

"LAST ORDERS"

Strathclyde Police has teamed up with Renfrewshire Council and Radio Clyde for an innovative personal safety initiative being launched in the run up to Christmas.

"Last Orders" is an audio CD that has been produced and recorded by Radio Clyde which offers personal safety advice and will be played by licensed pubs and clubs at the end of the night as patrons are leaving.

The CD features celebrity DJ's George Bowie, Suzie McGuire and Gina McKie and pundits from Clyde 1's 'Superscoreboard'. It offers personal safety information at a time when persons leaving the pubs or clubs may be more vulnerable.

Superintendent Alastair Neilson from Paisley Police Office explained:

"This initiative will allow us to provide valuable safety advice to persons at the end of a night out prior to them leaving licensed premises. The advice will be played at a time when we believe that we can positively influence that person's decision making.

"Although the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime remains low the most common crimes at these times are either opportunistic or disorder related. As such, we believe that if persons leaving pubs and clubs act on our safety advice then the chances of that person becoming a victim of crime will be further reduced and in turn lower the impact that these specific crimes have on police resources a peak times.

"Our main concern is the safety and well-being of the public and if we can reach them by working closely with Radio Clyde, Renfrewshire Council and the local licensees then it makes our job easier."

Councillor Brian Lawson from Renfrewshire Council added:

"One bad decision can ruin a good night out. Hopefully, these messages will make people stop and think before they do something that could land them in trouble. We want everyone to be able to enjoy themselves and these messages are also a creative way of influencing people when they may be about to do something that puts them in danger."

Radio Clyde's George Bowie added:

"We know that violence is a problem in the West of Scotland around closing time and we hope that these messages will help reduce the number of crimes committed and help people get home safely after a night out in Renfrewshire".

The initiative will be launched within Vienna's night club Paisley and thereafter rolled out throughout Renfrewshire.

Vienna's licensee Andy Nicol said:

"We are delighted to be working closely with the Strathclyde Police on the 'Last Orders' initiative. Christmas is a very busy time for everyone and I believe licensees like me have a responsibility to ensure revellers have both an enjoyable and safe evening. This joint approach will help to ensure the safety and well-being of our customers and promote a safer environment which in turn will attract more people to the area."

Last week police in Renfrewshire provided licensed premises in the area with two state of the art metal detectors allowing door stewards to search people and deter those who attempt to enter premises with bladed weapons.