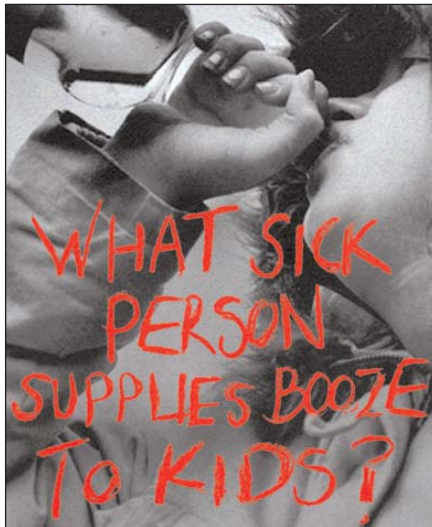


Working together to combat underage drinking



The thought-provoking poster

Surrey Crimestoppers is working with its community safety partners to raise awareness of the illegal supply of alcohol to children and young people in Surrey Heath.

With support from the Safer Surrey Heath Partnership, the charity ran a three-month poster and postcard campaign between April and June targeting those who sell or supply alcohol to under-18s. The hard-hitting campaign urged members of the community to contact Crimestoppers anonymously to report those who are supplying alcohol to underage drinkers.

Anyone who buys or sells alcohol to under-18s could be fined up to £5,000. Young people under 18 who buy alcohol could be fined up to £1,000.

Jackie Swaine, Surrey Heath Borough Council Community Safety Officer, said: "We know that underage drinking is a concern for some of our residents. Through the Crimestoppers campaign and other ongoing initiatives, we are encouraging the community to take more responsibility for the welfare of young people and help make Surrey Heath's neighbourhoods safer, cleaner and more pleasant for everyone."

A test purchasing exercise carried out by Surrey Police and Trading Standards in April showed that most licensees appear to be complying with the law. Of five off-licences visited in Mytchett, Frimley, Camberley Town Centre and Heatherside, one sale was achieved. Of four pubs visited, three of which were in the town

centre, again, just one sale was made.

Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Sergeant Charlotte Dickson said: "Officers have been working hard with licensees in the town centre to tackle the issue of underage drinking, which also included a recent and successful ID confiscation trial.

"We have found that the majority of licensees are complying with the operating procedures they have in place, which is good news for the whole community."

Crimestoppers is currently evaluating the response to its underage drinking campaign with a view to implementing follow-up initiatives in the autumn.

The Crimestoppers postcard urging anonymous tip-offs

Don't let crime and anti-social behaviour ruin your life.

- You know who's responsible.
- You don't want to talk to the Police.
- So you tell Crimestoppers (who will not ask your name and CANNOT trace your call).
- Crimestoppers will pass on the information to the police.
- You could receive a reward and still keep your identity secret.

Fact: If you buy alcohol for or sell alcohol to under 18s you could be fined up to £5,000. If you buy alcohol and are under 18 you could be fined up to £1,000.

Got information about crime? Don't want to give your name? Call **CRIMESTOPPERS**

0800 555 111

Surrey CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111 Call anonymously with information about crime. Supported by the Safer Surrey Heath Partnership.

In partnership with Surrey Police

Your community needs YOU for Speedwatch

The Problem Inappropriate speed in hazard areas, for example schools and accident blackspots.

The Challenge To reduce rural speed, particularly in areas not suitable for regular police intervention or physical traffic calming measures.

The Solution Community Speedwatch schemes aim to share the responsibility for addressing inappropriate speed between the community, police and other agencies.

They comprise active members of the community trained in the use of speed monitoring equipment, supported by local beat managers, special constables and the Road Policing Unit (RPU).

High-profile monitoring of vehicle speed is backed up by issuing warning letters to errant drivers and, where applicable, enforcement action by police officers. Schemes can only operate in areas subject to a speed limit no greater than 40mph and where a risk assessment has indicated that the location is safe and suitable.

If you are concerned about speeding, why not get involved and set up a Speed Watch in your neighbourhood? To discuss this further or to see a watch in action, contact PC Mark Barry on 01483 655254 or email l209@surrey.pnn.police.uk.

For more information about the Safer Surrey Heath Partnership contact Nicky Collinson, Communications Officer, on 01276 707359 or email nicola.collinson@surreyheath.gov.uk.

