



**9 November 2010**

## **Piccadilly builds on crime reduction success**

Focused partnership working is being attributed to recent news that anti-social behaviour has significantly decreased in the Piccadilly area of Manchester.

A 37.3% reduction in anti-social behaviour was recorded over the initial four week period of a new operation in the area. This significant reduction was announced by Greater Manchester Police who, alongside both public and private partners, have been running the operation since first of September 2010.

Alex King, Piccadilly Partnership manager for Cityco, the city centre management company said: "These statistics show that the smart use of resources for the Piccadilly area has paid dividends and we are very happy with the progress made so far. We are committed to improving the long-term security in Piccadilly and by working together on a more cohesive approach, we are ensuring that those using the area for leisure and business purposes can do so with confidence. The Gardens are already being used for more creative events such as the recent busking stage and the Manchester Picnic event during the summer; we envisage many more events taking place in the Gardens."

Public and private partners including Piccadilly Partnership, Cityco, Greater Manchester Police, Manchester City Council, NCP, Argent, Kro Carillion, Bruntwood and Town Centre Securities have committed to providing long-term resources to the area and ensure that the environment remains an enjoyable public space for residents, businesses and visitors to enjoy.

The latest figures to be released by Greater Manchester Police highlight the continuing success of the Piccadilly operation, with a total of 33 arrests and the seizure of over 300 bottles or containers of alcohol recorded to date since its implementation in September.

Commenting on the figures, city centre inspector Darren Kershaw said: "We've been running this partnership lead operation with the help of Cityco and Manchester City Council Wardens since the first of September. Additional resources have been placed and more a robust approach to ASB issues in the Piccadilly Gardens has been taken, in particular towards the reduction of alcohol-related crime and disorder.

"Year on year figures (September 2009 compared to September 2010) show that there has been over a 70 per cent reduction in the number of antisocial behaviour incidents that have been recorded by the police in the Village and Piccadilly Gardens area. This has significantly improved the quality of life for all those who use and frequent this part of the city.

"This operation will continue to run for the foreseeable future as we continue to listen and respond to the concerns of local businesses and the community in order to make the city a safer place to live in, work in and enjoy."

Councillor Pat Karney, spokesperson for the city centre said: "This is a really good example of how different organisations work effectively together for the benefit of residents and visitors to Manchester. Piccadilly is a real focus for anyone coming into the city centre and this is never more true than now as we approach the Christmas season. With an array of fantastic shops, market stalls and festive attractions, Piccadilly is often the first port of call for the thousands of people who flock to Manchester. By working together, the city council, Piccadilly Partnership, Cityco, GMP and local businesses continue to maintain these high standards creating a shopping experience not to be missed."

**ENDS**

**For all media enquires please contact:**

Katy Ratican  
[Katy.Ratican@cityco.com](mailto:Katy.Ratican@cityco.com)  
0161 838 3259

**Notes to editors**

**The Piccadilly Partnership**

- The Piccadilly Partnership is a strategic and pioneering alliance of public and private sectors, bringing together key landowners, Manchester City Council, Cityco, GMPTE, other public sector services and local occupiers.

- The Partnership provides an important forum for consultation, discussion and debate on all issues influencing the Piccadilly area. One of the key objectives of the Partnership is the positive promotion of the area to both business and the general public.
- For all other information please visit the Partnership's website [www.piccadillymanchester.com](http://www.piccadillymanchester.com)