



An open letter

from
Chief Superintendent Richard Johnson

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BASSETLAW EDITION

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Happy New Year to all of you, I hope you had a safe and peaceful time over the festive season.

As we start 2006, I would like to thank you for your continued support. The nature of my job is that I don't expect the next 12 months to be any less demanding than the last. However, I hope that together we can rise to the challenges ahead, continue to reduce crime and make our communities safer.

If there are any topics you would like me to write about or explain through these letters please let me know by calling me on 01909 500999 extension 7000.

Another crack house closed

We have been successful in closing down another property in Worksop, which was being used for illegal drug dealing and drug misuse.

Officers took the case of 11 Foxglove Close in Manton to court after repeated complaints from nearby residents.

The order stops anybody from entering or living in the property without permission from the Superintendent or A1 Housing.

We received information that up to 40 people a day were going to and from the property at all times of day and night.

They would arrive in cars late at night and beep their horns or stand on the pavement and shout to get the attention of those inside.

When officers raided the property they found Class A drugs and paraphernalia inside and outside the address.

Closure notices are now displayed on the sealed property and anybody who breaches the order faces arrest and prosecution.

This should serve as a warning to anybody who is dealing drugs in Manton that we will not hesitate in arresting you and getting you removed from your premises.

Information from the public is vital in tackling drug-related crime in our communities. If you have any information about people involved in illegal drug misuse or supply please call Crimestoppers, free and confidentially, on 0800 555 111.



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Reducing anti-social behaviour in Gateford

A lot of work has been happening in the Gateford area of Worksop to reduce anti-social behaviour and stop underage drinking.

At the beginning of November we launched an operation to tackle the community problems being reported by local residents. These included young people congregating on the streets, stepping out in front of traffic and drinking alcohol.

In the first phase of the operation, police stopped 97 young people in one weekend and recovered 31 bottles of alcohol.

In December a second phase was carried out to find out which off-licenses were selling alcohol to underage customers.

In conjunction with Trading Standards we used a 14-year-old female to attempt to buy alcohol in four shops around the Gateford area. She was refused service in two premises but served without question in the other two.

Trading Standards are now taking action against these premises.

I am pleased that we are now receiving fewer complaints in relation to anti-social behaviour in Gateford. Congregations of young people appear to have decreased and are now less intimidating to residents.

The operation will continue and officers will monitor the situation.

Banned from one, banned from all

I was disappointed at the amount of alcohol-related violence experienced in Worksop and Retford town centres over Christmas and the New Year.

Officers were confronted with smashed windows, vomit and urine across the pavements, shouting, yobbery and fighting in the streets.

They arrested so many people that the cells were full at some points and prisoners had to be taken to Mansfield Police Station – an abstraction my officers could have done without.

The Home Office has recently granted extra money to this division to undertake the Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaign (known as AMEC).

The money has to be spent on tackling alcohol-related violence and crime.

One strand of the campaign is about getting tougher with the minority of people who exhibit this sort of behaviour.

With the support of local Pubwatch schemes, I want to ensure that once a troublemaker is banned from one pub, they are banned from them all.

This will give them no other choice but to go home. I am confident that this will be a success and will reduce the amount of evenings spoilt by a small minority who cannot behave like adults.



Bassetlaw crime figures

Please find below the figures for November 2005. You will be pleased to see that all crime continues to fall.

West Bassetlaw (Worksop area)

Crime type	Reported incidents in November 05	Reported incidents in November 04
All Crime	418	431
Violence	93	63
House burglary	27	16
Shed burglary	10	18
Theft from vehicle	18	49
Theft of vehicle	9	23

East Bassetlaw (Retford area)

Crime type	Reported incidents in November 05	Reported incidents in November 04
All Crime	474	492
Violence	65	95
House burglary	27	19
Shed burglary	36	31
Theft from vehicle	54	57
Theft of vehicle	20	27

**Divisional Commander for Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood
Chief Superintendent Richard Johnson**

