

## **Anti-Social Behaviour**

9th April 2019

## Dear Parent/Guardian

Over recent weeks, there has been an increase in the number of incidents involving youth disorder in the areas of St Helens' town centre and Victoria Park. We have intelligence that the perpetrators are from at least 5 high schools in St Helens.

A number of complaints have been received from local residents who state that groups of young people are causing annoyance and generally disturbing the neighbourhood, through a variety of anti-social activities (verbal abuse, excessive noise, drinking alcohol). It is also apparent that some of these young people are also involved in committing criminal damage. This behaviour adversely affects the quality of life of all people living in the community and particularly those who are most vulnerable.

Over the weekend period of 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019, St Helens' Police officers were deployed to the town centre, the Hotties and Victoria Park after receiving reports of large groups of youths gathering. It was reported that one of the youths was carrying a knife and they were drinking alcohol and causing damage. When patrols have attended, they have been met with youths who were shouting abuse and throwing stones and bricks at officers and police vehicles.

This letter is intended to make you as a parent, aware of these issues. I would ask that you take an interest in where your son / daughter is going and who they are associating with when they are out over the Easter holidays, so that you are able to act and keep your child safe and away from the areas where we are experiencing problems.

Any young people that are identified as committing a criminal offence may be arrested, as we will not tolerate this type of behaviour.

There is a responsibility on all of us, as members of this community, to do all that we can to prevent incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour. I hope that I can count upon your support.