



June 2023

Smethwick Safer Streets

Working Together To Make Your Neighbourhood Safer

In July 2022, Sandwell Council learnt that it had been successful in its bid for the Home Office's Safer Streets Round 4 Fund. The target of this funding would be projects and work aimed at tackling neighbourhood crime, violence against women and girls, and anti-social behaviour in the Abbey ward of Smethwick.

CCTV on Bearwood Road

12 CCTV cameras have been successfully installed along Bearwood Road that will provide live footage into Sandwell Council's CCTV Control Room. This will be monitored 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by licensed operators.



Lightwood's Youth Hub

Youth workers from Sandwell Young People's Services have formed a new Lightwood's Youth Hub. Young people aged 11-19 years have been learning about online safety, positive relationships, substance misuse and more through a variety of activities and have even been involved in the design and delivery of sessions to help broaden their skillsets.

Kickboxing Classes

During a consultation with the Lightwood's Youth Hub, young people shared with Youth Workers how they were feeling low in confidence. It was identified that learning Martial Arts could raise confidence and selfesteem in addition to other benefits. Staff organised weekly kickboxing sessions which have helped the young people to work on their confidence. These have been thoroughly enjoyed by all.



A safer community is everyone's business





Area Behind Shops Cleared And Secured

Sandwell Council's Community & Business Crime Engagement Officer alongside the Smethwick Town Neighbourhood Police Team identified an area in Bearwood which backed onto residential and commercial properties where there was suspected anti-social behaviour and criminal activity taking place.

Working in partnership, various teams from the council in addition to the police and other partners undertook a clearance of the alleyway. Partners also worked with neighbouring residents to clear and secure the outbuilding to prevent further anti-social behaviour.

Community Crime Prevention Awareness

Sandwell Council's Community Safety and Smethwick Town Neighbourhood Police Teams have been running crime prevention events across Smethwick, providing residents with free personal and home security items, as well as giving advice and tips on keeping themselves, and their property safe. These have been held at locations including: Bearwood Hub, Bearwood Baptist Church, Brushstrokes, Thimblemill Library, Smethwick Pantry and Milton Court.

Further events will be taking place at:

- Bearwood Primary School 22nd June at 3:30pm
- Warley Woods (Picnic in the Park) 2nd July at 11:00am
- Abbey Primary School 7th July at 3:30 pm



Schools Mentoring

Bearwood and Abbey Primary Schools pupils have been learning more about personal relationship boundaries and how to recognise potentially harmful relationships and situations as part of the Real Respect Programme by Krunch.

Krunch has adapted the programme in collaboration with primary school staff which is a pilot in Sandwell for children in years five and six. This has been delivered to children through group sessions and one to one mentoring sessions.

How to Report

The Council is not an emergency response service. Incidents where there is an immediate risk of harm to person or property must be reported to the police or other appropriate emergency service.

Crime should be reported to West Midlands Police through the following mechanisms:



www.sandwell.gov.uk/saferstreets

