



News Release

Communications and Media Team

Tel: 01803 861368

Email: communications@swdevon.gov.uk

Community Safety in Safe Hands

Tuesday 11 June 2019

Seventeen council staff from South Hams District Council have new powers for combating anti-social behaviour, following training by Devon and Cornwall Police.

The Council has teamed up with the Police in the battle to overcome low level anti-social behaviour in the area. The Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) run by the Police, trains organisations in how to identify causes of anti-social behaviour.

Anti-social behaviour can be anything from noisy rowdy behaviour, dog fouling to fireworks late at night or vandalism.

The accreditation scheme allows officers who have been trained, to request the name and address of people who they believe have committed an anti-social behaviour offence.

The Council introduced Public Spaces Protection Orders in 2017 to tackle the most complained about behaviours such as uncontrolled dogs, dog fouling, and anti-social drinking in the streets. These new powers will help the Council to enforce these orders.

Cllr Jonathan Hawkins, Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing at South Hams District Council, said: "It's really important that we stamp down on anti-

social behaviour in the District and work with the Police as much as possible, so we can help to stop bad behaviour.

“This accreditation is a really positive step forward and gives us much greater powers, especially when combatting dog owners who don’t clean up after their pets. Something which has blighted our beautiful towns and villages for some time.”

The scheme, currently trialling for one year, means Council staff will be able to share and access information and intelligence about those who are responsible for unwanted behaviour. This includes having increased powers when tackling irresponsible dog ownership as well as other anti-social behaviours.

This partnership working is essential to make sure everyone is working towards the same goal: to keep our stunning area unspoiled for all of our residents and visitors to enjoy.

Devon and Cornwall Police’s Partnership Superintendent Claire Armes, said:

“The scheme reinforces our commitment to work in partnership with local organisations to provide a safer community and improve the quality of life in Devon and Cornwall, allowing these organisations to be recognised as part of the extended policing family. They are not a replacement for our neighbourhood policing team, but work in partnership to complement each other’s work.”

CSAS Manager, Becki Brodest added: “There are a number of benefits of the scheme including reassurance to members of the community of the training and vetting completed by the officers.

“It also allows better communication and improved relationships between the police and partner agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour and other low-level crime and disorder, which impacts significantly upon communities across Devon and Cornwall.

“The accreditation of limited but targeted powers allows those accredited to be more effective in the role they already undertake, but more importantly assists with ensuring safer communities for all to live, work and visit.”

For further information about anti-social behaviour and the Councils' powers to combat it, visit: www.southhams.gov.uk/asb

ENDS

Notes to Editor:

Photo to follow tomorrow after 2pm photo opp.

www.southhams.gov.uk

Please be aware that telephone calls to and from the Council may be recorded for training and monitoring purposes.



[Click to Unsubscribe](#)

[#RL-1552:636958565774491986#]