



Lisburn a City for everyone

# press release

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## **Lisburn ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Knife Amnesty Campaign**

Final figures released last week in relation to the Knife Amnesty in Northern Ireland shows Lisburn City ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> with 62 knives disposed off over the three week period.

The Amnesty which ended on the 14 June 2006, saw 886 knives handed in at the special knife disposal bins which were placed at amenity sites across the province.

Commenting on the final three week figures for Lisburn City, Lisburn District Policing Partnership Chairman, Councillor Ronnie Crawford said, "This is a positive response by the people of Lisburn. It means that potentially lethal weapons have been taken off our streets. It also means that local people are aware of the campaign and have made a positive contribution to it. Lisburn DPP will continue to work in partnership with the local police to help reduce knife related crime in Lisburn".

Chief Superintendent Ken Henning was also delighted with the response in Lisburn. He said "The fact that 62 knives have been placed in the special bins is a solid start to this first amnesty. However we want to build on that success. Our education programme is underway throughout post primary schools across Lisburn and a designated officer is delivering knife awareness classes to 11-18 year olds and any other interested parties." However he concluded on a stricter note, "Police will now begin the enforcement process through a robust 'stop and search policy' if they suspect a person is carrying an offensive weapon."

The Knife Amnesty Campaign runs until 2007 with another Knife Amnesty Scheduled for December 2006.

**-ends-**

**For further information contact:**

**Lisburn City Council**

Notes to editors

1. Knife disposal bins in the Lisburn City Council area were located at the following sites:

The Cutts, Derriaghy

Drumlough

2. The Knife Awareness Campaign was launched by the Policing Board, PSNI and NIO on 24 May and will continue for one year. The Disposal campaign will run in Council areas across Northern Ireland for the first 3 weeks of the campaign.