



Home Office

Crime Reduction & Community Safety Group

Tilley Awards 2008 Application form

Please ensure that you have read the guidance before completing this form. **By making an application to the awards, entrants are agreeing to abide by the conditions laid out in the guidance.** Please complete the following form in full, within the stated word limit and ensuring the file size is no more than 1MB. Failure to do so will result in your entry being rejected from the competition.

Completed application forms should be e-mailed to tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

All entries must be received by noon on **Friday 25th April 2008**. No entries will be accepted after this time/date. Any queries on the application process should be directed to Alex Blackwell on 0207 035 4811.

Section A: Application basics

1. Title of the project: A Safer Christmas in Hinckley
2. Key issue that the project is addressing - Tackling alcohol related violent crime in the Night Time Economy

Author contact details

3. Name of application author: Ron Grantham
4. Organisation submitting the application: Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership
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6. Email address: ron.grantham@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
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Secondary project contact details

8. Name of secondary contact involved in the project: Inspector Martyn Ball
9. Secondary contact email address: martyn.ball@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk
10. Secondary contact telephone number: 0116 2483614

Endorsing representative contact details

11. Name of endorsing senior representatives from lead Partnership organisations: Steve Atkinson, Chief Executive, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Chief Superintendent Gary Forsyth and Cllr Stuart Bray, Chair of Community Safety Partnership

12. Endorsing representative's email address: steve.atkinson@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

13. For all entries from England & Wales please state which Government Office or Welsh Assembly Government your organisation is covered by e.g. GO East Midlands: Government Office East Midlands

14. Please mark this box with an X to indicate that all organisations involved in the project have been notified of this entry (this is to prevent duplicate entries of the same project):

Section B: Summary of application - *In no more than 400 words use this space to provide a summary of your project under the stated headings (see guidance for more information).*

Scanning:

In April 2007 following a "fit for purpose" review the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership embarked on a challenging programme to tackle areas of crime and disorder that were having the most negative impact.

One area of concern was violent crime that had not had any significant reduction over the previous five years. Hinckley Town centre was identified as a reoccurring hotspot for alcohol fuelled violent crime within the night-time economy especially over the Christmas festive period. With over 20 public houses and nightclubs within a small concentrated area hosting large amounts of people, many under influence of alcohol, there was a direct impact on violent crime and public safety.

To tackle this identified issue the Partnership undertook a 'Safer Christmas in Hinckley' campaign. Planning began in October 2007 to reduce alcohol related violent crime during the key identified months of November and December, and to provide sustainable solutions to continue to reduce violent crime in the town centre and the Borough. Baselines for violent crime across the Borough and for the Town Centre were obtained.

SMART objectives were set.

Analysis:

- "Hotspot" mapping
- Temporal analysis to identify peak time of offences
- Pyramid analysis to identify hotspot streets and number of crimes per street
- Consultation with all stakeholders and partners
- Public 'fear of crime' surveys
- Environmental visual audit
- Intelligence gathering from partners/stakeholders
- Police intelligence data

Response:

The aim was to target offenders, locations and victims through sustainable initiatives based around, enforcement, intelligence gathering and communication including:

- Safer Routes in key hotspot locations
- Creation of Safety Zone in hotspot area
- Promotion of responsible drinking
- Media campaign
- Projected Messaging
- Taxi-marshalling scheme
- Enhanced CCTV monitoring
- Liaison with partners, stakeholders and agencies
- Enhanced Police Operation Justify

- Licensing enforcement
- Hand held metal detectors
- Weekly tactical assessments, monitoring and overview

Assessment:

The project achieved the following results

- 45% reduction in violent crime over the Christmas period in the town centre compared to 2006
- 17% reduction in violent crime across the whole Borough for the financial year 2007/08 compared to 2006/07
- 62 arrests (7 drug arrests)
- 47 section 27 notices issued
- 10 Pubwatch exclusions served
- 1 premises license surrendered
- Reduction in violent crime perceptions by stakeholders and town centre users
- 100% of taxi-users felt safer this year

State number of words: 398

Section C: Description of project - Describe the project in no more than 4,000 words. Please refer to the full guidance for more information on what the description should cover, in particular section 11.

Scanning:

Although Hinckley is not a high crime area the Community Safety Partnership identified the need to tackle reoccurring problems of alcohol fueled violent crime within the Hinckley Town Centre's night-time economy over the Christmas and New Year festive period as a priority and thus undertook this campaign.

Hinckley has a thriving night-time economy with a high concentration of licensed premises and night clubs within a very small area of the town centre. Pre-campaign research identified this specific locality as a hotspot for alcohol related violent crime and disorder.

Early planning commenced in October 2007 and included a detailed problem profile analysis of violent crime in the Borough, a timeline strategic assessment of alcohol related crime and disorder in the town centre and consideration of public concerns made in a Town Centre Safety survey conducted over Christmas 2006.

As part of the campaign planning process key Town Centre partners within the night-time economy were consulted through various meetings to gauge their views, levels of support and commitment to this campaign. Those consulted included Town Centre Partnership, Hinckley Town Centre Safety Forum, Pubwatch and licensees.

The campaign was led by the Partnership's joint agency Delivery Group. This group was formed following a re-structure of the Partnership with the express purpose of "driving" forward priority action plans. This innovative management tool meets fortnightly to proactively respond to Police tactical assessments, monitor crime and disorder in the Borough, respond to emerging issues and set accountable partnership tasks.

The Delivery Group secured support, collaboration and resources from wider partnership members including: the Borough Council, Local Policing Unit, Leicestershire Drug and Alcohol Team, Leicestershire County Council and other key stakeholders including the Town Centre Safety Group, Pubwatch, Fire and Rescue, St Johns Ambulance, Licensees, Night Clubs, County Youth services, Taxi Association, Next Generation Project, County Alcohol Harm Reduction Team, Trading Standards and the local media. Their involvement and support were crucial to the success of the campaign.

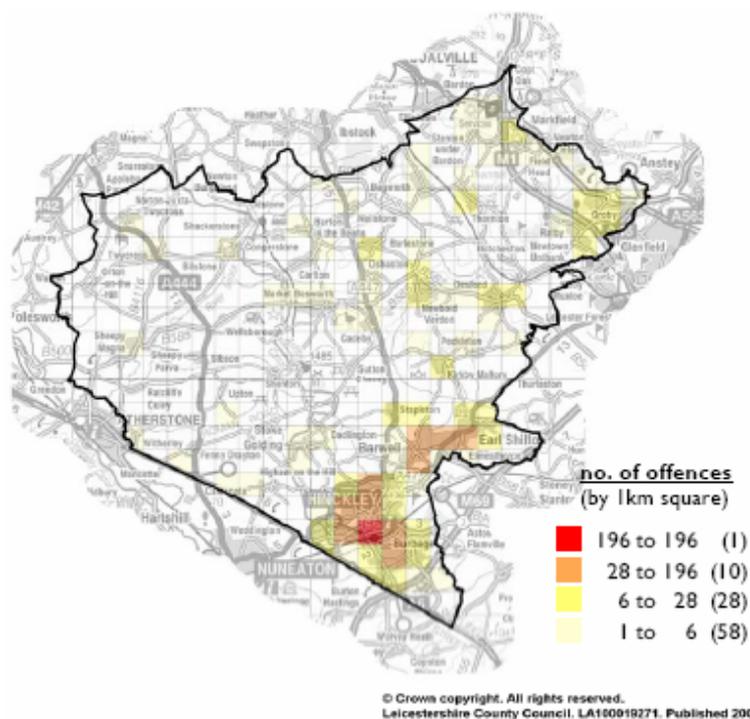
A Partnership "tackling Violent Crime" priority action plan was produced. This outlined clear outcomes, SMART targets, timescales and accountable actions to be delivered by partnership agencies and members. The action plan included the "Safer Christmas in Hinckley" campaign plus the promotion of responsible drinking and tackling domestic violence in key locations.

The Delivery Group commissioned the following scanning and analysis to inform the campaign and the Partnership's Priority Action plan:

Trend analysis for violent crime for the financial years 2005/06 and 2006/07 showed that there had been no significant change over the two periods. Both years indicated peaks in violent crime in June and again in November/December. Data analysis from the Police Intelligence System showed that over the period beginning April 07 to end Oct 07 there was a 15.6 % increase in assaults and public order compared to the same period in 2006. Thematic mapping by the County Council Research Team identified Hinckley Town Centre as a "hotspot" for offences of violent crime, with almost two-fifths of all violent crime in the Borough in 2006/2007 taking place in Hinckley itself.

Hotspot map 1 follows:

Map 1 Violent Crime in Hinckley and Bosworth Borough 2006/2007



As part of the Partnership's Strategic Annual Assessment consultation process it was evident that people in the Borough are very concerned about violent crime especially alcohol related for example:

In December 2006 the Partnership conducted a fear of crime survey in Hinckley Town Centre that showed that people of all age ranges were disproportionately more fearful of being in the Town Centre during the evening (37.5%) compared to the daytime (3.5%). The sample size of the survey was 100+ and agreed to be statistically viable.

Concluded: The town centre was felt to be a 'safe place to visit' in the daytime but people were much more fearful of violent crime in the evenings.

The Borough's User's Satisfaction and Citizen's Panel surveys also highlighted public concerns over violent crime and anti-social behaviour as a priority.

A youth consultation survey conducted in partnership with the Borough's Youth Council showed that young people are as much concerned about "binge" drinking and alcohol related anti-social behaviour as adults.

Concluded: Young People also feared alcohol related disorder

Analysis clearly demonstrated that 39% of violent crime within the Borough occurred within the town centre.

Concluded: Tackling the issue of violent crime within the town centre had potential to significantly reduce overall violent crime in the Borough.

As a result of the above scanning, analysis, consultation and a strategic assessment the Partnership focused on tackling violent crime as a strategic priority. The Partnership agreed the following SMART objectives:

- Reduce violent crime in the town centre by 10% over November and December 07 compared to the previous comparative period in 2006
- Reduce the fear of violent crime over the Christmas period and improve people's sense of safety when out in the Town Centre
- Sustain this reduction in violent crime and show a 15% reduction in violent crime across the whole of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough for the financial year 07/08 compared to the period 06/07

Analysis:

Further in depth analysis was undertaken to test the hypothesis that violent crime in the town centre had a direct link to the night-time economy and alcohol abuse.

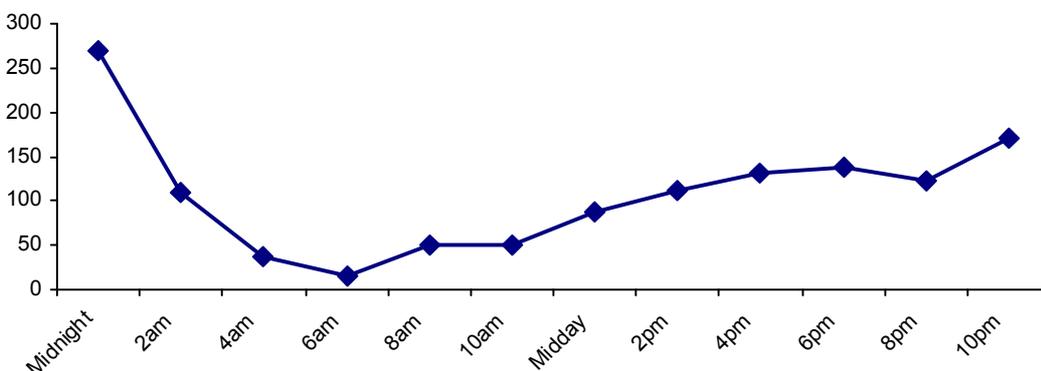
An environmental scan confirmed that Hinckley Town Centre has a plethora of popular pubs, fast food outlets, restaurants and nightclubs centred on a relatively small area around Regent Street. Mapping analysis (Map 2) indicated that Regent Street, Market Place and the Horsefair recorded a large proportion of the districts' violent crime offences in the financial year 2006/07. The environmental scan and the "hot-spotting" to street level therefore strengthened the hypothesis that violent crime within the town centre was linked to the night-time economy, occurring in the proximity of pubs and clubs and its association with substance/alcohol abuse.

Map2 Town centre hotspots



Temporal analysis (Chart 1), undertaken to identify peak times for violent crime, identified a peak in offences from 8pm continuing until midnight where it begins to fall. Over a third (37% - 486 offences) of violent crime recorded in Hinckley & Bosworth for 2006/07 occurred at the weekend. Friday evenings recorded the greatest number of offences. This strengthens the hypothesis that offences of violent crime are linked to the night-time economy, with more violent crimes occurring during days and hours in which the pub and club trade is at it's highest.

Chart 1 No. violent crime offences vs. time:



Concluded: The evidence for the hypothesis was considered to be reasonably strong in support of a direct link between violent crime and the nighttime economy and its association with alcohol/substance abuse.

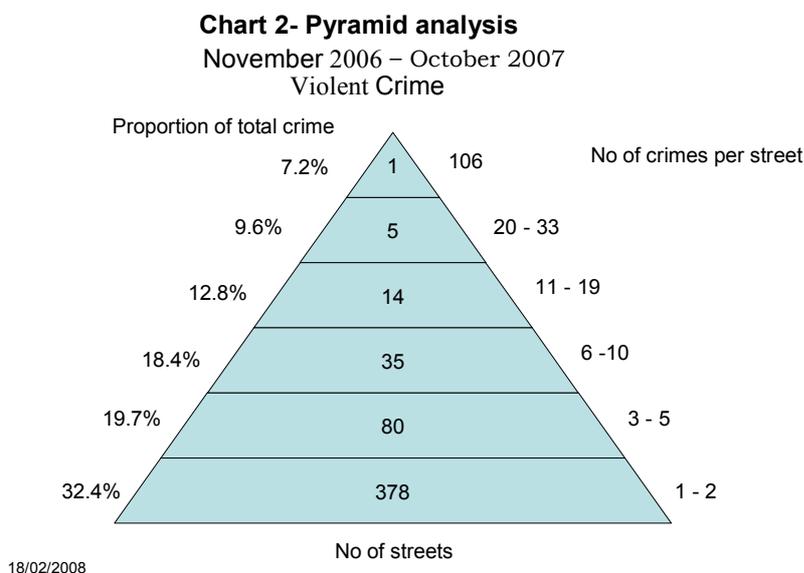
The next analysis undertaken was aimed to provide greater clarity on what types of violent crime were prevalent in the Borough. Analysis was undertaken to identify the offence codes of the 1256 violent crime offences recorded within the Borough in the financial period 2006/07(see Table 1 below):

		2006/2007
806	ABH Section 47	429
10501	Common Assault	231
12512	Harassment / Alarm/ Distress	207
19594	2+ Harassment	98
Other	Other Assault & Harassment	252
3411	Robbery (Personal property)	24
3412	Robbery (Assault with intent to rob personal property)	5
8809	Exposure (Sexual Offences)	10
	Total	1256

Consideration was given to researching the impact of alcohol on local violent crime incidents and assaults but current available data proved to be unreliable. However the National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy clearly makes a direct link between alcohol abuse and violent crime and disorder as a major contributory factor.

Concluded: An assumption can be made that alcohol abuse is a contributory factor within the types of crime identified above.

Pyramid analysis was undertaken to confirm “hotspot” streets within the Borough where violent crime was most prevalent and to understand the extent of the problem in the Town Centre area. The analysis showed the street ranked top for violent crime offences in the Borough was Regent Street in the Town Centre which accounted for 7.2%(106 offences) of all violent crimes within the period November 06-October 07. Horsefair, Castle Street and Coventry Road, all situated in Hinckley Town Centre were ranked 2, 3 and 4. Across these four streets there were 201 offences of violent crime reported in the period November 2006- October 2007. The results of the analysis are shown in Chart 2 and Table 2.



Concluded: Pyramid analysis indicated that a significant number of violent crime offences within the Borough can be attributed to a small number of streets in the Town Centre, namely Regent Street, Horsefair, Castle Street and Coventry Road.

The next step of the process was to consult with stakeholders in the Town Centre's night-time economy to better understand any issues or problems they were encountering during the evening drinking hours and any suggestions for reducing the level of violent crime in the area.

These stakeholders were engaged via the Hinckley Town Centre Safety Group on which the following individuals and organisations are members: Taxi Drivers, Police, Fire Service, Licensees, Pubwatch, Chamber of Trade, Business Sector and key Borough Council services.

Taxi drivers were particularly concerned about drunken anti-social behaviour and fighting around the taxi-rank in George Street during the evenings and especially at weekends. George Street had also been highlighted during the pyramid analysis as one of top 20 streets in the Borough for violent crime. They also stressed their keenness to run a taxi-marshalling scheme that they felt would have beneficial affects on reducing violence and anti-social behaviour by taxi queues being monitored and organised by marshals.

Issues were also raised by the group regarding Elements nightclub, with a large number of individuals congregating outside to smoke since the smoking ban in April 07. Elements, a popular nightclub, is situated on Horsefair alongside a narrow street thus requiring large groups to congregate in a small confined area. Horsefair had been identified as a hotspot street in the pyramid analysis. Further work and consultation with the owner of Elements nightclub was suggested.

Concluded: The areas of concern raised via the Town Centre Safety Group were alcohol related violence and anti-social behaviour in the taxi-rank on George Street and on Horsefair outside Elements night-club.

Response:

In order to reach the **SMART** objectives set out for the campaign (detailed on Page 5) key actions were identified:

1. Employ practical methods to promote responsible drinking to help reduce violent crime and disorder in the Town Centre.
2. Use enforcement powers to tackle offenders of violent crime and substance abuse in the town centre.
3. Gather intelligence on victims, offenders and problem locations to help inform and shape how and where responses were being employed.
4. Ensure effective communication links between all partners, agencies, key focus groups and stakeholders.
5. Promote innovative alcohol and substance harm reduction messages.
6. Promote positive successes of campaign and share good practice.
7. Provide a directional and overseeing lead of the project through the Delivery Group.
8. Provide accountable tasking process to ensure delivery.
9. Ensure sustainability beyond the project.

A campaign action plan was then developed by the Delivery Group detailing initiatives, timescales, leads, resources and expected outcomes needed to support key actions. All partners and stakeholders were made aware of the purpose of the action plan, its underlying causes and its expected outcomes. Each of the initiatives undertaken is fully explained below:

- A positive media strategy involving corporate communications, local newspapers and Fosseway Radio promoting responsible drinking was launched in Hinckley Town Centre at the start of November. An innovative theme for the campaign was centred on the Partnership's "Hinckley Inn" (Lock 'em Inn) campaign. The campaign advertised Hinckley Police Station as a "convenient accommodation with lots of bars" and stated that "anyone caught fighting, swearing, shouting, indulging in drunken behaviour or causing damage is welcome at the "Hinckley Inn"". This rather light hearted "spoof" campaign had serious underlying messages about the consequences of irresponsible drinking and involvement in drink related fights and anti-social behaviour.
- The campaign was launched on the 16th November coinciding with the Town Centre Christmas lights switch on. This is one of the busiest evenings of the year in the town centre and deliberately chosen to maximize an audience. Community Safety staff, Police, Fire Service, Drug and Alcohol services and youth workers were all involved and available on the Community Bus to promote the campaign, provide help, information and advice to the public on a safer Christmas.
- During December the County Youth Service provided their anti-graffiti projector equipment to project safer drinking messages onto buildings in Regent Street. This proved very effective as the image was so large and so visible to all people in Regent Street (hot-spot location) walking from one licensed premises to another and could be displayed all evening at weekends with no extra resources required. At the same time the

Police Neighbourhood vehicle and the Community Bus were sited in Regent Street on weekend evenings to promote safety and responsible drinking throughout the campaign. The expected outcomes of these initiatives were to raise awareness of responsible drinking and reduce violent crime. This initiative was led by the Delivery Group and the resources required amounted to approximately £2,000.

- A “Safer Routes” scheme was introduced on the key streets identified by the pyramid analysis. These routes were patrolled constantly by PCSO’s during the hours 8pm-1am on Friday and Saturday evenings. Each weekend of the campaign the Police Neighbourhood vehicle and St Johns Ambulance were located in Regent Street providing a safety zone in this key location. The expected outcomes of these two initiatives were increased reassurance, to raise the profile of violent crime and alcohol abuse and reduce risks to injured persons. The cost of these two initiatives was £675.
- From consultation with stakeholders a taxi marshal scheme was implemented around the taxi ranks on George Street. Taxi Marshals monitored and supervised the taxi ranks on Friday and Saturday nights throughout the campaign. The scheme was extended to include Thursday evenings after feedback from taxi drivers and licensees in December. The taxi marshals’ primary responsibilities were to offer a safe waiting area until a taxi arrives, help form an orderly queuing system, have a link to taxi companies and drivers and a direct radio link to the Police and CCTV. The expected outcomes of this initiative were to improve perceptions of safety and fear of violent crime and to defuse potential disorder situations at the taxi ranks. The project also “freed up” Police patrols enabling officers to focus on other potential problem locations. This initiative was led by the Town Centre Safety Group and required resources of £3,000 to pay for the salary cost of taxi marshals throughout the campaign period.
- The identified issue of large groups congregating outside Elements nightclub was resolved by negotiating with the licensee to use door staff to control the flow of people going in and out of the club for smoking purposes and the area outside the club was patrolled by the Police as a potential hotspot area.

The initiatives explained so far were aimed at prevention of violent crime especially that involving alcohol abuse, providing re-assurance, promoting responsible drinking and to make the town centre a safe place for the night-time economy users.

Initiatives aimed at using enforcement powers to tackle offenders as part of the Hinckley Police LPU Safer Hinckley Operation were implemented. These included Pubwatch exclusions, fixed penalties, media releases, intelligence gathering and tackling emerging licensing offending issues. The expected outcomes were increased high visibility patrols in key locations, reduction in violent crime offences, increased detection and public reassurance. The operation was primarily led by Hinckley Policing Unit and required additional resources of £1,500 to provide additional police resources at peak times in key locations. Other interventions included the use of Section 27 notices and the use of Neighbourhood Action Teams as plain clothes covert spotters in nightclubs and bars.

To provide re-assurance to customers using nightclubs and to deter the carrying of weapons two hand held metal detectors were purchased at a cost of £500 to be used by police and door staff on pubs and night-club doors.

The Borough Council’s Licensing Service, Police and Trading Standards conducted licensing checks gaining evidence on any problem premises and underage selling of alcohol.

Throughout the campaign initiatives relating to intelligence gathering and effective communications took place to inform partners and stakeholders of emerging issues, progress made and offender details. Emerging issues such as the licensees’ feedback that Thursday night was becoming the “party night” during the festive period were relayed to all partners and stakeholders and immediate interventions were taken to tackle this new situation such as extending the taxi-marshalling scheme to Thursday evenings.

A dedicated Police Officer provided additional support to the Borough’s CCTV monitoring room at key periods throughout the campaign. This initiative ensured that CCTV monitoring was intelligence led and focused on key hotspot locations and enabled the identification of offenders. The aim was to increase the opportunities for immediate response to diffuse situations and to increase detections. No additional resources were required and the CCTV initiative was led by the Council’s Town Centre Manager.

Key to the success of the campaign and the delivery of outcomes was its continual monitoring by the Partnership’s Delivery Group. Based on fortnightly Police Tactical assessments and information/intelligence provided by partner members the Group met on a weekly basis over the campaign period to monitor progress and address emerging

issues. The Group set accountable tactical partnership problem solving actions to achieve identified outcomes and tasks.

A positive communication strategy was key to the success of the campaign. Throughout the campaign joint media releases were issued by partners to highlight the purpose of the campaign, promote crime prevention and responsible drinking messages with the underlying theme of "Have a 'Safe Christmas".

At the conclusion of the campaign positive media releases on its successes were appearing in local newspapers and on local radio. The aim of the media releases were to inform residents of the Borough of the reductions in crime over the festive period compared to previous years and to highlight positive actions taken by the partnership to make Hinckley and Bosworth a safer place, thus working towards reducing the fear and negative impact of violent alcohol related crime within the Borough.

A presentation on the campaign has been delivered to all Crime and Disorder Partnerships in Leicestershire in order that they can share the good practice employed throughout the project.

Sustainability

Without sustainability any successes would be short lived.

The campaign has been evaluated and from the lessons learnt and achievements gained the safer Christmas Campaign will be used to:

- Continue to reduce violent crime especially alcohol related
- Support the delivery of the Partnerships' Plan 2008/2011 continued strategic objectives of reducing violent crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Support the County and Partnership's Alcohol Harm Reduction strategy.
- Continue to promote responsible drinking and substance abuse harm reduction messages.
- Support the Local Area Agreements 2008/2011 key outcomes in relation to violent crime and substance misuse.
- Support the Borough Council's Corporate Plan 2008/2012 key strategy of making the Borough a Safer Place and to promote healthier lifestyles.
- Continue to reduce the fear of violent crime and the negative impact that alcohol related violent crime has on the night-time economy in Hinckley Town Centre.
- Support the Partnership's Safer Summer Campaign 2008.

Key campaign initiatives will be carefully considered for continued use during key peak times over the coming months and years for example:

- Taxi-marshals
- Enhanced CCTV coverage during key periods
- Regular consultation with stakeholders and partners on emerging issues
- Metal detectors on doors of public houses and night clubs
- Regular media releases on successes
- Continued Management by Delivery Group

New initiatives being planned include:

- Street Pastor Scheme, in partnership with Hinckley Churches, which aims to engage trained street pastors diffuse potentially violent situations, to care, listen and signpost individuals as required.
- Pilot Blue Tooth messaging project to be undertaken in Hinckley Town Centre July/August 2008. This is an innovated method of passing on safety and responsible drinking messages to night-time economy users.

Assessment:

Once the impact of the responses had been evaluated it was clear that reductions were achieved in all non-domestic violent crime categories during the 2007 'Safer Christmas Campaign' with an overall reduction in violent crime of 24.9% across the Borough during November and December 2007 (see Table 3 below), compared to November and December 2006. Violent crime within the town centre alone was reduced by 45% in the same comparative period as above which significantly surpasses the SMART target of 10% set on Page 5.

Table 3

Offence Category	Offence Code	Offences Nov/Dec 2006	Offences Nov/Dec 2007	% Change 2006/07
ABH Section 47	00806	94	77	- 18.1%
Common Assault	10501	62	52	- 16.1%
Harassment, Alarm or Distress	12512	47	20	- 57.4%
2+ Harassment	19594	19	17	- 10.5%
Other 'Violent Crime' Categories	-	51	39	- 23.5%
TOTAL		273	205	- 24.9%

The campaign is continuing to yield positive successes and the end of year non-domestic violent crime figures for the Borough as a whole show a 17% reduction for 2007/08 compared to the 2006/07 figures used in the analysis section on Page 7 (see Table 4). This again surpasses the SMART target of 15% set on Page 5.

TABLE 4 Figures were taken from Leicestershire Constabulary Crime and Intelligence System (Live) on 7 April 2008 N.B. Figures may change slightly due to reclassification and delayed reporting.

Violent Crime for Hinckley LPU

		Non Domesticated offences	
		2006/2007	2007/2008
806	ABH Section 47	429	394
10501	Common Assault	231	203
12512	Harassment / Alarm/ Distress	207	144
19594	2+ Harassment	98	65
Other	Other Assault & Harassment	252	193
3411	Robbery (Personal property)	24	31
3412	Robbery (Assault with intent to rob personal property)	5	2
8809	Exposure (Sexual Offences)	10	7
	Total	1256	1039
reduction of 17% in offences in period 2007/08 compared to 2006/07			

The following list highlights other outcomes of the campaign to date:

- Lowest recorded violent crime figures for over five years during November/December 2007
- 62 arrests made as a direct result of the project
- 47 Section 27 notices issued in the town centre
- 10 Pubwatch exclusion notices issued in the town centre this year compared to 4 last year
- 1 premises license surrendered at review
- 49 taxi drivers surveyed and all perceived that town centre violence had decreased since October; this supports our success of the SMART objective to improve perceptions of violent crime in the Borough.
- 4 drug arrests made by plain clothes officers in the Town centre
- Despite an increase in Police patrols in key hot spot locations of Hinckley Town Centre during peak Christmas festivities within the night-time economy, there was a significant reduction in arrests for assault and public order. For the period 1st December 2007 to 2nd January 2008 there was a 52% decrease in such arrests compared to the same period in 2006.
- Taxi drivers surveyed the general public on their feelings of safety. 100% of respondents indicated that they felt safer at present than they had previously

Sustainable initiatives and new initiatives provide an opportunity for maintaining these improvements and making further progress into the reduction and improved perception of violent crime in the Borough.

In conclusion, the Hinckley and Bosworth 'Safer Christmas in Hinckley' campaign has yielded and continues to yield significant reductions in violent crime and the fear of such. Despite the fact that Hinckley and Bosworth is a relatively small area with limited resources the project highlights that effective partnership working and a structured problem solving approach can improve the lives of our local communities and help to forge invaluable links with partners, stakeholders and the local community. The following article below appeared in The Hinckley Times in January 2008 and is a letter of thanks from the Deputy Mayor of the Borough:

Police deserve our gratitude

THE crime figures for Hinckley and Bosworth have plummeted.

The reason is that the team of officers under Inspector Martyn Ball has been beavering away to reduce crime without any fuss or fanfares.

Their "Lock them in" campaign over the festive season meant that street disorder, violent, drink-related crime and criminal damage were almost non-existent.

Those involved in the illegal growing and production of drugs must be panic-stricken after the seizure of cannabis plants

and related products.

Licences are being removed from those who serve under-age drinkers. Anti-social "boy racers" are suffering under the attention of the police, with many illegal cars now being crushed.

Anyone with a non-standard, illegal number plate will get a £30 fine and may have to re-register their cars.

Persistent criminals are being put under severe pressure. They are now under no doubt that illegal activities are not welcome and will not be tolerated.

The situation is not per-

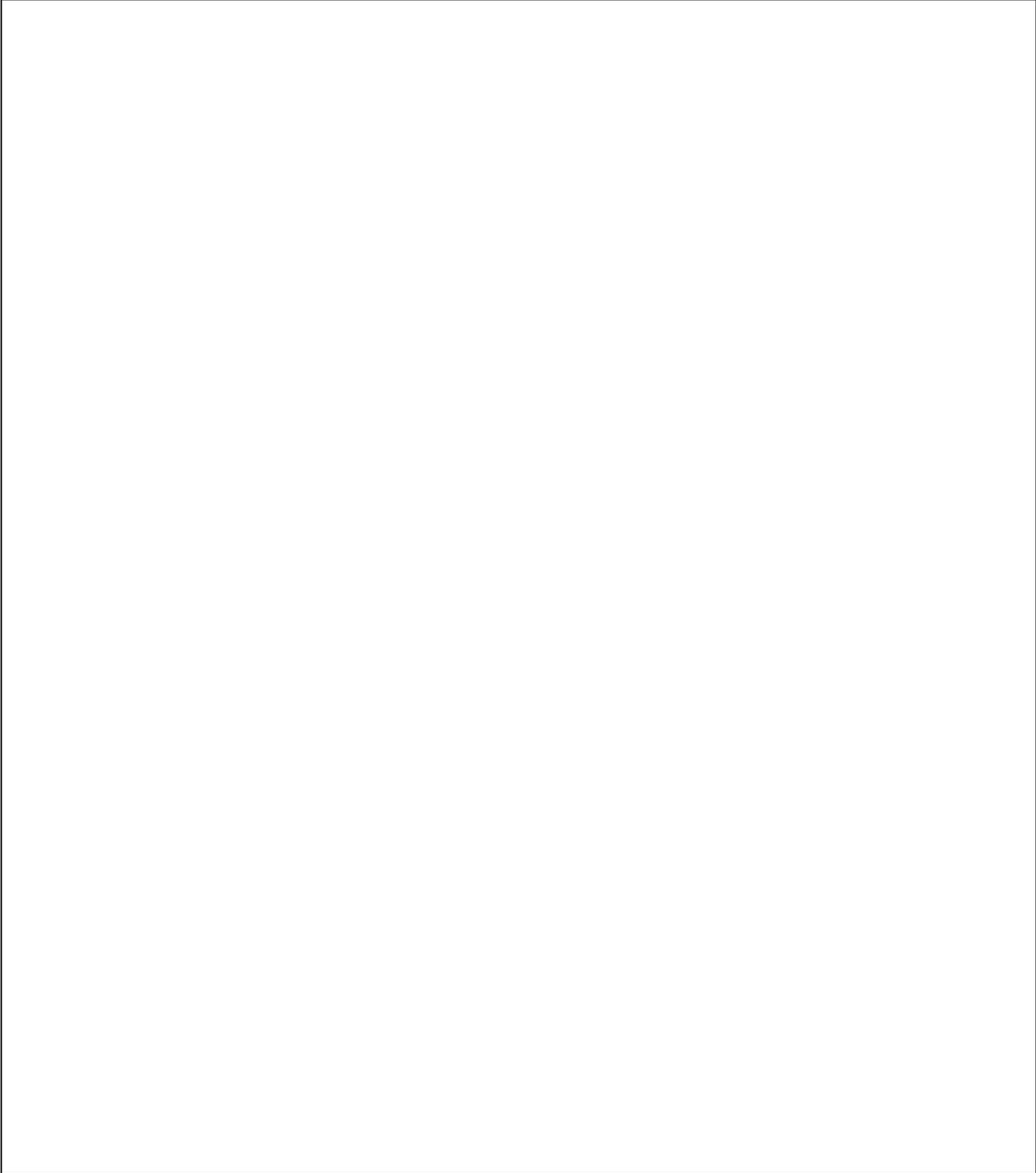
fect. It could be better but we will never get rid of all criminal activity but there has been a great reduction and it is getting better.

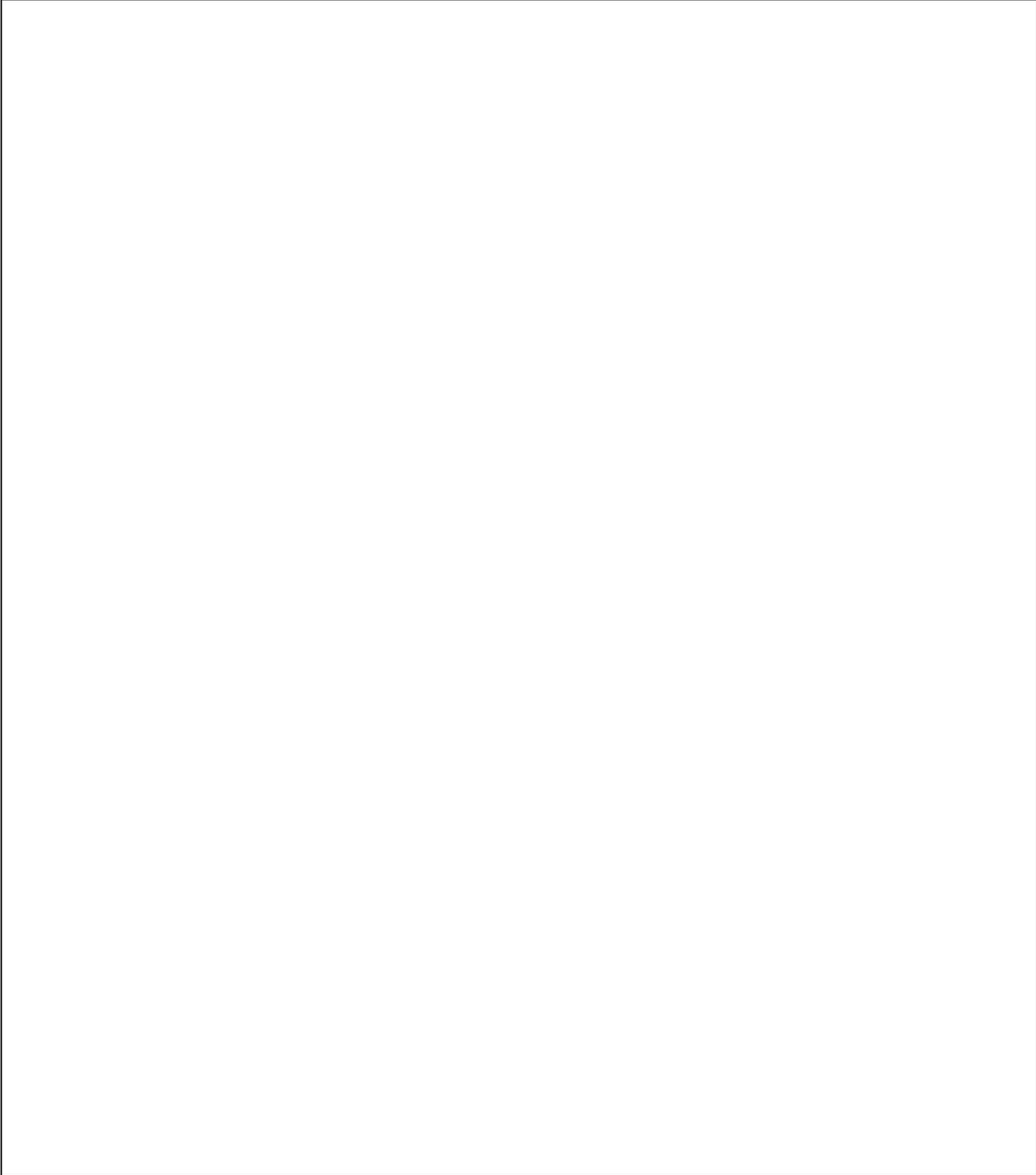
The police cannot be expected to make Hinckley and Bosworth a place to be proud of alone. We all have a role to play.

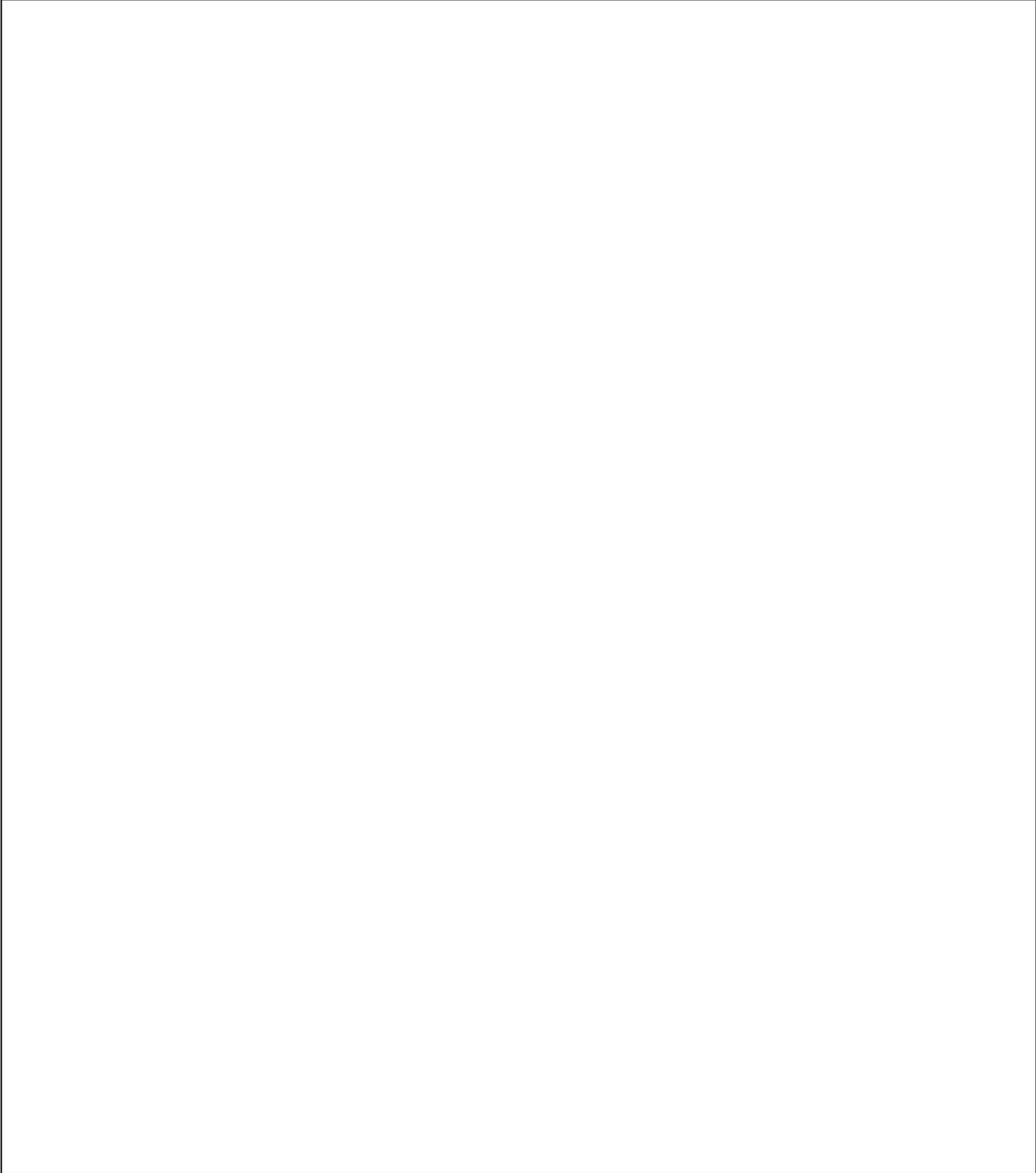
We can congratulate the police, the community supports officers and traffic wardens for the fantastic success during the past year.

Cllr JEFFREY BANNISTER
deputy mayor
Ashby Road
Hinckley

State number of words used: 3988







Section D: Endorsement by Senior Representative - Please insert letter from endorsing representative, this will not count towards your word or 1MB size limit restrictions.

Checklist for Applicants:

1. Have you read the process and application form guidance?
2. Have you completed all four sections of the application form in full including the endorsement from a senior representative?
3. Have you checked that your entry addresses all aspects of the judging criteria?
4. Have you advised all partner agencies that you are submitting an entry for your project?
5. Have you adhered to the formatting requirements within the guidance?
6. Have you checked whether there are any reasons why your project should **not** be publicised to other police forces, partner agencies and the general public e.g. civil or criminal proceedings pending in relation to your project?
7. Have you inserted your project name as a footer note on the application form? Go to View-Header and Footer to add it.
8. Have you saved you application form as a word document and entitled your message '**Tilley 08 entry (followed by project name in brackets)**' before emailing it?

Once you are satisfied that you have completed your application form in full please email it to Tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk. One hard copy must also be posted to Alex Blackwell at Home Office, Effective Practice & Communication Team, 4th Floor, Fry Building (SE Quarter), 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF and be received by 25th April 2008.