

Community safety priorities for East Herts – What did you think?

In March this year, consultation on the six priorities identified by East Herts Community Safety Partnership (CSP) took place. The consultation asked the people of East Herts to rank the priorities in the order the partnership should consider as extremely important to the least important.

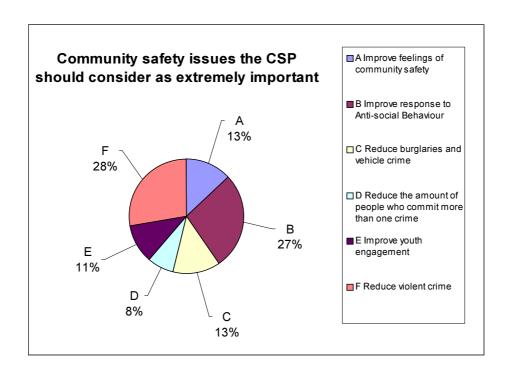
The six priorities for East
Herts Community Safety
Partnership were identified
from the first strategic
assessment under the new
Community Safety Plan
2008-11.

Community Safety Priorities 08/09

- Improve feelings of community safety
- Improve response to Anti-social behaviour
- Reduce burglaries and vehicle crime
- Reduce the amount of people who commit more than one crime
- Improve youth engagement
- Reduce violent crime

Survey forms were distributed to Neighbourhood Watch groups, uploaded on the East Herts Council website for online completion, and left for residents and visitors to fill in at East Herts Council and Circle Anglia receptions.

After nearly a month of consultation, 332 responses were received. The graph shows the priorities considered as extremely important for the partnership.



Views from East Herts Community Safety Partnership

The six priorities were identified from the strategic assessment 08/09 and it was the priority to improve 'feelings of community safety' which came through as a major consideration. In comparison, this consultation has highlighted two issues that should be considered as a top priority for the Community Safety Partnership - to improve response to anti-social behaviour and reduce violent crime. This is interesting because levels of violent crime and anti-social behaviour remain low within the district, especially compared to other parts of the country.

These results will help the partnership when assigning actions and developing community safety projects and initiatives over the next 12 months.

The table below provides a full breakdown of the results:

Community safety issue	Extren	Least portant				
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Improve feelings of community safety						
	57	51	61	35	50	74
Improve response to Anti-social Behaviour						
	120	57	52	35	19	22
Reduce burglaries and vehicle crime						
	59	90	70	50	34	128
Reduce the amount of people who commit						
more than one crime	33	40	39	67	80	65
Improve youth engagement (e.g. more	40	40	40	40	47	00
activities during school holidays)	49	49	43	48	47	88

Reduce violent crime						
	122	42	33	44	40	42

Looking into the future – how the people of East Herts can help

The Community Safety Partnership will be carrying out regular community consultation throughout the life of the new Community Safety Plan 2008-11.

The Community Safety Plan 2008-11 is a living document which will evolve though annual strategic assessments, regular community consultation and sharing information in partnership. The result is the creation of action plans which will run for 12 months every April.

To ensure the Community Safety Plan 2008-11 reflects the priorities for the people of East Herts, the partnership will undertake regular consultation. This may involve taking part in public meetings, being part of a focus group, attending a workshop or responding to a questionnaire.

If you would like to take part in future consultation and help inform community safety in East Herts please contact the community safety team on:

Telephone: 01279 655261 or **email**: community.safety@eastherts.gov.uk **Or write to**:

Community Safety, East Herts Council Wallfields Pegs Lane Hertford SG13 8EQ

Please include your name and contact details. We will then be in touch to invite you to take part.

Thank you

The Community Safety Partnership would like to say a big thank you to everyone who responded to the March 2008 consultation.