

# Police news release

Building safer communities together

Created on 10/07/2008 at 12:00:AM

## Update 1450 150908

The figures for Operation Goodnight have now been finalised.

All of the statistics refer to a comparison between the recent curfew period and the corresponding six weeks in 2007.

### ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

**TOTAL - Youth – Related Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents in Redruth North** – down from 45 in 2007 to 16 (-64%).

The above figures include: **Anti-Social Behaviour incidents involving 10-16-year-olds in Redruth North** – down from 20 to eight (-60%).

These figures can also be broken down even further to relate to the actual Op Goodnight curfew area as follows: **TOTAL - Youth-Related Anti-Social Behaviour incidents in whole of Op Goodnight curfew area** – down from 24 to eight (-67%).

Again, to include: **Anti-Social Behaviour involving 10-16-year-olds in whole of Op Goodnight curfew area** – down from 14 to four (-71%).

### CRIME

**Youth-Related Crime in Redruth North where the offender is known** – down from four to two (-50%).

**Youth Related Crime in whole of Op Goodnight area where offender is known** – down from three to none (-100%).

Officers will this week be making personal calls at every house in the curfew area to gauge opinion. If no-one is at home, a pre-paid questionnaire will be left.

Residents have been urged to give their feedback on the scheme, whether it be face-to-face or via the questionnaire.

It is hoped the results of the feedback will be known early next month.

## Update 1600 090908

Commenting at this afternoon's media facility, Supt Martin Orpe, said that he was "very encouraged" by the results of Operation Goodnight.

He revealed that early indications showed that, compared to the same period last year, anti-social behaviour was down by around 60% and crime had fallen by 50%.

He thanked the partners who had worked with the Police as part of the operation and said that there would now be a period of consultation which should be completed in around two weeks time.

PC Marc Griffin said that from a Policing point of view, the scheme had been extremely successful.

He said that the feedback from residents had shown that they had felt much safer during the curfew and that members of the community – both young and old - should be congratulated for embracing the scheme in such a wholehearted way.

He went on to thank all those involved for their support.

Questionnaires will now be delivered to every household to seek residents' views on the scheme.

Please note: the full results of Operation Goodnight are still being collated. We hope to upload the final figures when they are finalised.

### **Update 0800 270808**

PC Marc Griffin said: "The operation has now entered its fifth week and initial results are very encouraging. Feedback from the community has been extremely positive and it would appear that there has been a reduction in antisocial behaviour and juvenile victims of crime.

"We have seen an increase in parental supervision over the past few weeks which has been welcomed by the community. Only a small number of young people have been out, unsupervised beyond the times of the voluntary curfew with a number of these not living in the Close Hill area.

"When the parents of these children were contacted by officers, in the vast majority of cases the parents were concerned that their children were out at the times located and arrangements were then made for them to return home or to where they should have been.

"A community update will take place on Monday 8th September 2008 between 4pm and 5pm at the Kabin, Strawberry Lane, Redruth. This event will allow the partners involved in the delivery of Operation Goodnight to thank the community for making the initiative the success it appears to have been. In addition, it will also allow for residents (including young people) an opportunity to raise any questions, concerns or ideas they may have. It is anticipated that there will also be a community consultation that will take place during September / October 2008 - details to follow."

### **Operation Goodnight - Redruth**

Officers from Redruth's Police Neighbourhood Team along with a number of multi agency partners and resident representatives are set to deliver a Voluntary Child Curfew scheme during the forthcoming school summer holiday period. The scheme which will be known officially as Operation GOODNIGHT will take place in and around the Close Hill area of Redruth and will operate between Friday 25 July and Sunday 7 September 2008.

For many months residents who have attended the Partners And Communities Together meetings have expressed concern over ongoing reports of children as young as eight being out, unsupervised late into the night. It is a fact that young people are at an increased risk of becoming either a victim or offender of crime and or anti social behaviour if left unsupervised during the evenings.

The spirit of this scheme is not about restricting what our young people can and cannot do but making certain that during the summer holiday evenings they are able to enjoy themselves but not at the expense of the wider community. A number of diversionary activities will be put in place including football coaching sessions organised by the Fire Brigade as well events being planned by the Redruth North Partnership.

The whole ethos of the scheme is about parents taking responsibility for their children and supporting us in our work in continuing to make Redruth North a safer and more enjoyable place to live. I have been fortunate enough to have been the Neighbourhood Beat Manager here for almost four years and during that time I have met many great young people who continue to be a credit to the community.

However, the message we are getting from residents is that there is a small but significant number who appear to go out at night without any form of adult supervision and are basically being left to their own devices.

The voluntary scheme will encourage young people under the age of 16 years not to be out past 9pm with those under 10 years not being out past 8pm unless they are under the supervision of a responsible adult. Multi agency patrols will take place with contact being made with the parents and carers of any young people found out after these times. If it is felt that the child is at risk or remains vulnerable then referrals to other appropriate agencies will be made as necessary. A letter outlining the scheme in more detail will be delivered with the help of the Community Police Cadets to all residents during the next few weeks.

Following a consultation after last Winter's Dispersal Order, 'parents not taking responsibility for their children' remained one of the resident's greatest concerns. This is an opportunity to put Redruth North on the map for the right reasons and those involved in delivering the operation would seek the support and cooperation of all those living in the area in order that it be a success.

The scheme is being supported by the Redruth North Partnership, Redruth Town Council, Redruth North PACT panel, Kerrier District Council's Anti Social Behaviour Team, the Fire Brigade and Coastline Housing.

Julian Commons who is the Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator for West Cornwall added "This scheme is a way that parents can work together with agencies in their local communities to keep their children safe and prevent them from possibly being at risk of being a victim or possibly an offender of crime or anti social behaviour.

"Whilst we acknowledge that the vast majority of parents are extremely responsible, we need to encourage all parents to take responsibility for their children so that the community is a safer place for everyone who lives there"