



# UPDATE



The monthly newsletter for CDRP partners

ISSUE 1

## AMEC: the picture now

THE vast majority of people drink sensibly: the Alcohol Misuse

Enforcement Campaign makes it easier for local authorities to clamp down hard on those who don't!

The targets are those - consumers and sellers of alcohol - who go beyond acceptable boundaries. Last year's winter AMEC campaign tackled the low level drink related nuisance and disorder in city centres to good effect.

The use of FPNs (Fixed Penalty Notices) has resulted in less paper chasing for officers and less time for individuals in custody, freeing up court time and allowing more officers for visible patrol. A good result all round.

Multi-agency working, especially with Trading Standards has proved

**By Andy Smith**  
GOWM

very effective. Forward planning for underage testing is now

underway for the spring and summer 2006, and the previous checks have meant that those traders selling to underage customers are feeling the full brunt of the new Licensing Act.

Tranche 3 of AMEC is in the process of being announced and BCUs and CSPs/ Local Partnerships in designated areas, will putting their strategies into place shortly. Watch this space.

*For more information contact Andy Smith at GOWM on*

**0121 352 5023**

## Welcome to UPDATE!

**John Curtis,**  
Home Office  
Regional  
Director



THIS new monthly email round up is a resource for you to diary date forthcoming events, check out new legislation affecting CDRPs across the region and gain access to Home Office related sites.

If you have information you want to share with your colleagues, let us now through the attached links.

In the meantime there have been a few staff changes at GOWM. Firstly we must welcome Trudi Elliott, our new Government Office West Midlands Director. Trudi has a strong background in crime reduction, and in a previous life was the Chair of the CDRP in Bridgnorth - so she will be keeping a very close eye on crime reduction issues across the region.

**Bridget Brickley,**  
Home Office  
Policy and  
Partner Advisor,  
is also back on site after returning from maternity leave earlier this year.



Trudi Elliott

## RESPECT: what's coming up

THE Respect Action Plan was launched 10 January 2006, and includes over 50 actions.

The Respect Task Force is currently consulting with those areas identified as the 'big 14'

(Sandwell and Birmingham within the West Midlands Region) on the actions that they will be pushing forward for delivery within the first year of the Respect Action Plan. Areas are being asked to comment on these ideas and a final 'blueprint' will be produced accordingly.

Actions proposed (subject to consultation) include:

- Increased response to parenting
- Intensive Family Support for most problematic families



- Activities for young people
- Tackling truancy and bad behaviour in school
- Respect Standard for

**By Kathy Robinson**

Lead for Respect  
HOSST

- housing management
- Regeneration linked to tackling behaviour
- Greater accountability on community safety
- Strong response to anti-social behaviour

- Communicating with residents

Most of these actions/aspirations are not new and are being addressed through existing strategies. How the Respect Task Force will be working with Partners and with GOWM will be clarified over the coming months.

As Respect is a mandatory outcome within the Local Authority Agreement process, it is expected that GOWM will have a performance monitoring role.

*For further information please contact Kathy Robinson, Lead for Respect Home Office Support Strategy Team, on*

**0121 552 5230**

# CDA review - the findings

By **Bridget Brickley**

A REVIEW of the partnerships' provisions of the *Crime and Disorder Act 1998* was carried out between November 2004 and January 2005. The Government's

overall objective for carrying out the review was to strengthen the visibility and role of local partnerships to make them more effective at tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse at a local level.

The findings of the report can be found at: [www.crimereduction.gov.uk](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk)

The main proposals emerging from the review are:

## ● Structures

The strategic and operational functions of CDRPs need to be clearly defined. The strategic functions will need to sit within the structure of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).

## ● Delivery

The delivery of outcomes needs to be much more focused and targeted. This will be achieved through the adaptation of the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to operate using intelligence gathered through partnership bodies operating within a locality.

To support this approach it is intended that Section 115 (data sharing) will be strengthened by placing a 'duty' to share information and that the number of agencies which need to comply with this will be extended.

## ● Governance and Accountability

There will be a greater expectation on senior members of CDRPs to regularly consult with their communities and provide them with regular reports. Accountability will be strengthened through robust performance management systems.

## ● Mainstreaming

Section 17 will be extended to take account of anti-social behaviour, behaviour adversely affecting the environment and substance misuse.

## ● National Standards

It is intended that National Standards will be set for partnership working. This will provide a framework which identify a clear set of principles which will clarify what is expected of agencies in partnerships.

The legislative changes required were contained in the *Police and Justice Bill*, published on 25th January 2006. Royal assent is expected to be sought in the autumn of 2006. The *Police and Justice Bill* can be found at:

[www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200506/cmbills/119/2006119.htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200506/cmbills/119/2006119.htm)

## New law for Witness Protection

*Got a story for the newsletter?*

*If you want an item included in Update, then contact the GNN Home Office team:*

Sophia Everitt -  
**0121 352 5510**  
Sandra Collins -  
**0121 352 5506**



Sophia Everitt



Sandra Collins

POLICE forces already provide witness protection, but on 1 April the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 gave this arrangement legal force.

- Section 85 of the new law introduces a duty on all public authorities to take "reasonable steps" to help protection providers when asked.

- The new law recognises public authorities' importance in setting up effective protection.

- The NWMS (National Witness Mobility Service) helps housing authorities fulfil their new duties as outlined in the new legislation.

For more details visit this website.

[www.circulars.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](http://www.circulars.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

## Tough choices for drug offenders

NEW legislation, which takes effect this month allows police in the West Midlands to test people for drugs use, if they've been arrested for specific offences such as theft or burglary.

The new laws are part of the national Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) and mean that if someone tests positively for a class A drug, they must undertake a 'Required Assessment' of their drug use. If further treatment is appropriate, they can quickly access a drugs treatment programme.

If that person does not attend or remain for their assessment, they commit a further offence for which they can be fined or imprisoned.

The programme is to be rolled out across Birmingham, Solihull, Wolverhampton, Sandwell, the Black Country and Coventry. Courts in each area also have new powers to grant bail to offenders using drugs, on the condition that they enter into a treatment programme. If they fail to attend a treatment programme they can be re-arrested and brought before the court. If bail is not appropriate, drug treatment can continue in prison. It'll be a tough choice for some people to make, but the aim of these changes is to help people quickly access the treatment they need to reduce the harm caused to themselves and others.

By **Richard Edgington**  
DIP Manager,  
GOWM



**For more info on Tough Choices contact Richard Edgington on 0121 352 5080**

### DIARY DATES:

**Tackling Drugs Day - 23 May 2006**

Information about Tackling Drugs Day which aims to provide Drug Action Teams and partners and opportunity to showcase their work in their area.

[www.drugs.gov.uk/communications-and-campaigns/tackling-drugs/tdclday/](http://www.drugs.gov.uk/communications-and-campaigns/tackling-drugs/tdclday/)

### **Drugs, Alcohol and Social Work - delivering solutions**

A one day conference for social workers unfamiliar with drug use and drug users who need to boost their knowledge, skills and confidence in this area.

[www.drugs.gov.uk/publication-](http://www.drugs.gov.uk/publication-)