

Derby Street Pastors

SAFER FUTURE COMMUNITIES
Empowering local voluntary & community partnerships

Launched in December 2008 and led by the Derby City Mission, Derby Street Pastors work in Derby City Centre and the Austin Estate to address the issues of alcohol related violence, community safety and responsible drinking.

The pastors provide first aid to victims of crime or drink or drug abuse, provide assistance to the police in caring for victims of crime and those stranded in the city centre following an arrest, and a chaplaincy service to night workers.

In addition, they work with young people on the Austin Estate who are at risk of being recruited to gangs, and support victims and family members associated with gang related violence.

The street pastors, who have all received 60 hours training and are qualified first aiders, work street patrols every Friday and Saturday night from 10pm to 4am. Their role is to listen to, care for and help people who are at risk, providing support, signposting to services and, where needed, acting as advocates between the police and community members.

Derby Street Pastors are supported by over 25 churches, Derby City centre management, local businesses, publicans, and the community safety partnership, as well as Derbyshire Constabulary and Derby City Council. The scheme costs £15,000 per year, which covers training, uniforms, administration and volunteer coordination.

During the last three years, the project has seen a 30% drop in victims of alcohol related violence and, despite a predicted 12% annual growth, no increase in A&E

admissions. The scheme has also removed 17,000 bottles from the street and administered first aid, sometimes life saving, in over 574 cases. In addition, in 92% of cases where people were disturbed or distressed, the street pastors enabled the individual to leave the violent scenario without arrest or incarceration.

Derby Street Pastors has trained over 400 street pastors across the East Midlands and has 50 volunteer street pastors currently working in Derby.

For further information on Derby Street Pastors visit

www.streetpastors.co.uk/CurrentLocations/Midlands/Derby/tabid/543/Default.aspx.

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