



# Arson Control Forum

<b>Topic</b>	Arson
<b>Title</b>	Clean Kent
<b>Organisation</b>	Kent Fire and Rescue Service
<b>Date</b>	2007-2008

## Issue / Driver

- Need to reduce instances of fly-tipping, littering and abandoned vehicles
- Need to reduce potential for anti-social behaviour and crime (including deliberate fire-setting) associated with this
- Need to reduce the resulting fear of crime
- Need to protect the county's natural beauty

## Actions Taken

- Multi-agency 'Clean Kent Campaign' launched in May 2004 targeted with
  1. An increase in public perception that Kent is clean
  2. a reduction in loose rubbish fires
  3. a reduction in the number of fly-tipping incidents reported
- Partnership initiative to tackle environmental crime and improve neighbourhood cleanliness by involving local people
- KFRS key in resourcing initiatives and jointly funding interventions including community cleanups
- Fire crews involved in regular patrols reporting in known hotspot areas on rubbish and abandoned vehicles for removal
- Commercial waste advice provided for companies identified as rubbish fire risk

## Summary of Benefits Realised

### After 3 years

- 9% increase in the number of residents who think Kent is a clean county
- 42% reduction in loose rubbish fires
- 35.9% reduction in incidences of fly-tipping
- Over 45% reduction in nuisance fires

## Contact

If you require any further details about the points raised in this case study, please contact:

**Name** Stuart Skilton  
**Title** Group Manager Community Safety  
**Organisation** Kent Fire and Rescue Service  
**Email:** stuart.skilton@kent.fire-uk.org  
**Telephone:** 01622 698362 / Mobile 07730 542007

## Additional Information

The Clean Kent Campaign is a multi-agency project facilitated by Kent County Council in partnership with the following partners along with others:

- District and borough councils
- Kent Police
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Highways Agency
- Environment Agency

Its aim is to improve the overall quality of Kent's environment and protect its natural beauty, thus enhancing quality of life, tourism and economic development.

Kent Agreement 1 (KA1) Outcome 14 (Government targets) was designed to deliver three indicators

- An increase in public perception that Kent is clean by 20%
- A reduction in loose (uncontained) rubbish fires by 20%
- A reduction in the number of fly-tipping incidences reported by 10%

The current three-year KA1 ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

In addition, an education and youth diversion programme established by KFRS is a main tactic in reducing environmental crime and anti-social behaviour among the under-18s. This includes KFRS delivering a Key Stage 3 anti-social behaviour programme to all secondary schools in Kent and Medway, a Key Stage 4 'Elements' programme on the consequences of deliberate fire-setting, and a theatre in education performance 'Street Wise' for year 8/9 students on low-level anti-social behaviour in relation to the environment.

A 2006 initiative co-funded by KFRS, Kent County Council and the 12 district and borough councils resulted in the establishment of 3 Neighbourhood Response Teams focusing on geographical areas where rubbish fires have been prevalent. Regular inspection of these hotspot areas and removal of materials has reduced the potential for fires.