



**Safer
Communities
Torbay**

Safer Communities



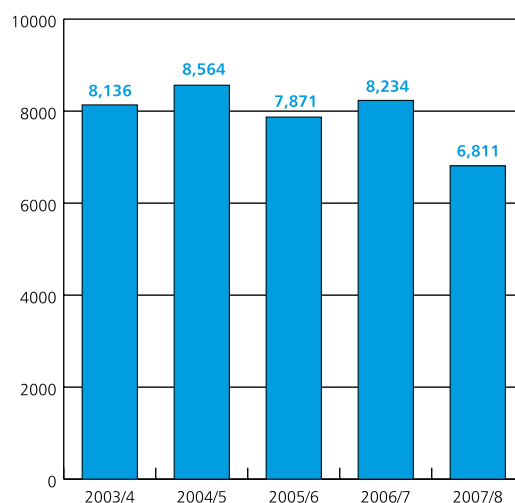
Welcome to the Summer edition of the newsletter. This edition will focus on how the partnership has performed against its target to reduce crime over the past three years, and also look at what the partnership will be focusing on over the next three years in its Community Safety Action Plan.

This will also be the last printed version of the newsletter – future versions will be e-mailed out to you so to ensure you receive a copy please e-mail scatt@torbay.gov.uk with the word 'subscribe' in the subject header. The decision was made by the partnership in an attempt to reduce the amount of paper used and ensure the partnership moves to a greener more environmentally friendly culture. In future the newsletter will be sent out via e-mails with links to specific stories which will direct you to the Safer Communities website for further information. If you have any queries with regards to this changeover please contact our Communications Officer via scatt@torbay.gov.uk

To make sure you don't miss out on future Safer Communities newsletters e-mail: scatt@torbay.gov.uk with the word 'subscribe'

Crime Update

As you may have seen from our campaign on buses and trailers around Torbay 'Crime Is Down'. In fact overall crime in Torbay has reduced from 2006/07 to 2007/08 by an incredible 17.3%. Certain crime types in particular have recorded massive falls such as domestic burglary (down 45%), theft from vehicle (down 36%), followed by reductions in violent crime with wounding down 15% and common assault down 13%.



In 2003/04 Safer Communities Torbay was set a target by the Home Office to reduce crime by 17.5% by 2007/08.

The following table and charts shows how crime in Torbay has been steadily falling over recent years with Torbay achieving a 16.3% reduction in overall crime against their 17.5% target.

BCS Comparator Crimes	2003/04 Baseline number	04/05 Outcome Number	05/06 Outcome Number	06/07 Outcome Number	07/08 Outcome Number	change last year %	change from baseline %
Theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle	266	336	364	293	284	-3%	7%
Theft from a vehicle	1,045	1,002	825	1,036	670	-35%	-36%
Vehicle interference	103	121	92	118	106	-10%	3%

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for you**

Domestic burglary	763	921	523	566	420	-26%	-45%
Theft or unauthorised taking of a cycle	96	126	144	138	144	4%	50%
Theft from person	222	203	228	227	208	-8%	-6%
Criminal damage	3,195	3,181	3,323	3,560	2,874	-19%	-10%
Common assault	712	804	635	667	621	-7%	-13%
Wounding	1,646	1,803	1,652	1,525	1,398	-8%	-15%
Robbery	88	67	85	104	86	-17%	-2%
Total	8,136	8,564	7,871	8,234	6,811	-17%	-16%

Torbay's Community Safety Partnership have been working extremely closely with all its partners and community groups to reduce crime and disorder. Below are some examples of initiatives which have helped contribute to a 16.3% reduction in crime across Torbay...

How we've helped to reduce crime in Torbay...

There have been a number of successful campaigns the partnership has been involved in, such as a vehicle crime campaign called 'CAR SAFE' which has reduced vehicle crime by 36%.



Here a variety of communication channels were used targeting both local residents and holidaymakers asking them to 'push in your wing mirrors' and 'leave nothing on display'. Key messages were publicised on everything from chamois leathers to buses and Council Tax Bills. The campaign proved so successful in Torbay that neighbouring areas such as Teignbridge have also adopted it.

Specialist Domestic Violence Court Opens

A dedicated court for dealing with domestic abuse prosecutions opened in April this year. After much planning the court has been set up to:

- Bring more perpetrators to justice
- Improve the support, safety and satisfaction of victims
- Increase public confidence in the criminal justice system.

The process allows for better tracking of domestic abuse issues and for more efficient fixing of trial dates. The court also has separate entrances, exits and waiting areas so that victims are not confronted by their attackers.

Community Justice

Local people have made a big difference to tackling crime in Torbay by getting involved with Community Justice, introduced by the Devon and Cornwall Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) and supported by Safer Communities Torbay and Torbay's Community Partnerships.

Pilot schemes set up in Watcombe, Preston and Brixham have given residents the chance to suggest unpaid work

projects for offenders, volunteer in the Criminal Justice System or simply let the Local Criminal Justice Board know about ways their neighbourhood could be improved.

Here are some examples of projects undertaken in the wards of Watcombe, Preston and Brixham...

Preston Community Partnership identified such work as the repair and renewal of damaged sea walls, repainting and refurbishing public shelters and benches (as shown below), plus painting yellow railings and the old lamp posts.



Shoalstone Pool was one of the areas identified in **Brixham** which benefited from the Community Payback Scheme. Chairman of the Friends of Shoalstone Pool, Rowan Molesworth, said: "This year we were given a fantastic helping hand by the Devon & Cornwall Probation Service Community Workers under their team leader Barry".



One of the sites identified in Watcombe/Barton was Apollo Boxing & Football Club (as pictured below). Sean Philpot from the Club said: "The team have done a brilliant job at the gym, they have completely refurbished the place. First they came and cut away all of the bushes, then they repainted the outside which hadn't been painted in over 25 years. And finally, to top it all, they came indoors and completely repainted the walls, kitchen and toilet."



Community Justice aims to prevent re-offending by dealing with the impact that offenders have on their local community. It helps residents to make their opinions about the delivery of justice heard, and increases quality of life for local people by reducing anti-social behaviour.

For more information about Community Justice please email: emily.macaulay@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk, log on to www.dclcb.org.uk/communityjustice

For more information about Community Partnerships please call (01803) 208831 or e-mail: community.partnerships@torbay.gov.uk.

Torbay's Anti-Social Behaviour Hotline – 01803 207900

Much work has taken place around anti-social behaviour in Torbay with a new team established and a new Anti-Social Behaviour Hotline launched.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Team is here to help anyone who is suffering because of persistent and serious anti-social behaviour, for example:

- Persistent verbal abuse or threats.
- Assault or physical violence.
- Racial or homophobic harassment.
- Vandalism near your home.

Remember the 4 W's

When reporting problems or incidents remember the 4 W's and clearly state:

- What you saw: try to remember exactly what you saw.
- Where you saw it: detail where the incident took place.
- When you saw it: make a note of the time and date.
- Who you saw: make a note of the name of the person(s) involved or try and remember as much as you can about the person(s) you have seen such as age, clothing etc.

Reporting your anti-social behaviour problem

- **If you own your home:** Report the problem direct to the Anti-Social Behaviour Hotline on 01803 207900.
- **If you rent your home from a Housing Association:** Report the problem to your housing officer. They will work with the Anti-Social Behaviour Team to resolve the problem.
- **If you rent your home from a private landlord or agency:** Report your problem to your landlord or direct to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team.
- In an immediate emergency call 999.

Community Safety Action Plan

A Community Safety Action Plan has been developed and prepared by Safer Communities Torbay on behalf of all residents of Torbay. It sets out the key priorities for the Safer Communities Torbay partnership for the next three years, having listened and assessed the key priorities of our customers; the Bay family.

What success will look like...

- Torbay will be a safe environment
- Torbay will have less victims of crime
- People of Torbay will feel safe
- People will be given an opportunity to change.

Economic prosperity

The following outlines some of the ways the Community Safety Action Plan will deliver economic prosperity:

- Businesses will not want to invest in areas with high levels of crime or anti-social behaviour.
- The cost of domestic abuse to Torbay households is approximately £3.72 million per annum.
- Every pound spent in drug treatment saves between £6 - £12 within Criminal Justice services.
- Young people with criminal records are less likely to contribute to the economy and have less opportunity for employment in certain jobs.

Central Government Targets & Performance

In addition to local priorities determined to meet the Bay Family's expectations the partnership is also required to meet Central Government targets: - Public Service Agreements, National Indicators and the Local Area Agreement. Performance against all outcomes, targets and projects will be monitored through Torbay Council's performance monitoring system (SPAR.net).



Our priorities for 2008-2011...

- Increase respect and enforcement of anti-social behaviour.
- Community engagement (to tackle fear of crime, anti-social behaviour and hate crime).
- Alcohol-related crime and disorder.
- Drug-related crime and disorder.
- Domestic abuse.
- Killed and seriously injured at Road Traffic Accidents.
- Facilities/services for young people to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Reduce adult re-offending.



Key Projects To Be Delivered Include...

- Developing and implementing a Family Intervention Project in Torbay.
- Producing and implementing a communications strategy to increase public reassurance in residents of Torbay.
- To launch a 'Thinking About Your Drinking' campaign across Torbay, encouraging safe and sensible drinking and providing support to hazardous and harmful drinkers. This also includes the launch of a new website for advice and information.
- To improve the links between housing, employment, training and education with treatment providers to support drug users reintegrate back into the community.
- Assigning an Independent Domestic Abuse Advisory Service (IDAAS), to provide outreach support to a minimum of 30 victims (male & female) suffering domestic abuse.
- Increasing positive activities for young people providing more things to do, and safe places to go.

For further information or to reserve a full copy of the Community Safety Action Plan for 2008-2011, please e-mail scatt@torbay.gov.uk

Safer Communities Team - useful contact details

Torbay Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)

Jonathan Brook, Ian Tyson & Helen Wilks

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Crime Reduction Team

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Anti-Social Behaviour Team

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Safer Communities

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If you would like to contribute to future issues or to receive this newsletter in another format or different language, please contact Rachael Assaf by email rachael.assaf@torbay.gov.uk.