

# SaferMK Newsletter

Working together to keep Milton Keynes safe

March 2010



## Who is working to deliver a SaferMK?

Making Milton Keynes a safer place is a job that no agency or organisation can do on its own. SaferMK is made up of five key partners; Milton Keynes Council, Thames Valley Police, Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service, The Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust and Thames Valley Police Authority. We work with the community to make you safer by reducing crime, anti-social behaviour, tackling drug and alcohol misuse and the fear of crime.

## Current Campaigns we are running to make a SaferMK

### SaferMK launch ground breaking online Community Safety Mapping website

This month see's the launch of the SaferMK Community Safety Mapping Website. The website, accessed via [www.safermk.com](http://www.safermk.com), allows residents of the borough of Milton Keynes to view 27 different categories of crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) figures (provided by Thames Valley Police, Milton Keynes Council and Bucks Fire & Rescue Service) within their neighbourhood or area (estate, town or village). These crime and ASB types include burglary, robbery, rowdy inconsiderate behaviour and deliberate firesetting.

By breaking down the categories of crime and anti-social behaviour SaferMK hopes that the figures will be put into better perspective. Through visiting [www.safermk.com](http://www.safermk.com) residents will also be able to access advice on being safe and reducing the chances of becoming a victim of crime.

These figures are currently published in different documents every month, however now by using this ground breaking website users are able to enter their postcode on the website or click on their estate on the map of Milton Keynes to visually access crime and anti-social behaviour figures.

Vanessa McPake, Cabinet Member responsible for Community Safety said "Milton Keynes is a safe place to live and work and we want it to remain so. We have been working with our partners to develop the Community Safety Mapping by amalgamating our data sources so we can provide more depth on issues effecting residents lives."

Parish Councillor Phil Ayles added; "For the first time, this new website allows residents, parish councils and NAGs to see really local crime data and trends in detail. This is an excellent basis for taking action to improve our communities."

The website will be updated monthly to provide data from the previous month. If you have any questions regarding the new Community Safety Mapping website please read the 'Frequently asked Questions' section of the website.



## Community Speedwatch come to Milton Keynes

The SaferMK Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs) of Milton Keynes rural North, South, East and West neighbourhoods have become the first areas in Milton Keynes to purchase and use a Community Speed Watch device.

Community Speed Watch is a portable roadside speed measuring device, which will be used in the rural neighbourhoods to monitor speeding vehicles through the villages to address the residents concerns raised during public consultation. Speeding appeared to be the priority concern in most, if not all, of the villages surrounding Milton Keynes.

PC Julian Kendall, Neighbourhood Officer for the rural east, said: "All traffic regulations are put in place to improve safety and reduce accidents. Speed is a factor in many road traffic collisions and if Community Speed Watch can save one life then it has to be good thing."



### 'Oi! Who's eyeing you up?'

This personal safety campaign is aimed at reminding residents of MK to be aware of what's going on around you when out and about. For example, using your mobile can be a distraction, a mobile phone is stolen in half of all robberies. If wearing a shoulder bag with a flap have it facing in towards you. It's also important to wear the bag across your body. Don't carry any more money than you need.

For more information please visit the personal safety homepage on [www.safermk.com](http://www.safermk.com) or look for the "Oi! who's eyeing you up" postcards for more information on personal safety. The campaign will also feature on Heart Radio during this month with adverts running carrying the 'Oi! Who's eyeing you up safety' messages. To hear the advert visit [www.safermk.com](http://www.safermk.com)

## Empty Car campaign a success

Thames Valley Police announced that during the Christmas period, there were only 13 reported thefts from vehicles in the city centre compared to 89 offences in 2007.

The empty Car Campaign is a partnership initiative where police officers, PCSO's, community safety wardens and NCP traffic wardens note down the registration number of any vehicle where they see valuable items on display making it a target for criminals. The Crime Reduction Team at Milton Keynes then send out a letter to the registered owner of the vehicle, explaining that they had left valuables on display and giving them some crime prevention tips for the future.

During December 3084 people were sent Empty Car campaign letters and 932 of these were for cars parks in central Milton Keynes.

Richard Solly, SaferMK Manager said "The Empty Car campaign is a great example of police and partners working together to reduce crime in Milton Keynes. The Community Safety Wardens and NCP officers are now actively involved in the campaign and no doubt their contribution will help boost the number of advice letters being sent out to the public. The low number of thefts reported during the busiest period in the city centre shows that the messages are getting through to people and the campaign is working."

For more information on crime prevention please visit [www.safermk.com](http://www.safermk.com)

## How Can I get involved?

Many people in Milton Keynes choose to take part in Neighbourhood Action Groups to help deliver and promote a SaferMK.

A Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) is made up of local residents and other partners including Thames Valley Police, Milton Keynes Council, Parish and Town Councils, local businesses and voluntary groups. Each NAG consults with their local communities to identify the top three problems in their neighbourhood which affect residents' everyday quality of life. Your NAG's three priorities can be found at [www.safermk.com](http://www.safermk.com) on the Safer Neighbourhoods homepage.

## See what else is going on at SaferMK

For further news such as "SaferMK's involvement in a Stalking and Harassment Conference" and the launch of the "Oi! look After Yourself" Campaign plus much more please visit: [www.safermk.com](http://www.safermk.com) to read more