



CLEAN KENT
CAMPAIGN

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Report Flytipping. 0845 345 0210.

28 June 2006

CLEAN KENT FLYING SQUADS TAKE OFF IN WEST KENT

The Clean Kent Flying Squads take off this week in west Kent. The rapid response teams, jointly funded by Kent County Council, the 12 district and borough councils and Kent Fire & Rescue Service, will work around the west Kent area cleaning littered and graffitied 'grot spots'. The team will also clear areas suffering from incidents of fly-tipping and recover any evidence which may lead to a prosecution.

The teams help to extend the existing services provided by districts councils, focusing on key hotspot areas to reduce rubbish fires and operate on a rapid response basis. Kent Probation Area, who is a key partner in the initiative, will be providing additional labour force to help clean up as part of their Community Payback Scheme.

The Clean Kent Campaign is keen to involve residents with knowledge of local areas by encouraging them to nominate areas for cleaning via the Clean Kent website **www.cleankent.com** or by calling **0845 345 0210**.

Cllr John Cunningham, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Portfolio Holder for Environment, said: 'We welcome the additional resources to tackle grot spots across the borough. The unit will supplement the extensive investment made by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to provide our successful Street Scene enforcement officers and the Graffiti and Cleaner Borough Hit Squads.'

The west Kent crew, which will cover Tunbridge Wells, Sevenoaks, Gravesham and Dartford, are one of three Flying Squads that will operate across Kent with east Kent already in operation and mid-Kent due to launch soon.

Notes to Editors

About the Clean Kent Cleansing Units:

1. To expand and improve 'street scene' Kent wide, Clean Kent is providing 3 high profile multi-agency cleansing units. KCC, districts and Kent Fire & Rescue Service jointly fund these.
2. These units will be programmed to cover hotspot areas within each of the 12 district / borough council areas, removing fly-tipping, littering, graffiti and undertaking general maintenance to improve the local environment and increase public perception.
3. For the purposes of this initiative, the Kent councils have been split into 3 groupings, east Kent, mid-Kent and west Kent.
4. The provision of each unit is co-ordinated in each grouping by one local council, each individual local council will be responsible for directing where their unit is required.
5. The public are being encouraged to nominate locations that they feel are in need of some attention by logging on to the Clean Kent web site - **www.cleankent.com** - or telephoning the campaign on **0845 345 0210**.

For further information relating to the Clean Kent Campaign please contact the Press and PR Manager, Emma Hughes on 01273 587446; emma@zerofiftyone.com