

30 July 2010

## Summer campaign to avoid anti-social nights out

Groups of holiday makers and local summer revellers are being targeted by local police to try and prevent anti-social behaviour through the holidays.

Police officers are launching a new initiative that aims to get groups of young people to think about the consequences before drinking too much.

Police are liaising with local holiday park owners to find out when large groups of young people are booked in, so they can talk to them in advance of their nights out. They are also talking to any large groups of young people they see in the evenings to ask them to think ahead about misbehaving or putting themselves in danger.

The campaign, called 'Fancy Dress' to reflect the theme of many group nights out, is supported by North Devon Council. NDC's own licensing officers are helping to spread the message to pub, club and taxi licensees.

The advice being given out is:

- keep noise down between venues and on the way home
- place empty glasses and bottles safely in bins
- respect other people's property
- know your limits as alcohol affects judgement and awareness of risk
- never enter water after drinking

Sergeant Mark Harper says: "We want everyone to enjoy themselves when they are out in North Devon in the evenings and we don't want it spoilt by drunken, anti-social behaviour. That is why we want to talk to these young people before they've had too much to drink to think before they do anything stupid later on."

NDC Licensing Manager Katy Nicholls says: "We have a very good working relationship with the local police and we are pleased to be supporting this latest initiative. By working together, we put on a united front against anti-social behaviour, ensuring everyone can enjoy a night out in North Devon."

Leaflets to back up the campaign will be made widely available at holiday parks, pubs and clubs to help make sure everyone gets the message. This is just one of a number of initiatives delivered locally through the work of our Safer North Devon Violent Crime Action Group.

Ref: NDC PR 10-092