

# PRESS RELEASE



HPA 249e

3 July 2007

## SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS WINNERS RECEIVE THEIR AWARDS FROM THE POLICE AUTHORITY

Local officers and a resident – PCSO Sandra Crichton, PC Nicola Hunt and Megan Fletcher - were among the winners at Wednesday's (27 June) Police Authority Safer Neighbourhoods Awards, when outstanding contributions to community safety were rewarded at a packed presentation ceremony held at County Hall, Hertford.

The Safer Neighbourhoods Awards 2007 included the Watch Co-ordinator of the Year, the Community Award, the Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) and the Neighbourhood Officer of the Year. In addition there were awards for the Special Constable, the Diversity Team and the Student Constable of the Year.

Heat winners from each of the county's ten borough/districts were presented with certificates, and the overall county winner in each category received a trophy. The county Community Award winner also received £1000 to spend on a safety project in their community. The winners of the county police officer awards will also be entered in the national Jane's Police Review competition.

**Sandra Crichton**, from the Bishop's Stortford Community Team, was chosen as the county Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) of the Year. Sandra was described as "one of the most motivated, committed and high performing PCSOs in the area, and her enthusiasm and energy has earned her the respect and admiration of all who came into contact with her". Sandra worked tirelessly and involved colleagues, local communities, businesses and other agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour and to improve relationships between the police and young people.

Also from the Bishop's Stortford Community Team, **PC Nicola Hunt** was elected the county's Neighbourhood Officer of the Year. Nicola is regarded by colleagues as one of the best ASBO officers in the county. Her nomination read, "I cannot think of a more deserving nomination for the award this year. She works tirelessly to make sure that those few individuals in our society who bring misery, fear and disruption to other people's lives are stopped." Nicola has helped to apprehend shoplifters, violent criminals and prolific offenders, and her work has brought her the respect of her colleagues and the partner agencies that she works with.

In addition, the judges decided to make a special award of £500 to **Megan Fletcher of Stevenage**, age 15, for her work on Community Crew. Megan

has created new and innovative ways of promoting community safety, setting up Community Crew and ensuring that it has gone from strength to strength. She helped to organise a gig for 11 to 16 year olds to expand the membership and Community Crew is now being introduced in local senior schools. She also designed a Community Crew website, which enables reporting on fly tipping, abandoned vehicles and environmental issues. The £500 will go towards a future Community Crew project.

Ian Laidlaw-Dickson, Chair of the Police Authority, said, "The Safer Neighbourhoods Awards were our opportunity to recognise and acknowledge the often unsung work carried out by members of the public and local police officers in making an already safe county an even safer place for people to live, work and visit. Tonight's awards ceremony is our way of thanking them for their selfless and valuable contribution, and is just part of the Police Authority's ongoing commitment to community safety."

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**Editors note:** J-Peg photos of the Award winners can be obtained from Roger Bardle, Hertfordshire Police Authority, on 01992 555628  
Email: [roger.bardle.hpa@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:roger.bardle.hpa@herts.pnn.police.uk)

Names of all the heat winners and county winners are as follows:-

#### Eastern Area

<b>PCSO Award</b> Sandra Crichton (East Herts) Debbie Sinclair (North Herts) Tara Crawley (Stevenage)	<b>Watch Co-ordinator Award</b> Roman Rogach (Broxbourne) Amanda Aylott (North Herts) Adrian Philpott - Gt Ashby Residents Association (Stevenage)
<b>Neighbourhood Officer Award</b> Sgt Steve Lee (Broxbourne) PC Nicola Hunt (East Herts) PC Matt Jenkins (North Herts) PC Paul Lawlor (Stevenage)	<b>Community Award</b> Alison Hicks (Broxbourne) Terrie Archer (East Herts) Penny Knapper (North Herts) Megan Fletcher (Stevenage)
<b>Special Constable Award</b> Mike Allardyce (Stevenage)	

#### Central Area

<b>PCSO Award</b> Karen Marchant (Hertsmere) Alison Dewar (St Albans)	<b>Watch Co-ordinator Award</b> Angela Saunders (Hertsmere) John Roper (Welwyn Hatfield)
<b>Neighbourhood Officer Award</b> PC Paul Reading (Hertsmere) Sgt Lewis Duckett (St Albans) PC Glenn Cook (Welwyn Hatfield)	<b>Community Award</b> Heather Walsh (Hertsmere) Robert Swain (St Albans)
<b>Special Constable Award</b> Linda Treasure (St Albans)	

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Western Area

<b>PCSO Award</b> Richard Barnes (Dacorum) John Diaz (Three Rivers) Denise Moore (Watford)	<b>Watch Co-ordinator Award</b> Alan Partridge (Dacorum) Sue Thompson (Three Rivers)
<b>Neighbourhood Officer Award</b> PC Mark Procter (Dacorum) Insp George Holland (Three Rivers) PC Stephen Dowty (Watford)	<b>Community Award</b> Douglas Walker (Kings Langley) Garry Barnett (Three Rivers) Malcolm Adcock (Watford)
<b>Special Constable Award</b> Adam Clark (Dacorum)	<b>Overall County Winner</b> <b>Diversity Team Award</b> PC Nobby Jutla (Watford) PC Richard Staff
<b>Overall County Winner</b> <b>Student Constable Award</b> PC Dan Osborne (Watford)	

County Award Winners

Community – Heather Walsh (Hertsmere)  
Watch Co-ordinator – Alan Partridge (Dacorum)  
PCSO – Sandra Crichton (East Herts)  
Neighbourhood Officer – PC Nicola Hunt (East Herts)  
Special Constable – Linda Treasure (St Albans)  
Student Constable – PC Dan Osborne (Watford)  
Diversity Team – PCs Nobby Jutla and Richard Staff (Watford)