

Survey

Personal safety, neighbourhood policing, street wardens project and older people

Help the Aged is interested in finding out more about the experiences, knowledge and views of older people about neighbourhood police officers (NPOs), police community support officers (PCSOs) and street wardens (SWs) in the localities in which they live. (The survey is not about traffic wardens.). The Charity intends to publish a pamphlet on the topic later in 2008.

We would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to answer the questions below and also indicate if you would like to be involved in this project.

1. In the last year do you believe that the level of crime/disorder and anti-social behaviour in your locality has:

- decreased? increased?
 don't know? stayed the same?

2. Are there any particular places, routes or situations locally where you commonly feel anxious about your personal safety?

- Yes No

If yes, please specify what, where, when and what could be done about it on the part of those in authority.

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3. Do you know any of the neighbourhood police Officers (NPOs), community support officers (PCSOs) or street wardens (SWs), who work in your local area, by name, sight or both?

- Yes (Please specify whom.....)
 No

4. Have you attended any local public meetings organised or attended by local NPOs, PCSOs, or SWs in the last 12 months?

- Yes (Please specify which).....
 No

5. Has an NPO, PCSO or SW knocked on your door during the last 12 months to find out more about your concerns and/or priorities for personal and local community safety and improvement?

Yes (Please specify which).....
No

6. Have you seen any NPOs, PCSOs or SWs patrolling on foot in your locality during the last 12 months?

Yes No

If yes, please specify who, when and where?

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If yes, how were they patrolling?

Singly
In pairs

7. What are your experiences of patrols by NPOs, PCSOs and SWs in your area? Would you be more likely to approach someone if they were in a pair or on their own?

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8. How effective do you think neighbourhood policing is in your area and how, in your opinion, could it be made more responsive to your needs for safety and security, and those of other older people in the locality?

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9. Would you support a policy that encouraged NPOs, PCSOs and SWs to do more to befriend vulnerable older residents, such as regularly calling on them, escorting them to the shops or giving older residents their contact details?

Yes No Don't know

10. Help the Aged older persons' wardens schemes have been established and are being planned in several English cities. Here wardens pay particular attention to keeping in touch with older residents and responding to their needs and views. Would you like such a scheme to be set up in your local area?

Yes No Don't know

11. Help the Aged is to publish a pamphlet informing older people about NPOs, PCSOs, and SWs. It will also include suggestions on the best way to meet the personal and community safety needs of senior citizens. What other information would you like to see in the publication?

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12. Have you personally benefitted from safety guidance and fittings (for example, window locks) from a local home security service such as the Help the Aged HandyVan?

Yes No

If yes, please include details (below) of how your home has been made more secure and what this has meant to you:

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13. Have you yourself been a victim of crime or serious anti-social behaviour during the last 12 months?

Yes No

If yes, please give details about what, where and when it happened, and the impact it had on your life.

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14. Would you say that you generally feel safe or unsafe living where you do?

Safe Unsafe Don't know

15. Do you live alone? Yes No

16. What is your gender? Male Female

17. What is your age? 60-74 75+

18. Have you ever taken part in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme? Yes No

19. Do you have a long-term limiting illness? Yes No

20. What is the name of your local council?

Your responses will remain confidential, but if you would like to be informed about our work on personal and community safety, please write in your contact details below:

Name:

Address:

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Email:

Telephone:

PLEASE INCLUDE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ON THIS ISSUE OVERLEAF

For more copies of this survey, email alan.burnett@helptheaged.org.uk or call 020 7239 1894. Alternatively, feel free to make your own copies. Please return by the end of August 2008 to Dr Alan Burnett, Policy Department, Help the Aged, Freepost LON18932, London N1 9BR

Many thanks