

**New crime blitz will focus on city suburb
High-visibility patrols planned**

BY ANDREW HUTCHINSON

THE latest phase of a campaign to fight crime and anti-social behaviour today moved into a Leeds suburb.

Operation Arrow, a joint police and city council operation, will be targeting the Brackenwood area of Leeds.

The offensive begins with a blitz to tackle crime and fear of crime and improve the quality of life for residents living in the area.

Superintendent Richard Jackson of Chapeltown police, said: "Today we will take further action to crack down on any anti-social behaviour in the area and our partners will clean up the physical appearance of Brackenwood to provide local people with a safer, cleaner environment."

The blitz will include:

- Teams of officers carrying out search warrants and making arrests.;**
- Civil warrants being executed for non-payment of fines.;**
- Police community support officers on high visibility patrols;**
- City council cleansing teams tidying up the area;**
- An automatic number plate recognition system to scan the registration plate of passing vehicles and check them against police databases;**
- The fire service conducting an environmental scan for fire hazards, such as abandoned mattresses and rubbish and checking local buildings against fire safety regulations.**

The operation will be coordinated from a new multi-agency base on Lidgett Lane in Gledhow, Leeds. Assistance Coun Les Carter, Leeds City Council executive board member with responsibility for community safety, said: "This new building will be a welcome assistance in our campaign to make life uncomfortable for criminals and vandals who afflict many of our estates.

"Arrow and other similar campaigns around Leeds show our determination to support the decent law-abiding majority of Leeds people and tackle the issues that matter for them."

Local PC Dave Brook said: "This is about putting officers back into the community to work with residents. "We aim to have regular contact with local people and involve them in tackling the issues that are causing them most concern."