

## Welcome to the January edition of the Safer Ashfield Bulletin

### **A positive change for young people**

Positive Futures is a national community based prevention programme which targets 10 to 19 year olds.

The programme uses sports and arts based activities to engage with young people and prevent them from becoming drawn into crime or drug and alcohol misuse. Through relationship building, young people's attitudes and behaviour are challenged and they are supported to move forward with their lives.

There are 91 projects in England and Wales with priorities being determined locally, including how they work with young people, where they work with them and what activities they provide.

Positive Futures gives young people the chance to develop the skills needed to get on to a positive career path and take on roles to become active and responsible citizens, such as through volunteering.

In 2009/10, over 54,000 young people participated in the programme and gained over 36,000 positive outcomes, including over 10,000 qualifications. Other positive outcomes range from improved behaviour, improved self confidence and self esteem to gaining employment. Positive Futures is managed on behalf of the Home Office by the young peoples' charity – Catch22.

If you would like to know more about how Positive Futures is working in Ashfield and how to make a referral, please contact Alfie Smith on **07872 421865** or email **alfie.smith@catch-22.org.uk**

### **Courage to Change campaign**

The Ashfield Fair Share Trust are launching a campaign to discourage local shops from selling alcohol to young people in the Sutton-in-Ashfield area.

Businesses will be asked to pledge to sell alcohol responsibly and display a sticker in their window to promote good practice.

The campaign is supported by Nottinghamshire Police and Nottinghamshire Trading Standards who will have the power to revoke the logo from a business at their discretion.

As part of the campaign, young people from local schools have been invited to enter a competition to design the logo to go on the stickers and certificates for shops and pubs.

A short film will also be developed to discourage underage drinking which involves aspiring young actors from the local area.

For more information about the campaign, please contact Susanna Holt at [susanna@nottscf.org.uk](mailto:susanna@nottscf.org.uk)

### **Dragons' Den competition hots up**

The theme for the second phase of Dragons' Den is Building Bridges Across the Generations and the competition is well underway in schools across Ashfield.

Holgate School, Sutton College, Ashfield School and Technology College, Selston Arts and Community College, Kirkby College, Quarrydale School and the National Church of England Technology College are all putting forward a team to compete for investment in their media campaign.

The campaign must address the issue of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and encourage mutual respect between younger and older residents within our communities.

The final will take place in March in front of a panel of Dragons with the successful team winning the chance to have their campaign brought to life.

### **Crime and scam awareness event**

Nottinghamshire Trading Standards are holding a workshop to raise awareness of scams and doorstep crime amongst organisations that work with vulnerable and older people.

The event will be held on Wednesday 9 February from 10am to 1:15pm at Café Kiwi, Outram Street, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

The event is free but to book a place, call Sharon May on **01623 452 170** or email [sharon.may@nottscf.org.uk](mailto:sharon.may@nottscf.org.uk)

### **ASB resident champions**

Residents of the Carsic Estate and neighbouring areas are being encouraged to have their say about what needs to be done to tackle ASB.

In a joint project between Ashfield District Council, Ashfield Homes and Nottinghamshire Police, a £10,000 community project will be delivered to reduce ASB and encourage Respect for Ashfield.

Residents were invited to a drop-in day on 25 January to highlight issues and put forward proposals to address them.

All of the proposals will now be assessed and costed before going to a scrutiny panel made up of project partners and residents. The successful projects will then go to a public vote to decide which is put into action.

### **Warning to vehicle owners**

Vehicle owners across Mansfield and Ashfield are being warned if they leave valuable items on display in their car. Any vehicle seen by Police or CPOs which has been left with a sat nav, laptop, mobile phone or other valuables on display, will have its vehicle registration number recorded. This will then trigger a letter to be sent to the registered owner to remind them of the consequences of not securing their belongings.

This forms part of a wider operation to tackle vehicle crime in the two districts. It is hoped that by encouraging owners to remove valuables from vehicles, the opportunity for thieves will be reduced.

**The Safer Ashfield Bulletin forms part of a wider programme of communications activity under the Respect for Ashfield header. This is designed to encourage and promote respect for Ashfield by showing local people how organisations are working in partnership to tackle ASB across the district, and keeping them informed of current developments and achievements.**

If you have any news which you would like to submit for a future issue of the Safer Ashfield Bulletin, please contact Emma Sowter ([e.sowter@ashfield-dc.gov.uk](mailto:e.sowter@ashfield-dc.gov.uk)) or telephone 07943 095 830.