



# **The Crime Reduction, Community Safety & Drug Strategy**

**2005-2008**



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**Over the past three years the Safer Sandwell Partnership** has made tremendous progress in reducing crime. The Partnership is made up of a number of organisations, including Sandwell Partnership, Sandwell Council, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Police Authority, National Probation Service, Sandwell Primary Care Trusts, West Midlands Fire Service and the Voluntary Sector in Sandwell.

Taking 2003/04 as a baseline, the figures for 2004/05 show how successful the Partnership has been at addressing those priorities set out in the Strategy for 2002/05.

- Domestic Burglary has been reduced by 35%
- Combined Vehicle crime has been reduced by 34%
- Robbery has been reduced by 25%
- Violent Crime has been reduced by 9%
- Criminal Damage has been reduced by 14%
- Total Crime has been reduced by 21%

However the Partnership is not complacent and intends to build on success to date and recognises that there are still significant challenges ahead.

Priorities for 2005/08 have been chosen by the Partnership, taking into account the findings of consultation with local people and the findings of the Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drugs Audit 2004. The priorities for 2005-8 are:

- Domestic Burglary
- Vehicle Crime
- Violence
- Anti Social Behaviour

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- Drugs
  - Reducing Offending

The Partnership also recognises that young people are over-represented both as victims of crime and offenders, and therefore particular focus will be given to this group over the next three years.

## Targets

Challenging targets have been set for all the priorities.

### Domestic Burglary

By 2008 to reduce Domestic Burglary by 20% from 2003/04 levels.

To do this we will continue with the burglary reduction initiative which involves improving security in homes which have suffered burglaries and in homes considered to be at risk from burglary.

The Safer Sandwell Partnership also has a very successful agreement with Sandwell Homes for a “rapid repair” service for the victims of burglary which is set to continue.

### Vehicle Crime

Reduce Vehicle Crime by 26% by March 2008.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

Alongside a variety of measures aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour the Partnership launched the Anti-Social Behaviour Action line in February 2005, which provides a single point of contact for reporting ASB.

The number is 0845 359 7500.

We aim to continue to reduce the level of anti-social behaviour over the next three years.

## Violence

Reduce Woundings by 12% by March 2008 based on 2003/04 figures.

Sandwell Organisation Against Domestic Abuse (SOADA) will operate from June 2005. This will mean that officers from the Police, Social Inclusion and Health, Sandwell Women's Aid and volunteers will work together from the same building to help victims of domestic violence and their children.

## Drugs

The Drugs Action Team aims to reduce the number of problematic drug users in Sandwell by increasing access to treatment and by providing education.

A wide range of specialist services will continue to be provided.

## Reducing Offending

We aim to reduce offending and re-offending in Sandwell.

As well as the Youth Offending Team interventions attached to youth sentences, a number of schemes will continue to operate in the Borough which encourage young people into more positive activity and productive relationships with their communities.

For more information on any of these matters go to [www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)