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**AVON AND SOMERSET CONSTABULARY**

**SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE POLICE DISTRICT**

**Inspector Deryck Rees**

**Neighbourhood Police Team Inspector**

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September 2011

Dear NHW Coordinator

May I firstly take this opportunity to thank you for your support and co-operation.

I would also like to thank you for your co-operation last year, which ensured Halloween passed without the usual associated youth crime and anti-social behaviour. We are fast approaching Halloween again and your local Neighbourhood Policing Team is determined to ensure that this year's celebrations are conducted peacefully, lawfully and with good spirit.

It is our intention to ensure that this year's event is as peaceful and enjoyable for everyone as last years. As such, local schools will be asked to give a reminder to children about what is and isn't acceptable behaviour. An article will be placed in the local press containing a request asking parents to supervise children 'trick or treating' and a warning that any criminal acts or anti-social behaviour will be taken very seriously by the police. Local retailers have been requested not to sell eggs, flour and other such products to children unless accompanied by an adult. Finally, the Neighbourhood Police Team will be working extended hours on Halloween in an effort to detect and deal with offenders as well as to reassure and reduce the fear of crime.

In addition I ask for your and your watch members assistance (to that end, please feel free to pass on the contents of this letter to your members). During our tour of duty on Halloween we shall be patrolling on foot and in vehicles, allowing us to quickly respond to reports of problems. There is a telephone number at the bottom of this letter which gives you the opportunity to ring us directly should you be experiencing problems on Halloween. I would stress that this number should be used in non-urgent situations and should not be used to report incidents after Halloween has passed. In cases of urgency please use the 999 system followed by a call to the below number if necessary. Please use your discretion. We are there to respond to criminal acts and anti-social behaviour. If the lines are jammed with reports of

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youngsters performing 'trick or treat' activities in a sensible manner we may not be able to respond to more serious needs.

It is my belief that we all have a responsibility to ensure that our community is a safe and enjoyable place to be. As last year proved, if we all work together we can overcome community-based problems and improve everyone's quality of life.

Please, once again, take this opportunity to help your local Neighbourhood Police Team tackle minor crime and anti-social behaviour thereby making Halloween 2010 a fun-filled evening for all concerned.

Thank you in anticipation

Deryck Rees  
Inspector  
Staple Hill Neighbourhood Police Team

Telephone number:

01454 867806

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