



European Crime Prevention Award
and
EUCPN Best Practices Annual Conference 2008

Project Entry Form

The theme for this year's European Crime Prevention Award and EUCPN's Best Practices Annual Conference is **prevention of criminality in public spaces**.

Security issues are at the heart of the concerns of citizens and local and national authorities. In this context, the prevention of criminality in the public spaces, especially urban or suburban, is a major issue that can be divided into three main components: the development planning of public spaces, the implementation of video protection systems and the daily actions of public space management.

France has chosen to study this theme for its chairmanship of the EUCPN and as a topic for the European Crime Prevention Award 2008 competition.

Please complete the attached form (the boxes are expandable). Note that the last page is for a one-page description of your project.

Entries should be in English, but may be accompanied by a version of the entry in the national language if wished. Each country may enter one project as its ECPA entry and up to two other projects to be presented at the conference. Projects should be submitted only through the National Representatives. The full ECPA rules may be found at www.eucpn.org

The deadline to send in your entries is 1st September 2008.

Send your entry or entries to: eucpn.pt@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please contact us at the above email address or françoise.larroque@interieur.gouv.fr



ECPA/BPC 2008

Please answer the following questions in English.

1. Is this your country's ECPA entry or is it an additional project? (Only one ECPA entry per country plus up to two other projects.)

Swedish ECPA entry

2. What is the title of the project?

The mobile police office – part of the city weekend

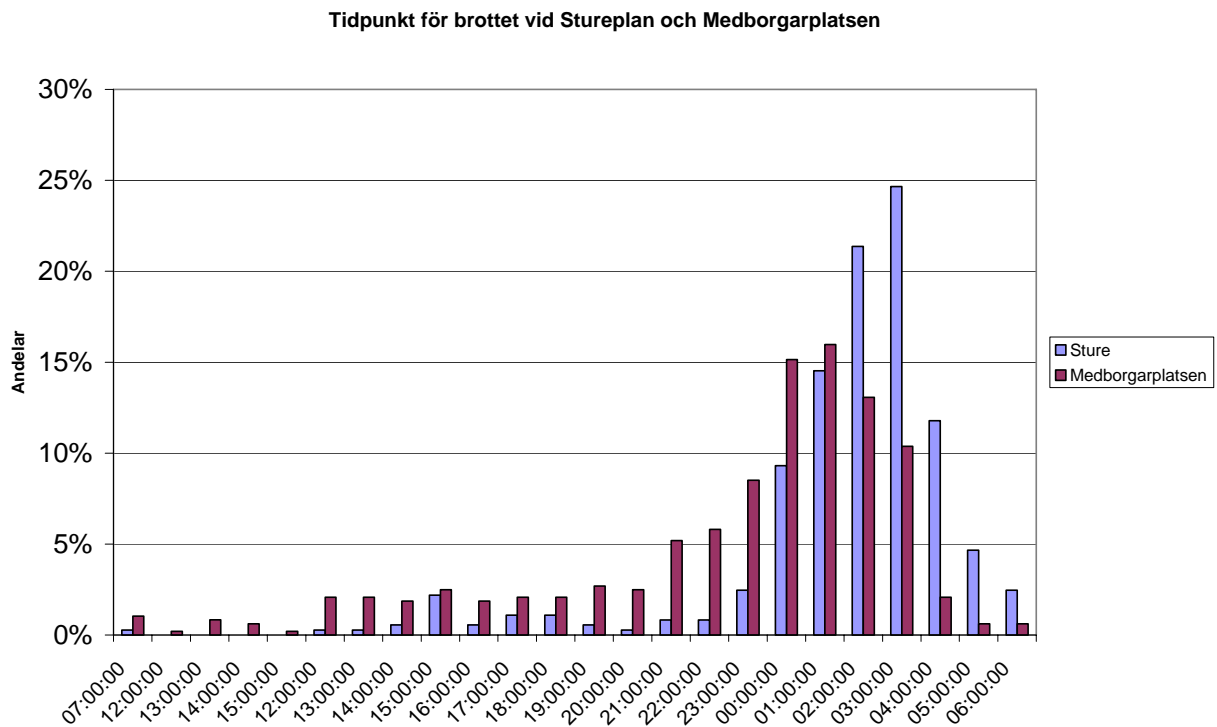
3. Please give a short general description of the project.

The mobile police office is a project that involves the police locating a police bus in areas of Stockholm such as Medborgarplatsen and Stureplan, which have a high density of bars and other public entertainment premises, during the evening and through the night on weekends. The police bus functions as a police office to which members of the public can turn in order to report criminal offences. The police officers on duty patrol the area on foot or on bicycles and are highly visible in reflective vests. The police work in collaboration with bars and security guards and attempt to prevent violence in public places by being both visible and accessible.

4. Please describe the objective(s) of the project?

The objective of the mobile police offices is to reduce crime and increase levels of safety and security in public places in central Stockholm. The project also has the objective of making the police more accessible to the public.

5. How was the project implemented?



Time of recorded offences in Stureplan and Medborgarplatsen in Stockholm] – “andelar” – “proportion of recorded offences”

The project is based on an analysis which examined the times of the day at which the majority of offences are committed in two areas of public entertainment in Stockholm: Medborgarplatsen and Stureplan. The diagram above shows that just over 75 percent of the offences in Medborgarplatsen take place between 9 pm and 4.59 am. In Stureplan, just over 90 percent of offences are committed between 11 pm and 6.59 am. The majority of offences in both areas are concentrated to the late evening and through the night.

The concentration of crimes in Medborgarplatsen and Stureplan to certain times led to a decision to place mobile police offices in these areas on Friday and Saturday nights. The mobile police office is in place in Medborgarplatsen between 8 pm and 4 am, and in Stureplan between 9.30 pm and 5.30 am. The police officers who work at the mobile police offices collaborate with security guards and bars, and patrol the area in order to prevent violence and public order disturbances. The work was evaluated in 2006 and the mobile police offices were subsequently established as a permanent element in the routine activities of the Stockholm police.

6. Were partners involved in planning and/or development and/or implementation of the project? If so, who were they, and what were their roles?

The police are the principal actor involved in the project. The following actors also participate:

Security guards/bar owners: The mobile police offices collaborate first and foremost with security guards and bar/restaurant owners working in the bars and restaurants located in the area in order to develop a joint view of how problems can be resolved

The municipal licensing office: The office engages in a dialogue with the police and bar owners in order to secure a responsible approach to the serving of alcohol.

The church: Representatives of religious organisations are present at the mobile police offices and work to provide information and advice, as well as serving coffee.

The local crime prevention council in the Södermalm district: Parents who participate in organised night patrols in the city collaborate with the mobile police offices regarding the question of where an adult presence is required.

7. How did you build in plans to measure the performance of the project?

The project was followed up two months and six months subsequent to its start-up in 2006. The follow-up described the trend in crime statistics for those areas where the mobile police offices were located and compared these figures with those for the period prior to the introduction of the mobile offices.

An evaluation form has also been completed by staff who have worked at the mobile police offices each Friday and Saturday night. The completed forms have been analysed to identify possibilities to develop and improve the work, and in order to describe the working methods applied on the basis of the joint view of the problems that needed to be addressed.

8. Has the project been evaluated? How, and by whom?

The project was evaluated by an analyst working at the Stockholm Police authority in 2006 (Kerstin Johansson)

9. What were the results? How far were the objectives of the project achieved?

The evaluation conducted in 2006 showed that there had been a reduction in the amount of violence in public places following the initiation of the Mobile police office project. This reduction was identified on the basis of a comparison of crime statistics for Stureplan and Medborgarplatsen during weekends in May to October 2006 with the statistics for the corresponding period in 2005, when no mobile police offices were yet in place. The comparison showed that violence in public places (in the form of assaults, rapes and robberies against the person, occurring outdoors) had declined by 33 percent. In the whole of the city police district, which includes both Stureplan and Medborgarplatsen, violence in public places declined by 6 percent during the period between May and October 2006 by comparison with the corresponding period in 2005.

The evaluation of the project does not however provide an unequivocal basis for assessing whether the project has had a positive effect on violent crime, and if so to what extent. The area measured by the crime statistics is larger than the area than can be assumed to have been affected by the reach of the mobile police offices, and thus the changes in violent crime noted in the crime statistics may have been caused by factors other than the introduction of the mobile offices.

Questionnaire surveys conducted among security guards and bar owners who work in the immediate vicinity of the mobile police offices show that the increased police presence has made collaborations and contacts with the police easier, and have produced a greater sense of security. The collaboration has resulted in the police, security guards and bar owners from approximately 15 "problem bars", together with the municipal licensing office, formulating a joint view of how best to prevent public order problems and violence.

The methods that have been employed include amongst others identifying and refusing entry to excessively intoxicated individuals, exhibiting low levels of tolerance towards offensive behaviour, on the spot forfeiture of alcohol and early intervention in order to avoid public order disturbances and conflicts escalating into violence. The project has also meant that the public have been able to report offences to the police on the spot, and that the police at the mobile offices have started patrolling a larger area using bicycles. The project started on a trial basis but subsequent to 2006 became a permanent element in the work of the Stockholm Police.

10. Are there reports or documents available on the project? In print or on the Web? Please, give references to the most relevant ones.

The evaluation has been published on the Stockholm Police website (but has unfortunately not been translated into English)
http://www.polisen.se/mediaarchive/1690/9449/10633885/mobilapoliskontor_u_ppfoljn_maj_okt06.pdf

Please, write here a one page description of the project:

Violence and insecurity in public places constitute a substantial and important problem. The "Mobile police office" is a focused measure that has been developed in order to suppress violence in central areas of Stockholm. By placing mobile police offices in Stureplan and Medborgarplatsen during weekend evenings and nights, the opportunities to prevent violence have increased. The mobile police offices have led to the police becoming more visible to the public, and the project has led to a more intensive collaboration between police, security guards and the owners of bars that experience problems.

The mobile police offices are based on a hot-spot analysis of statistical data showing where and when crime occurred most frequently. In concrete terms the project involves a police bus functioning as a police office to which the public can turn to report offences. The police working in connection with the mobile offices patrol the area on foot or on bicycle and are very visible, wearing reflective vests. Together with bars, security guards and the municipal licensing office, the police have formulated a joint view of the problems in the area and try to prevent violence in public places by being accessible and visible. Religious organisations and the local crime prevention council, which organises parental patrols in order to increase the adult presence in public places, work in collaboration with the mobile police offices.

An evaluation of the project conducted in 2006 showed that there had been a reduction in the level of violence in public places following the introduction of the mobile police offices. This reduction was identified on the basis of a comparison of crime statistics for Stureplan and Medborgarplatsen during weekends in May to October 2006, when the mobile police offices had been introduced, with the statistics for the corresponding period in 2005, when no mobile police offices were yet in place. The comparison showed that violence in public places (in the form of assaults, rapes and robberies against the person, occurring outdoors) had declined by 33 percent. In the whole of the city police district, which includes both Stureplan and Medborgarplatsen, violence in public places declined by 6 percent during the period between May and October 2006 by comparison with the corresponding period in 2005.

The evaluation of the project does not however provide an unequivocal basis for assessing whether the project has had a positive effect on violent crime. The area measured by the crime statistics is larger than the area than can be assumed to have been affected by the reach of the mobile police offices, and thus the changes in violent crime noted in the crime statistics may have been caused by factors other than the introduction of the mobile offices.

The mobile police offices are now a permanent element in the work of the Stockholm Police