

## RECORD DROP IN CRIME FOR TAMESIDE

**TAMESIDE** has seen a record drop in crime according to recently released national home office figures.

The figures, which compared 2006/07 results with the same period the year before, have shown impressive improvements for all types of recorded crime. While the rest of Greater Manchester (GM) saw a one per cent increase in all police recorded crime, Tameside enjoyed a seven per cent reduction.

A comparable breakdown of the figures also showed the Tameside's crime statistics dropping at a faster rate than the Greater Manchester averages.

BCS crimes (i.e. British Crime Survey Comparator crimes which are crimes people say they are most worried about, e.g. burglary, violence and theft) have seen a two per cent rise across Greater Manchester, while Tameside has enjoyed a nine per cent reduction.

And it's a similar story in other areas of crime. While GM enjoyed a one per cent reduction in burglary and a 13 per cent drop in theft from vehicles, Tameside saw a seven per cent and 15 per cent fall in the same areas.

For violent offences and vandalism Tameside enjoyed reductions of nine and seven per cent respectively, while the GM average increased by five and three per cent.

In actual numbers these new figures mean:

- 1868 fewer victims of overall crime
- 1468 fewer victims of BCS crime
- 117 fewer burglary victims
- 198 fewer vehicle theft victims
- 317 fewer victims of violent crime
- 440 fewer victims of vandalism when compared with the same period the year before.



Commenting on the nationally collated Home Office figures, executive member for community safety Cllr Margaret Oldham, said: "Through the Crime and Disorder Partnership local agencies have worked together to identify issues, then act jointly to tackle them. It's about education as well as enforcement.

"What this means for people on the street is not just extra police officers on the beat, but joint high visibility initiatives involving both the Police, PCSOs, the Fire Service and the council's own Patrollers."

Key activities include;

- Working with residents to help improve home safety through targeted messages and additional security
- Enhanced enforcement in local town centres to tackle night time disorder
- Support for victims and witnesses of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Actions against those people that persistently cause problems in our local neighbourhoods through a range of measures including ASBOs and ABCs
- Additional support for those people more vulnerable to crime, e.g. door-step crime initiatives for older residents
- Proactive approaches to getting offenders into drug treatment to reduce repeat offending.

## An opportunity to showcase our achievements

TAMESIDE Council will undergo its most rigorous Government inspection in four years when the Audit Commission and Ofsted visit Tameside between June 30 and July 11, 2008. Partners will be asked to contribute to the inspection through interviews, focus groups and surveys.

Two inspections will run simultaneously and both are key to Tameside's performance against Government standards. The inspections are called Corporate Assessment (CA) and Joint Area Review (JAR).

The CA assesses how well the council is working and what it has achieved with partners to improve the lives of local people. The JAR focuses on children and young people and the impact services in the borough have for this group.

Tameside performed very strongly in the previous CA in 2002. This

gave the council extra freedom and local control to work with partners in delivering improvements for the boroughs' residents.

"The CA will focus heavily on the TSP's achievements, it is important that we bring these to life during the inspection and articulate a vision for making Tameside an even better place to live," said Kate O'Donnell, Head of Policy.

"As we prepare for this important assessment your main contacts within the Council will provide you with more information and may ask for your help with the preparations."

If you would like further information please contact David Berry, Policy Unit on 0161 342 3149. We'll know more detail in the New Year and we'll keep partners informed through Newsline.

# Love thy neighbourhood is conference message

NEIGHBOURHOOD working was the focus of the TSP's fourth annual conference.

Delegates considered how services could be enhanced by, and residents could benefit from, neighbourhood working arrangements.

The conference, attended by approximately 70 delegates from across the partnership,

also considered the internal workings of the partnership and reflected on achievements and developments of the past 12 months, and priorities for the future.

In closing the conference Peter Martin, Vice-Chair of the Board, asked partners to consider their organisations' contribution and how they can change the way

they commission and deliver services to better meet the needs of neighbourhoods and communities.

A report on the learning from the conference will be distributed to all partners shortly and it is hoped that the conference will act as a catalyst for enhanced neighbourhood working.

# FAITH AT THE HEART OF COMMUNITY COHESION

**T**HE interfaith network and the faith communities play a crucial role in community cohesion within Tameside, which is recognised by partners.

Sharing information between different faith communities has developed increased trust between individuals, different faiths and communities.

Through representation on a range of thematic partnerships, including Older People, Crime and Disorder, Economic and Learning and the Community Cohesion partnership and also ongoing partnership work, network members provide important local information, which helps to shape statutory partners services and increase community cohesion.

An important area of work which the network is focussing on is encouraging young people from different faiths to discuss concerns thus contributing to community cohesion, by building trust between individuals, faiths and communities. Through joint working between different faith communities, the network promotes positive images of the community, reducing inter-community tension.

Ray Shepherd, Community Cohesion representative, pictured above on the extreme



left, said: "There's a useful link between the Interfaith forum and the partnership allowing for the exchange of ideas and responding to each others requests. My participation has been an eye opener and has increased my awareness of issues. It has also provided the opportunity to develop relationships with others. My motivation for getting involved with the interfaith forum was driven by the tensions in Oldham and Burnley."

Lesley Connor from Tameside Third Sector Coalition said: "The benefits are two-fold. People involved increase in confidence, gain an ability to express their faith and learn skills to influence decision makers. The voluntary sector benefits from increased knowledge and shared understanding of different faiths. The network enables people to discuss concerns and share learning."

## Information at Tameside Council

THERE is an increasing demand for high quality local data to support evidence-based policy making, particularly following the recent local government White Paper: 'Strong and Prosperous Communities' (October 2006).

To improve the availability of high quality data, protocols for data sharing and quality (with our partners) need setting up. To achieve this Tameside Council's Policy Unit proposes to establish a TSP network: the Tameside Information Group (TIG).

Tameside has a record of successfully sharing information to improve performance. The most recent example of this is the Local Area Agreement, which has established a formal performance management framework across the TSP. Links with partners have also been in existence for many years to inform the Quality

of Life document and TSP Thematic Partnership Agreements.

To meet managers' future information needs, there is a need to map the nature and extent of current resources in Tameside relating to research and socio-economic data, enabling duplication to be identified.

Members will include key data and research officers from each TSP member organisation and contributors to thematic groups. The group will meet quarterly to facilitate best practice, common standards and increase awareness around research and data across organisations and within the Council.

Nominations to the group are invited – details should be sent to Lorraine Kitching, Tameside Council Policy Unit. Once a list has been established, letters will be sent out to nominated officers inviting them to join TIG. The first meeting is planned for sometime later this year.

# SUPPORTING PEOPLE TEAM AWARDED THREE STARS

TAMESIDE'S Supporting People programme has just received a three star with 'excellent prospects for further improvement' rating by the Audit Commission.

This is the highest possible score and only five councils have achieved this score following the inspection of over 100 councils over the last three years.

The programme can help to equip a range of people including the homeless, those with alcohol and drug issues, people with mental health support needs, those with learning disabilities, women at risk of domestic violence and the elderly with the skills and confidence to live independently in the community.

The Audit Commission inspectors praised strong partnership working, a service which provides value for money, a robust vision and the way in which service users can influence the delivery of the programme.

Cllr John Taylor, Cabinet Deputy for Personal and Community Services said: "Our Supporting People team deal with some of the most vulnerable people in our community. They have

clearly done an outstanding job in making changes to people's lives."

Paul Clarke, Lead Housing Inspector at the Audit Commission said: "Tameside is demonstrating how effective partnership working can deliver significant improvements in the lives and choices available to some of the borough's most vulnerable people.

"It is delivering housing related support services in the innovative way intended by the Government when it introduced the Supporting People programme."



Tameside staff are pictured with Audit Commission inspectors.

For more information, visit Tameside Council website

[www.tameside.gov.uk/housing/supportingpeople](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/housing/supportingpeople)



## Listen Hear gets its first airing

THE first annual Tameside Disability Conference took place at Alder Community High School in Hyde on September 15.

A range of TSP partners were involved in planning the conference. Over 20 organisations attended on the day to hear what over seventy disabled people had to say about topics such as transport, healthy living, feeling safe, housing, leisure and holidays and more.

The conference will be an annual event, and disabled people voted for it to be called the 'Listen Here' conference with the strap line 'nothing about us, without us'.

A report and action-plan resulting from the conference will be published before Christmas.

In between conferences, a Disability Network has been set up to coordinate consultation with disabled people and share best practice in improving services among TSP partners

For more information about the Disability Conference and Network, please contact Peter Denton in the Council's Adult Services User Involvement Team on 0161 370 1179 or Jonathon Blackburn at the Council on 0161 342 3529.

## Three-year plan to safeguard adults

ACCORDING to the Safeguarding Adults National Framework of Standards, the definition of safeguarding adults is 'work, which enables an adult who is or may be eligible for community care services to retain independence, well being and choice and to assess their human right to live a life that is free from abuse and neglect'.

The role of Tameside Adult Safeguarding Partnership (TASP) is to ensure there is a robust framework to safeguard adults in Tameside. Andrew Searle, recently appointed independent chair to TASP, attended the TSP meeting to present the safeguarding adults agenda in Tameside and promote their three-year strategy.

The focus is on partnership working in Tameside and examining progress to date. In addition, the challenges that remain to develop the agenda were also discussed, including partner organisation's capacity to provide additional resources to support this work.

There is a day-long conference on Tuesday, November 20 at at Dukinfield Town Hall to promote understanding of the framework to protect individuals at a national and local level.

Chief Officers who have signed up to the Safeguarding Adults Interagency Policy and Procedures will be restating their commitment.

Staff will have an increased knowledge of the national and local framework available to protect individuals from abuse and will be equipped with, the knowledge, of how to apply this to protection plans when safeguarding adults.

# INVESTING IN TAMESIDE

**T**HE Strategic Partnership has identified priority areas for regeneration activities, based on the Index of Multiple Deprivation, between 2006 and 2008. This is an insight into activity in two neighbourhoods – Ashton Renewal and Denton South - each neighbourhood is overseen by a multi agency Partnership Board with strong involvement from residents.

## Ashton Regeneration SPY – bridging the divide

SPY, The St Peter's Youth Partnership, offers support and activities to young people in Ashton St. Peter's ward which is geographically divided into two districts. These areas are known locally as Holy Trinity with an 80% BME population and West End with an 80% white population.

There is little social contact. All of SPY's work aims to promote greater community cohesion, citizenship, reduce anti-social behaviour and give young people a voice in the issues that are important to them.

SPY has been shortlisted for two national awards run by the magazine Children and Young People NOW. The 'grow your own project' which has seen 30 local people trained to work with young people getting employment is nominated for the 'workforce development' category and 'Turf Wars' which brought young people together from the Asian and white community to explore and resolve their differences through the medium of drama and improve community cohesion has been nominated for 'Active Citizenship'. Over 700 local people attended the 'Turf Wars' production.

This year's 2007 SPY summer programme gave young people from the Ashton Regeneration area access to swimming lessons, camping trips, multi-sports, residentials, arts and drama throughout August. Over 300 young people took part, supported by 44 local volunteers providing fun and healthy activities. Each young person received a certificate, a 'respect yourself - respect your neighbour' t-shirt and a goodie bag.

Carl Kelsall explains: "The area has seen a dramatic fall in youth causing annoyance - 61.5% down compared to August 2006 which was down 75% compared to 2005 and a 20% reduction in hate crime.

"Much has been said about young people, gangs and anti-social behaviour. The SPY project has demonstrated that engaging young people in constructive, well-managed activities helps promote community cohesion and citizenship."

## Denton South Partnership

There are a number of projects underway in Denton South transforming the area in many different ways.

The Environmental Task group following consultation have worked on schemes they felt would have the biggest impact. These are complete or well under way:

- **Yew Tree Community Centre community garden, under eights play area and secure car parking area**
- **St John Fisher sports cage**
- **Tatton Road shops – environmental improvements**



*The young people of St. Peter's, learning to play and enjoy themselves together, (l-r) Courtney Degan, Sam Ayeni and Luke Hill.*

● **Greswell school sports cage is in the planning stages**

● **Haughton Green neighbourhood centre – replacement creating a community run centre which will be mainly aimed at sport and leisure activities.**

The Community Safety Task Groups is reducing crime and anti-social behaviour with a number of initiatives including buying a specialist police vehicle called Operation Spynhawk, funding a dedicated part time youth nuisance officer and creating parenting support initiatives for the area.

The community health action team (CHAT) are concentrating on initiatives to tackle three key issues of obesity, smoking and alcohol abuse. There's a range of affordable, local activities for all ages including special smoking cessation services delivered locally and quality sports and recreation facilities across the Denton South Area.

The Working and Learning Task group has been concentrating on a range of support programmes aimed at residents who have been on long term benefits.

There's support from a welfare rights worker to encourage people on long term benefits back into work. There's support for volunteering work, a CAB surgery, promotional work and events around the Changing Lives project and support in promoting and attending local job fairs.

The Children and Young People's group have ensured that there is a comprehensive holiday activity programme and 'teen shelters' are being built.

The work of the Community Engagements Task



*The Mayor Cllr Mike Smith attended the celebration to mark the work on Yew Tree Community Centre.*



*Granada TV's Fred Talbot (right) joined Cllr Margaret Downes and Neil Baumber, Assistant Chief Executive Irwell Valley Housing Association, to mark the re-opening of Tatton Road shops following £175,000 worth of investment.*

Group underpins the work of all the other task groups and ensures that residents are involved in shaping and moulding the partnership to meet the needs of local people.

To find out more contact Sarah Kew, Community Regeneration Team, on 0161 337 8681.

*We'll feature Smallshaw and Hurst in Ashton and Hattersley in the next edition of Newslines.*

## Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Trust

The new 3 year Children's Plan 2007-10 is going to the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership later this month. Consultation with children and young people from the summer is included.

The Tameside Children's Workforce Development Strategy, a sub group of the CYPSP, held a successful conference. Themes included focus on career progression, training and development opportunities across the local authority. It has launched its new Action Plan 2007/2008, as a companion document to the Children's Workforce Strategy (2006-2009).

The Joint Area Review Action Plan is focussed upon a number of areas where improvements are needed in relation to the organisation

and delivery of children's services across the Partnership, together with the corporate approach of Tameside Council.

The launch of the common processes such as JASPER and Common Assessment Framework has meant that over 2000 staff from the children's workforce are prepared for the new frameworks to meet children's needs.

An Audit Commission Survey to determine progress in the use of common processes such as JASPER, CAF and the Lead Professional will be conducted with similar numbers of staff at the end of November.

A National Support Team for teenage pregnancy has made a number of recommendations and a strategic post has been created to help the work

of reduce teenage pregnancies.

The first strategy for services for children with disabilities is out - offering a shared vision for the development of services over the next three years.

Outcomes Sub-Groups to the CYPSP are producing lots of actions and reviews. In particular the 'Making A Positive Contribution' theme group prioritised the aim of improving targeted participation by minority ethnic groups in initiating voluntary activities to support the community and environment.

**Contact: Ameena Ahmed**  
**ameena.ahmed@tameside.gov.uk**

## Community Legal Service Partnership

Members of the partnership met recently to review the availability of employment rights information, advice and support services in Tameside. This is provided by a partnership between Greater Manchester Pay and Employment Rights Service (GMPERAS) and Tameside Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). The agencies had assisted 522 residents in total.

The top four queries related to the following matters:

- Breaches of contracts of employment
- Holiday entitlement

- Parental rights
- Unfair dismissal

GMPERAS also produced an extensive range of fact sheets and leaflets relating to aspects of employment law details of which could be found on their website at [www.gmemploymentrights.org.uk](http://www.gmemploymentrights.org.uk).

The CAB was continuing to deal with enquiries where there was a potential unfair dismissal but employers had dismissed their employees before their first years continuous employment was completed and no special circumstances

applied. Advisers were also dealing with equal pay claims which had been uncovered but where the client had left the workplace for longer than the employment tribunal claim deadline.

GMPERAS also offered second tier advice and training to generalist agencies in the Greater Manchester area, the most recent of which related to age discrimination and was attended by a number of officers from the Tameside area.

**Contact: Alan Franco**  
**alan.franco@tameside.gov.uk**

## Housing Partnership

The Supporting People programme has a received a three star rating with excellent prospects for improvement – see page 3 for more details.

The service has just received copies of a DVD made by users of Homelessness services and there was a 'visioning day' planning day with strategic partners.

This new vision and the DVD was used during the Homelessness Conference in October.

It was Tameside's first Homelessness

Conference and it was lead by service users.

The conference identifies the future direction of the service so that a new five year Homelessness Strategy can be produced. This has to be in place by July 2008 and it will replace the 2003 strategy.

Tenders are back for the Housing Needs and Demand Study, the stock condition survey and the Partnership is taking part in some regional work on a Strategic Housing Market Assessment, all of which will enable the Partnership to better

respond to the recent Green Paper.

The Green Paper sets out the Government's vision for delivering an increased supply of homes including more affordable housing. One of the Housing Partnership's key roles this year will be to ensure that residents of Tameside benefit from the proposed investment in delivering the new Government targets on providing these new homes.

**Contact: Andrew Leah**  
**andrew.leah@tameside.gov.uk**

## Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

Through talking to communities, the partnership has a much better understanding of local people's concerns and priorities.

In recent consultation carried out by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, residents of Tameside said their main concern about living in Tameside is teenagers causing a nuisance on the streets. The CDRP are:

- Putting more officers on the streets – this means more Police, Police Community Support Officers and Patrollers in neighbourhoods.
- Making sure Off Licenses don't sell alcohol to young people and if they do, taking them to court

- Writing to parents of young people found to be acting anti-socially on streets (last year 1800 of these letters were issued)

- Using Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) to help young people to change their behaviour

- Supporting parents with courses such as 'Surviving Teenagers'

- Providing more sports and play areas for young people such as the multi-use play areas now in Haughton Green and Ridgehill

- Working with young people under the 'Positive Activities' scheme to provide activities and give young people an alternative to hanging around on the street

- Using powers to disperse groups that are acting in an anti-social way on streets
- Research showed that resident's are most satisfied with levels of crime, which is continuing to fall in Tameside.

For more information about how the Community Safety Unit tackles anti-social behaviour or for details about support for parents, contact the Anti-Social Behaviour Team on 342 8355.

**Contact: Lisa Lees**  
**lisa.lees@tameside.gov.uk**

## Economic and Learning Partnership

The 'Tameside Business Family' led by the business community to promote and support enterprise activity in Tameside is now well established and has created a marketing sub group. To support their work a new Enterprise team will help promote enterprise to all sections of the community.

Tameside continues to attract new businesses into the borough - a new De Vere 'Village' Hotel will be opening on Ashton Moss in Spring 2008 and building has started on the Moss for the Greater Manchester Police offices.

The on-line prospectus detailing learning and training opportunities for adults launched earlier this year is under development. This

could include an on-line basic skills/skills for life assessment tool, a widening of the list of providers of learning and training and a reporting tool to identify gaps and overlaps in provision. A Personal Community Development Learning group will help people with limited formal qualifications progress onto more formal skills courses.

Two projects will help people receiving benefits into employment. The first is a two week training course to raise confidence and motivation, increase awareness of employment/career opportunities, develop job search and interview skills and identify and address barriers to employment. The second is a 13 week work trial

scheme which will organize work placements, support people in these placements to learn generic and transferable work skills and organise a guaranteed job interview with the placement employer.

Work has started with BASE who are leading on the Hattersely development to set up a group which will be led by the major developers in Tameside. This group will look at how job and training opportunities in these developments can be maximized for local people.

**Contact: Lisa Hoyland**  
[lisa.hoyland@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.hoyland@tameside.gov.uk)

## Health Partnership Board

The Tameside and Glossop Partnership Health Improvement and Health Inequalities Strategy, 2003-2008 is in its penultimate year.

Highlights of progress so far include:

**Cancer:** The project protocol for the local social marketing initiative to promote early presentation of cancer is being prepared. The focus of the initiative will be on the promotion of self-examination in women in the 40s to detect breast cancer early.

**Smoking in pregnancy:** Within the Denton South locality there has been progress towards establishing a designated stop smoking service

for pregnant mums and parents. A focus group is being developed to help build the service. Partnership working with key partnerships include Irwell Valley Housing Association, Children's Centre and the PCT.

**4 Week Smoking Quitters:** The Asian Healthy Living Centre in Hyde has run several drop in sessions targeting men.

**Teenage Pregnancy (planned activity):** There has been much activity across Tameside to address teenage pregnancy rates; this includes the full implementation of the Emergency Contraception in pharmacy scheme. This

scheme will be rolled out to under 16 year olds in August following training sessions.

Although there has been some very positive action to address health inequalities, suicide, obesity, chlamydia and teenage pregnancy remain challenging health improvement areas. The Health Partnership continues to involve partners across Tameside in working towards solving the health challenges the borough faces.

**Contact: Melanie Sirotkin**  
[msirotkin@nhs.net](mailto:msirotkin@nhs.net)

## Older People Partnership

The Partnership for Older People Project (POPPS) has now been established for nearly six months.

By the end of September 236 older people had been visited and received assessments. A large number of these have been referred onto a range of services such as their G.P., befriending schemes, luncheon clubs and the Tameside Sports Trust.

Forty-seven volunteers have been recruited to work on the project with a high representation (over 20%) from our BME communities. Whilst the service is available to anyone in the

borough there has been specific targeting of the Ashton and Smallshaw neighborhoods in the initial phase of the project.

The Older People's Partnership is beginning work with The Money Information Network to look at the financial issues which effect older people with the intention of developing a specific action plan to address issues such as increasing benefit take up, reducing debt and preparation for retirement.

The partnership is eager to improve communication with older people and plans are in place to redesign and relaunch the older

people's web page and links hosted on the council web site. In addition the 'Lust for Life' information booklet for older people will be redesigned and a new edition published by March 2008.

The annual 'Really Important Question' conference took place on the October 23 and will help inform the work of the partnership for the coming year.

**Contact: Phil Spence**  
[phil.spence@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:phil.spence@tameside.gov.uk)

## Community Cohesion Partnership

The Community Cohesion Partnership continues its work in promoting greater respect, understanding and contact between the different communities in Tameside.

Over the last quarter the partnership has worked on integrating the priorities of the new Tameside Cultural Strategy into the work of the Community Cohesion Partnership.

Tameside Victim Support service in partnership with New Charter, Greater Manchester Police and the local authority have been successful in a bid to employ a hate crime coordinator in Tameside, with funding from the Home Office.

The post will offer support to local victims of race and hate crime and offer advice on how to resolve issues of hate crime, as well as prevention and target hardening to victims of hate crime.

The hate crime coordinator will also support the work of TRHMAP (Tameside Race and Hate Crime Multi Agency Panel) and support the training programme for race hate reporting stations in Tameside.

The Community Cohesion Partnership values and promotes the delivery of events which promote community interaction. One of the forthcoming events promoting Community Cohesion

and Inclusion in Tameside includes:

**Interfaith Network Faiths United Conference**  
 Dukinfield Town Hall  
 King Street  
 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007 from 4pm to 8pm  
 For further information, contact Mohammed Seedat (T3SC), 0161 339 4985 or email [mohammed.seedat@t3sc.org](mailto:mohammed.seedat@t3sc.org)

**Contact: Haje Rakhman**  
[haje.rakhman@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:haje.rakhman@tameside.gov.uk)

## Security officers stay on the buses

SECURITY officers will continue to patrol bus services and stations in Greater Manchester for at least another year following the success of a new safety initiative.

Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority and the Greater Manchester Bus Operators Association (GMBOA) have agreed to invest nearly £150,000 in the

Patrol and Response Unit over the next twelve months.

Uniformed officers work closely with the police to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour on the bus network, and responded to more than 260 incidents in their first nine months on patrol.

The officers target bus services and stations where there's a potential for

problems and they banned 57 people from bus stations in their first nine months on patrol.

The security officers board nearly 100 buses each week and spend more than 50 hours patrolling bus stations. The majority of incidents they attend involve antisocial behaviour.

# YOUNG CARERS GET AN EXTRA HELPING HAND

**A**ROUND 180 young people in Tameside care for a member of their family, including children of primary school age.

A new 'Friends of Tameside Young Carers' charity has recently launched to give extra support to these children and young people to help them get on with activities that are usually seen as part of normal childhood.

By having to care for parents or siblings, due to circumstances beyond their control, they are missing out on activities that other children may take for granted such as trips to the cinema, sports, swimming or holidays.

The charity is hoping to attract additional resources through business support and sponsorship opportunities.

Cllr Allison Gwynne, Cabinet Deputy for Children and Young People said: "We'd like to provide even more support to these young carers and we hope setting up the charity will provide the extra funds we need.

"We are encouraging businesses to offer their support but it's not just about donating money. It could be staff time or sharing a particular skill with us, for example a dance instructor could give us their time and that's just one example of a real, fun activity that our young carers would enjoy."

*Pictured right is Bill Tarmey, aka Jack Duckworth in Coronation Street, who joined young carers at the charity launch*

*Organisations who would like to support the Young Carers Charity in any way should contact Briana Strickland or Lucy Davies in Children's Services, for more information on 0161 342 3259.*



## Radio has a carbon footprint

TAMESIDE Radio is aiming to be the first radio station in the country to be carbon neutral.

The community radio station, which is the first and only dedicated radio service for Tameside has, with the aid of carbonfootprint.com, assessed the radio station's carbon footprint and will be investing in environmental schemes to nullify the carbon impact of the radio station.

Commenting on the scheme, Tameside Radio's Director of Programmes and breakfast presenter Andy Hoyle said "Tameside Radio

is keen to make a big impact, but not on the environment. Tameside Radio will feature editorial content that matters to the people of Tameside across the wide range of issues affecting the community. The radio station will be championing local environmental issues as part of our commitment to Tameside, being carbon neutral is an obvious step for us.

Tameside Radio has received a £40,000 grant from Neighbourhood Renewal Funding.

## Council on Beacon short-list

THE authority has been successful in being short-listed under the beacon scheme for its bid in relation to Transforming Services; citizen engagement and empowerment.

The Beacon assessors will visit the authority on Thursday, 22nd November.

The Beacon Scheme identifies excellence and inno-

vation in local government. The scheme exists to share good practice so that 'best value' authorities can learn from each other and deliver high quality services to all. Since 2000, the council has been awarded five beacons.

For more information visit <http://www.beacons.idea.gov.uk>

# MISS IT, MISS OUT - THAT WOULD BE CRIMINAL!

**P**ARTNERS in Tameside's key organisations hosted a criminal justice family day on Saturday, November 10.

The event was a first for Tameside and promoted Inside Justice Week. It showed how a family of organisations are working to reduce crime through prevention, detection and reducing re-offending.

Tameside's Executive Leader Cllr Roy Oldham opened the event.

Activities, aimed at all ages, included:

- GM Police – with an open custody suite and various activities such as fingerprinting.
- GM Fire & Rescue - use of station, road traffic collision demonstrations, and the chance to meet the arson prevention team.
- TMBC Road Safety - advice, driving simulations with use of 'drunk glasses'.
- Manchester Crown Courts - Q&A with a Crown Court Judge.
- TMBC Community Safety Unit - various activities in the courts around work on anti-social behaviour and an information stand at the fire station.
- TMBC Trading Standards - information at court about enforcement work on underage sales and information about tackling illegal mini-motor bikes at the fire station
- New Charter Housing - showcased work around domestic violence and anti-social behaviour at the fire station
- Branching Out (substance misuse service for young people) - advice and information stand at the fire station
- Tameside Drugs Intervention Project - showcased work with offenders at the police



- station and court
- Victim & Witness Support - information and advice
- Patrollers - showcased the work they do at the fire station and showed the links they have with the neighbourhood police.

The doors were thrown open to visitors to Ashton Police Station on Manchester Road, Tameside Magistrates Court on Henry Square and Ashton Fire Station on Hodgson Street.

## New guidance for working with children

MORE than 2,000 people who work with children and young people have attended a series of special briefings.

The briefings launched new guidelines about steps to be taken when children need extra help or where there are worries about their safety.

"Working with children and young people and helping them make the right start in life is one of the most important jobs someone can do," says Cllr Allison Gwynne, Chair of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership.

"People have a duty to act responsibly in these jobs and we want to encourage them to find out more about how these new guidelines can help them make a difference to children's lives."

If you work with children and young people in a paid or voluntary capacity and would like to know more about the guidelines and find out about training available to you visit [www.tameside.gov.uk/childprotection](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/childprotection)

## Quest for success

WORKERS dedicated to improving children's services across Tameside have been toasted for their achievements.

Quest for Success was a unique event aimed at celebrating good practice in the borough as well as highlighting career progression, training and development opportunities.

Tameside's new Children's Workforce Strategy, which is designed to build a leading workforce for the borough's children, young people and their families, was also launched at the event. The strategy focuses on increased partnership working as well as further investment in new types of roles through successful funding applications. Cllr Allison Gwynne, chair of the Young People Strategic Partnership, said: "We are committed to providing the right career, training and development opportunities to ensure we continue to build a world-class workforce."

## A clean result for Tameside Hospital

TAMESIDE General Hospital has received a commendation from the North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust (NWAS) for its top record in decontaminating patients admitted to its A&E Department.

An audit from the NWAS shows that Tameside Hospital is the second best in Greater Manchester, coming just behind Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport.

Decontamination is a vital component in the process of transferring patients from an ambulance to the A&E Department, stopping the spread of infection and increasing hospital safety. The NWAS audit involved an inspection of both the facilities and practices each one of the Greater Manchester Acute Trusts had in place to ensure decontaminations were carried out efficiently, regularly and thoroughly.

Factors reviewed included the quality and maintenance of Chemical Protection Suits and respirators by A&E staff, the quality of water pressure and temperature to allow patient decontamination, communication with patients during the process, the layout of the site, and the proper provision of all necessary equipment for the process.