

Building Stronger Communities

Be part of it



Summer 2011

Campaign keeps kids..



A campaign aimed at keeping young people safe, engaged in positive activities and out of trouble was launched recently at Leigh Fire Station.

safe4summer encourages young people to think about the impact anti-social behaviour can potentially have on the community - from the dangers of riding off-road motor vehicles to the potentially life threatening knock-on effects of making hoax calls to the emergency services.

But the annual campaign is about

more than simply diverting young people away from dangerous or anti-social behaviour. It's also about getting them to consider some of the issues that are important to them - and of course, it's about having fun!

Wigan Borough Commander at Greater

Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, Steve Sheridan, says:

"Sadly, the summer holiday period poses many potential dangers to young people - from the risks associated with starting small fires, to the often irresistible but tragic lure of dangerous buildings and open water.

"Our aim with safe4summer is to help everyone enjoy this time of year safely and responsibly, whilst ensuring resources are available to respond to real



What is the Building Stronger Communities Partnership?

Agencies across the borough, including the council, police, housing, fire, probation, leisure trust, NHS and voluntary sector, who are working together, tackling crime, providing positive activities and making our borough a cleaner, greener, safer place to live.

emergencies."

Led by Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, the campaign is supported by Wigan Council, Greater Manchester Police and various community groups.

For more information go to www.wigan.gov/safe4summer

Hindley Neighbourhood Policing Team Update



Insp Anne Scott says:

Anti-Social Behaviour is down compared to last year,

an excellent result which reflects all the hard work officers, partners and the community have put into tackling the issue. And we

fully support initiatives such as Safe4Summer which aims to divert young people into safe and positive activities. A new Section 30 Dispersal Order comes into affect in August around the Borsdane precinct, giving officers powers to disperse nuisance groups away from this ASB hotspot. You can read more about this at www.wigan.gov.uk/news

And finally, whilst year to date figures on domestic burglary are encouraging, I urge people not to give opportunist burglars an open invitation. Secure your home and follow basic crime prevention advice.

To contact us, call 0161 856 7436 or email hindley.apt@gmp.police.uk

CRIME SNAPSHOT

In the 4 week period 6/6/11 - 3/7/11 there were 9 reports of theft from motor vehicles in Abram - and similarly 9 in Hindley. But incidents of criminal damage have fallen in the same period in Hindley Green (14 down to 5) and Hindley (21 to 6).



Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Firestoppers 0800 923 9999

Show bogus callers the door

They're designed to give the cold shoulder to rogue traders and opportunist thieves. And following the success of similar schemes in Ashton, Leigh and Scholes, a new No Cold Calling Zone has been introduced in Hindley.

No Cold Calling Zones have proven to be an effective way of protecting elderly and vulnerable residents by deterring door-to-door salesmen and bogus officials from knocking without making a prior appointment.

"It gives residents an opt out, so they don't feel pressurised into opening the door and entering into the kind of conversation which sadly all too often ends in misery," says Julie Middlehurst, Chief Trading Standards Officer.

"They help residents feel safer in their own homes and give peace of mind to vulnerable people who can be the target of high pressure sales tactics and distraction burglaries."

Signs have been prominently displayed across the new zone which covers Ashbourne Avenue, Ashbourne Gardens and Claremont Avenue.

The advice from Trading Standards is simple:

- **Don't feel pressured** into making on-the-spot purchases. Always shop around for the best price.
- **Be wary of special offers.** If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

- **Use the Wigan Council Good Trader Scheme.** This lists honest and reliable local traders and businesses and is rated by customers who award up to 5 gold stars based on customer satisfaction.
- **Know your rights.** When someone cold calls and offers to do work costing more than £35 (including labour) they must by law give a notice of cancellation rights, which sets out a 7-day cooling-off period.
- **Look out for the tell-tale signs.** Rogue traders don't want to be traced, so they will often drive vehicles that only have either a mobile or 0800 number displayed.
- **STOP** - if they harass you for money, call the police!

REMEMBER - ITS YOUR DOORSTEP, YOUR DECISION SO, IF IN DOUBT, KEEP THEM OUT!

If you are concerned about doorstep crime, contact:

Greater Manchester Police - 0161 872 5050 (emergency 999)

Consumer Direct - 08454 04 05 06

Age UK - 01942 826079

For more information about the Good Trader visit the Good Trader section on Wigan Council's website at www.wigan.gov.uk/goodtrader or call 01942 82747



Contact us

Environmental Services Helpline 01942 404364

Wigan Council 01942 244991

Police 0161 827 5050 (to report a crime)

Wigan and Leigh Housing 01942 705040

NHS Ashton, Leigh and Wigan 01942 482711

Friends of Amberswood recently met for the first time to discuss a five year plan for Amberswood in conjunction with Wigan Council and the Groundwork Trust. The group is keen to hear from the residents of Hindley, Platt Bridge, Springview and Lower Ince about environmental improvements to the 160 hectare site. If you would like to get involved in the next Friends of Amberswood meeting, call 01942 404226.