

# POLICE AND CHURCH PARTNERSHIP WORKING REPORT

Over the last 12 months, Cinnamon Network has continued to develop great working relationships with police forces across the country.

To help encourage and nurture more effective partnerships, Cinnamon undertook extensive research into police and church partnership working.

The report draws on research conducted in Sussex, including Chichester where the police have partnered with City Angels, a group of trained volunteers from the city's churches, to tackle anti-social behaviour. The results clearly demonstrate the impact that great partnerships can have on society. According to Sussex Police crime data, on a Saturday night when the Angels are on patrol:

- Anti-social behaviour is reduced by up to 79%
- Violent crime is reduced by up to 67%
- Violent crime leading to injury is reduced by up to 82%

In the future, we will be conducting further research to assess how churches can partner with other organisations, such as health services and local authorities, for the wider benefit of the community.

**"Cinnamon Network is making an important contribution to the collaborative work between churches and police forces. These partnerships are a great example of community policing and it is encouraging to see the extent of the work and the plans to grow it."** Sara Thornton, Chair of National Police and Chief's Council



Volunteers talking to local security teams

## Police Partnerships

In February 2017, Cinnamon launched an innovative partnership with Hampshire Police and Hampshire County Council to support churches in the region to help vulnerable people within the area. The tripartite partnership is the first of its kind for Cinnamon and we hope it will open up opportunities for even greater collaboration.

The Hampshire partnership, which is now the seventh civic partnership that Cinnamon has developed in the UK, was launched at Ashburton Hall in Winchester. We were joined by local church leaders, members of the police force and local councillors, to introduce the initiative. Over the next 12 months, thanks to this new funding partnership, Cinnamon will give out 10 Micro-Grants of £2,000 to enable churches within the region to establish social action projects that tackle key issues faced by the community.

Cinnamon will be able to draw on experience learned from the six successful partnerships already in operation with Avon and Somerset, Essex, Leicestershire and Rutland, North Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Sussex police forces.



City Angels working with local police officers