

Chatham Court Hub

SAFER FUTURE COMMUNITIES
Empowering local voluntary & community partnerships

Managed by charity P3, Chatham Court Hub and its Link Worker Scheme aim to reduce reoffending and anti-social behaviour on the Chatham Court Estate in Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Crime scores in Newark's Castle Ward falls into the worst 20% in the country, with the vast majority of crimes committed on Chatham Court, which has a history of reoffending incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour and saw over a 100% increase in reported incidents of harassment, abuse, criminal damage, neighbourhood disputes, anti-social behaviour and possession of controlled drugs between 2009/10 and 2010/11. The estate also has 84% unemployment with over 80% of residents identified as needing varying needs of support, with the majority of these not engaging with services.

P3, in partnership with Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership developed the Chatham Court Hub to reduce re-offending by combating the estate's anti-social and criminal behaviour by opening a community hub staffed by local agencies and providing advice and guidance on a one-to-one, group session and drop-in basis.

Through effective partnership working, the hub has been able to offer advice on a range of issues including housing, benefits, drugs, alcohol, probation, employment and women's aid. In addition, Nottinghamshire Police and Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue also facilitate regular team surgeries.

The project, which was initially funded for 15 months until March 2013 with £48,000 from the Newark Community Safety Partnership and the Home Office Community Action Against Crime

Innovation Fund, also employs two link workers who work intensively with tenants and visitors to the estate who are identified as having complex needs.

By adopting a non-judgemental and inclusive approach and offering tailor-made support, the link workers are able to engage with their clients, including undertaking a holistic assessment of their needs, agreeing personalised action plans and delivering one-to-one development sessions.

Since April 2012 the hub has been accessed 352 times, with 12 residents receiving intensive link worker support, 26 residents receiving short interventions from the link workers, and seven agencies working from the hub on a weekly basis.

In addition, they have negotiated free rental of the hub property via the housing provider, which they have transformed into the heart of the community, and established a steering group to monitor the project and shape its future.

The project has helped reduce crime on the estate by stabilising the chaotic lifestyles of individuals who are likely to commit criminal activity, leading to a feeling of increased safety for residents.

For further information on P3 visit www.p3charity.com.

"The estate is a lot quieter and having people there has made things a lot easier. Our whole lives are changing thanks to the support we are getting."
A resident of Chatham Court