



# Photo release

Date: 07 November 2008

THH 03/08

## Police community support officers get their wheels

Tower Hamlets Homes presented Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) from Bethnal Green and Shadwell Safer Neighbourhoods teams with six new white police bikes on Friday (31 October 2008).

The bikes, funded by the Tower Hamlets Homes (THH), will enhance the local PCSOs' patrol of the estates in Bethnal Green and Shadwell, providing a visible and reassuring presence on the streets and tackling anti-social behaviour.

Gavin Cansfield, the new Chief Executive of Tower Hamlets Homes, said: "It is a great opportunity to show our support to police community support officers who represent the frontline of our local police service, and often deal with anti-social behaviour issues in the area. I hope that by funding the bikes we can further help Safer Neighbourhoods teams and our partners to address the issue of safety on estates."

Tower Hamlets Homes is committed to reducing anti-social behaviour on estates and follows the council's plans for community safety. The council was the one of the first boroughs to receive Safer Neighbourhoods teams, helping residents to feel safer in their local areas.

Andy Bamber, Head of Community Safety Service Tower Hamlets Council, said: "We'll support such initiatives every step of the way. We're extremely pleased that tower Hamlets Homes is playing an active role to make sure people feel safer where they live."

Tower Hamlets Council's Community Safety Strategy ensures the police, local services and THH continue to work together so that residents feel safer. The bikes will help to increase the presence of the mobile police service on THH housing estates.

Chief Inspector Rob Revill said: "We are extremely grateful for the sponsorship and support that we receive from Tower Hamlets Homes. With these bicycles we can now patrol the wards so much easier and quicker. This also gives us another method of high visibility patrol, giving us an element of surprise that enables us to see people before they see us. This gives us every opportunity to catch criminals in the act and disrupt their criminal activity."

**ENDS**

Link to photo gallery:

<http://towerhamletshomes.fotopic.net/c1607809.html>

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If you would like a hi-res picture, send the picture number to Beata Sakowska, email: [beata.sakowska@towerhamletshomes.org.uk](mailto:beata.sakowska@towerhamletshomes.org.uk)

**Notes to editor:**

1. Tower Hamlets Homes (THH) is an arm's-length management organisation (ALMO) managing approx. 22,000 tenants and leasehold properties on behalf of the Tower Hamlets council. Tower Hamlets Homes, which went live on 7 July 2008, is a not-for-profit and 100% owned by the TH Council.  
[www.towerhamletshomes.org.uk](http://www.towerhamletshomes.org.uk)
2. Safer Neighbourhoods Team initiative - a ground-breaking initiative between the Tower Hamlets Partnership and the Metropolitan Police Service set up in June 2005; Tower Hamlets was the first local authority area in the United Kingdom to have borough-wide coverage of Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs),  
<http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/data/thp/channels/thp/web/index.html>

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