



## JANUARY BULLETIN

### **TOWN CENTRE SECTOR**

*Town Centre Sector is responsible for:*

*The commercial centre of Swindon, including 22 licensed premises.*

### **Friday 30th November - Sunday 23rd December 2007** **Responsible Sales of Alcohol Campaign**

This was a Home Office funded campaign involving the deployment of plain-clothes officers into the pubs and clubs in the Town Centre. During the activity stage of the campaign officers visited sixteen venues and spent 135 hours monitoring the premises. One ticket for underage drinking was issued, advice and feedback given to licensees and door staff at all the venues. As a result there were reduced levels of drunkenness and violence on the Town Centre during the period.

### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2007** **Town Centre Community Safety Day**

The event was prompted by an emerging problem of purse dipping in the town centre, and conveying the appropriate seasonal crime prevention messages including theft from vehicles, burglary and drink driving. These are particularly important messages at this time of year to ensure people feel safe and indeed their properties are kept secure.

To support this event a number of agencies were actively involved:

- Neighbourhood Policing Team
- Community Safety Team
- Fire Safety
- Swindon and Wiltshire Drug and Alcohol Service (SWADS)
- Road Policing Unit
- Environmental Services
- Street Pastors
- Youth Offending Team

All the agencies were highly visible in the town centre and provided advice and support to members of the public. This included:

- 250 property marking kits to mark TVs, DVD players, computers and mobile phones with house number and postcode to tackle domestic burglary and theft from person
- 189 back door alarms to tackle distraction burglaries
- 100 purse bells
- 453 purse alarms to tackle the emerging purse dipping problem
- 20 butt pouches and 111 gum pouches to tackle litter issues
- 173 vehicle safety kits
- The drink drive vehicle was on display as a stark warning about the consequences of drink driving, and SWADS had a display offering advice about safe drinking.
- Environmental Services working with the Youth Offending Team gave information about new litter penalty notices
- Fire Safety offered free fire home safety checks
- A vehicle was planted with presents and valuables and a quiz with a prize was offered to people identifying the vulnerable areas in the car.
- Street Pastors provided information about their service
- The CST and the NPT asked people to complete questionnaires outlining the policing priorities for this area

**Friday 21 and Saturday 22 December**  
**Operation Diamond**

Throughout the Christmas and New Year period Operation Diamond was in effect with the deployment of teams of ten uniformed officers to tackle alcohol fuelled violence against the person, criminal damage and antisocial behaviour. This response was enhanced on the above dates by the deployment of mounted officers from Avon and Somerset

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