

Notes of the Face the People session held in St John's Church Newtown on 29th January 2008.

Issue 1

Can the trees at the back of Lilac Road be cut back because they are blocking the light?

Response from THL

A request has been made to have them cut back and it is scheduled to be done this year.

Issue 2

Residents of Thorpe Thewles do not get Stockton News and the representative from there was not aware of the partnership however he did receive the 'Tackling Crime and Disorder Audit'

Response

The Community Safety Manager has spoken to the Council's public relations service, they produce the magazine and they are meeting with the delivery service on Thursday 6th March and will advise them that this area may be being missed off the delivery.

Issue 3

Can the street sign at the entrance of Lilac road be changed to say 'Lilac Road leading to Chesnut Street on Gilpin Brown Estate.

Response

Mike Batty to check this out and feed back to Anne Howard

Issue 4

Why do people who get sentenced to 12 months in prison only serve three months?

Response from Lucia Sager and Marilyn Davies

Some people may have already been held on remand, which is then taken off the sentence imposed. As a general rule two thirds of a sentence is served in prison and then the person may be released to serve the remainder of their sentence in the community.

Issue 5

Can people do community work as part of their sentence?

Response from Lucia Sager

Yes the probation service run 'Community Payback' where those serving community sentences work under supervision doing jobs in the community such as clearing up waste ground or removing graffiti.

Issue 6

Can the Safer Stockton Partnership do anything to encourage magistrates to come out to speak with the public and is there a representative from the Court on SSP?

Responses from Mike Batty, Marilyn Davies and Chris Coombes

SSP did have a representative from the Magistrates Court however when she retired the Court has been unable to send a replacement. Members of the public can write to the Teesside Magistrates Group or to District Judge Peter Fox through the courts at Middlesbrough to ask for someone to come out to speak to them. Another route would be for members of the public to speak to their local MP.

Issue 7

Elderly people need more care money should be taken from prisoner support and directed to the care of the elderly.

Response

This is an issue that could be taken up with the local MP

Issue 8

Is there community involvement on SSP?

Response from G Lee

There is community involvement via the representatives from local area partnership boards.

Issue 9

Near Thomson's Scrapyard 12 years olds can be seen drinking, people go into the scrapyard from the back and steal and then come round the front to sell it, a van is parked in Rhmos Gardens blocking access.

Response from Mike Batty

A street drinking campaign is about to start in that area. Residents can ring the Neighbourhood Enforcement Service and they will come out to investigate issues such as these. NES can be contacted on 528989.

Issue 10

One house in Lilac Road where residents and visitors are causing problems.

Response from THL

They are aware of this problem and have spoken to the resident. It is an Introductory Tenancy and steps will be taken to end it if the nuisance continues.

Issue 11

What happens when someone is renting a flat but they are not really living there, what will THL do?

Response from THL

THL will investigate allegations such as these as this could be a breach of tenancy conditions.

Issue 12

What would happen if there was one person in a community who was causing anti social behaviour but was not a criminal?

Response from THL

Residents would be asked to complete diary sheets and if they family would be spoken to. If the nuisance continued they would look at whether the tenancy terms were being breached and in some cases if there was sufficient evidence could end the tenancy.

Issue 13

There is a brass plaque on a house in Lilac Road that says anyone parking on the front will be clamped – is this legal?

Response Dave Brunskill

No

Issue 14

There is a hole in the fence of the bridge over the railway to Stockton Station British Transport Police say they help but nothing is being done.

Response

Contact Network Rail who may be able to help

Issue 15

Husband and son witnessed a crime of vehicle interference and were asked to make a statement and if possible to ID the person. They have not received any feedback and don't know what is happening.

Response from Dave Brunskill

He will ensure that they receive feedback.

Issue 16

Does the police helicopter patrol?

Response from Dave Brunskill

No it doesn't. The helicopter is based at Teesside and Newcastle airports and it responds to issues such as car crime, dwelling burglary etc.

Issue 17

Just before Christmas a PCSO asked about a sundial that has been dumped in someone's garden but it is still there, has one been reported missing?

Response from Dave Brunskill

He will check and ensure that it is followed up.

Issue 18

Could parking space be make available in Willow Road?

Response by THL

This has been dealt with by THL. The request would involve recovering someone's garden and they cannot do this.

Issue 19

The bin outside of the post office is not secured to the ground and could be lifted and used to damage the shop or cars.

Response by Marilyn Davies

It will be reported to Care For Your Area.