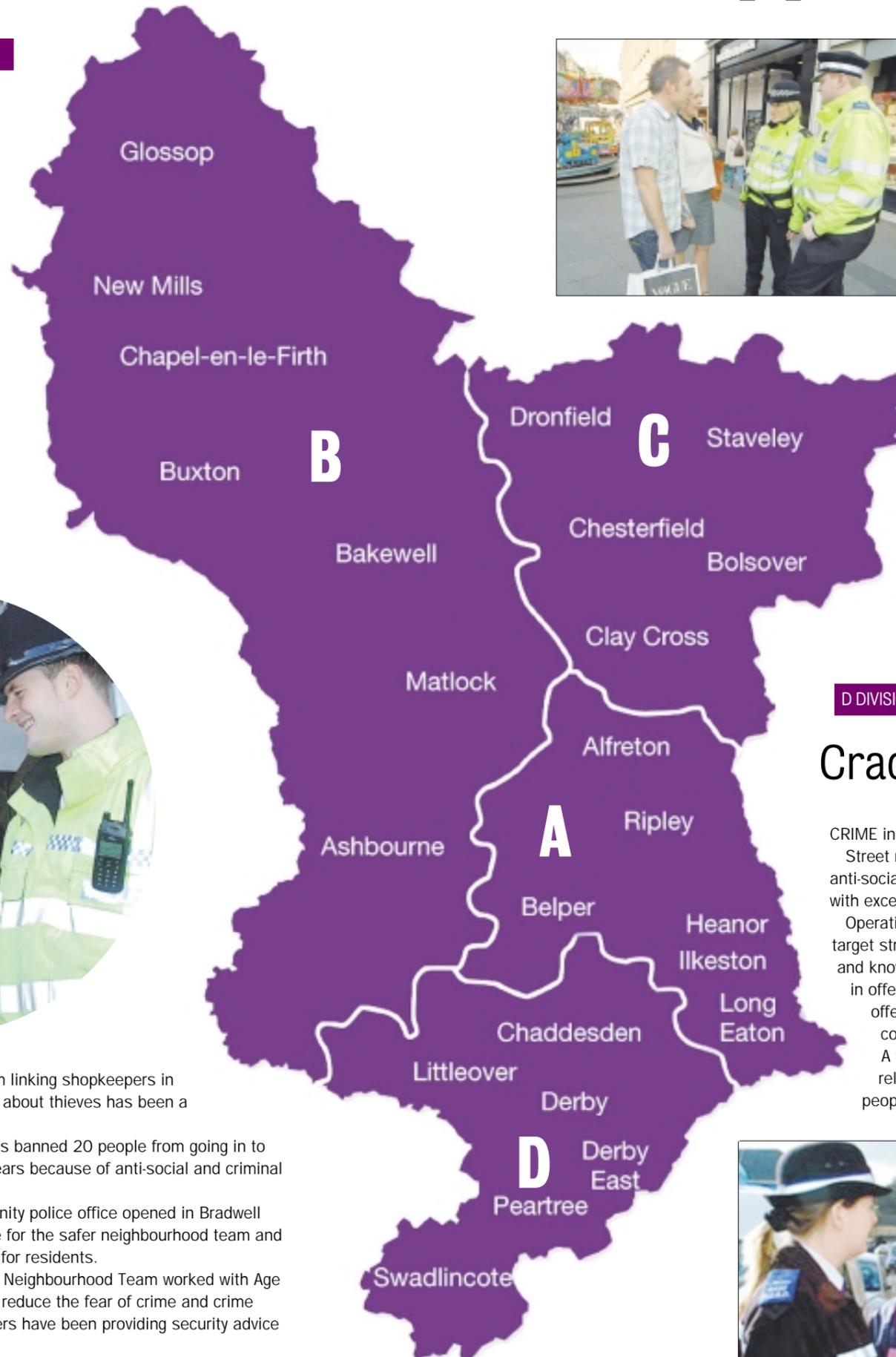
Patrols to tackle under-age drinking and alcohol-related violence were set up in Glossop. Violent crime dropped by 38%.

A radio system linking shopkeepers in Matlock to warn about thieves has been a success.

Shopwatch has banned 20 people from going in to shops for two years because of anti-social and criminal behaviour.

A new community police office opened in Bradwell providing a base for the safer neighbourhood team and a meeting room for residents.

Fairfield Safer Neighbourhood Team worked with Age Concern to help reduce the fear of crime and crime prevention officers have been providing security advice to residents.



C DIVISION COVERING CHESTERFIELD, BOLSOVER AND NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE

## Teamwork brings success

WORKING together has helped to reduce crime and the fear of crime. Organisations including community safety partnerships, schools and Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service have teamed up to encourage young people to take part in positive activities.

They include Ozbox, a boxing project helping to get young people fit, motivated and thinking positive and Get Wise designed to stop nine to 12-year-olds becoming repeat victims of bullying.

Patrols set up in Clay Cross tackled anti-social behaviour and under-age drinking after residents said they were worried about the problem.

Crime prevention advice was given to 140 households as part of a joint campaign to clean up Killamarsh. Householders were given free locks and door chains and property was coded while rubbish was removed to smarten the area up.

Young people took part in free football sessions run by Chesterfield Football Club designed to help them develop new skills, keep them off the streets at night and help to improve communication with local officers.

Shoppers in Staveley were given free purse and wallet chains and personal attack alarms. Officers also offered advice on how to avoid becoming a victim of pickpockets.

D DIVISION COVERING DERBY AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE

## Crackdowns stamp out crime hotspots

CRIME in Derby continues to fall.

Street robberies, alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour have all been targeted with excellent results.

Operation Everest saw a team of detectives target street robbery hotspots around the city and known offenders. It resulted in a 6% fall in offences – with nearly a third of offenders being charged and taken to court.

A team of officers targeting gang-related and gun crime arrested 20 people during a crackdown in Allenton,

Alvaston, Chellaston and Shelton Lock.

Officers recovered firearms, cash, drugs and stolen property, including mountain bikes.

Information from local residents in Hartshorne, Midway and Newhall resulted in 19 people being arrested for possessing drugs, producing and supplying drugs, theft and forgery. Officers seized four cannabis production set-ups and recovered drugs, £12,000 cash and cigarettes and tobacco worth £9,000.

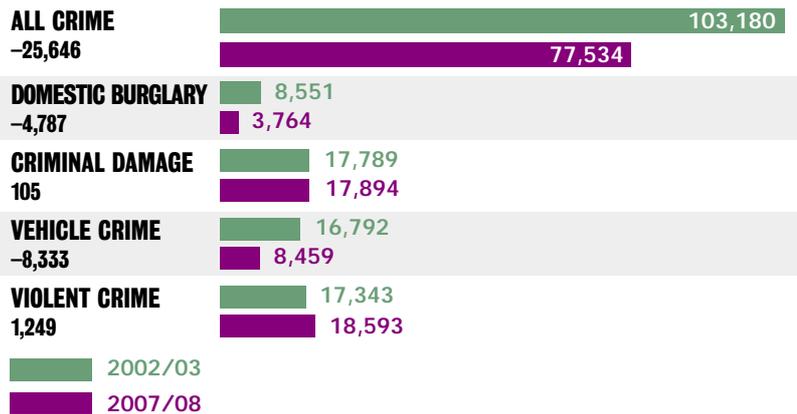
Young people drinking and shops selling alcohol to them illegally were targeted during a campaign across Derby and south Derbyshire.

Officers confiscated alcohol from young people and ordered them to leave areas where complaints had been made. They also gathered evidence to target licensed premises selling alcohol to people underage.

The 23 neighbourhood teams will continue working across the division while other challenges include the fight against serious and organised crime and terrorism.



# How we are doing in Derbyshire 2002/03 - 2007/08



## MEMBERS' DUTIES

DERBYSHIRE Police Authority is made up of 17 members – including county and city councillors and independent members. They are responsible for setting the budget for Derbyshire Police, consulting local communities to find out what they want the police to tackle, setting out the local policing plan, appointing the chief constable and monitoring police performance.

For a full list of members visit [www.derbyshire.police.uk/policeauthority](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/policeauthority)

# Responding to your priorities

YOUR views are helping us to decide how Derbyshire is policed.

Hundreds of you took the opportunity to voice your opinions at events held across the county in supermarkets, hospitals, a university and in town centres.

It's the biggest face-to-face consultation we and Derbyshire police have organised.

It helps us to find out what you think about policing services, what issues concern you the most and what you think could be improved.

You can also meet members of your local safer neighbourhood team and talk to them about local issues.

Everyone who takes part is asked to fill in a questionnaire and we use this information to help us plan the way policing is delivered in the county in our current policing plan.

You told us you want us to focus on neighbourhood policing, reducing thefts from shops, vehicles and homes and reducing serious and violent crime.

## Special contributions

FOUR special constables have been rewarded for their commitment.

We give out annual cash awards to volunteers who make the most significant contribution to the force. This year's winners are (pictured above from left):

A Division – special constable Mark Thornley who works in Alfreton. Within a month of signing up, Mark caught a thief in the act and spotted a wanted man while patrolling the town centre.

B Division - section officer Suzanne Meadowcroft. An exceptionally dedicated officer, she is willing to get involved with the local community, particularly young people, in Gamesley.

C Division - special constable Simon Valentine dedicates at least 50 hours a month to his duties at Clay Cross. He started a successful campaign to combat drink driving at Christmas.

D Division - special constable Ian Morley. Ian is enthusiastic and committed, using his calm and professional manner to regularly help his colleagues in Derby East area.

Police Authority chairman Janet Birkin said: "I am delighted to recognise the dedication and commitment of these special constables who play a vital role in keeping Derbyshire communities safe."

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Derbyshire Police (non-emergency)	0845 123 33 33
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Victim Supportline	0845 30 30 900
Stop Hurting (campaign against domestic abuse)	0808 2000 247
Derbyshire County Council	08 456 058 058
Consumer Direct (consumer advice service for the East Midlands)	08454 04 05 06
Derby City Council	01332 293 111
National Missing Persons Helpline	0500 700 700
NSPCC	0800 800 500

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A copy of this document may also be made available where possible in Braille, on audio tape, in large print or in a community language from Derbyshire Police Authority, Constabulary Headquarters, Butterley Hall, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3RS.

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## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

WE would like to know what you think of this publication. If you would like to comment on any of the stories write to: Simon C Bate OBE

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