

**SitexOrbis lone worker protection  
Incident report: community warden – Portsmouth City Council**

**code5® brings police to scene of knife-threatening gangman**

When Portsmouth City Council community warden Katherine Murray and a colleague arrived at the scene of a disturbance reported on a local council estate one summers evening, they found two gangs of male teenagers hurling abuse at each other.

Sensing the tension in the air, Kath immediately activated the code5® lone worker panic button on her mobile to put SitexOrbis operators on the line to assess the situation and provide the appropriate back up support.

She then approached one group, while her colleague went over to the other. Initially they had to shout to be heard above the clamouring teenagers but soon things quietened down as if the situation was over. But it wasn't.

Before Kath was able to re-join her partner, the youths became more aggressive than ever. One of them pulled a knife out from his jacket and lurched forward. "Get out of my way, I'm gonna f\*\*\*\*\*g kill them", he said.

Kath and her colleague put their own safety to the back of their minds and formed a human barrier to stop the two groups getting at each other. It was then that the wail of sirens was heard from police cars heading their way. The gangs began to disperse.



As Kath had anticipated when she triggered code5®, SitexOrbis operators had located her via her GPS mobile phone and having listened to and assessed the situation, had made contact with both the emergency services and her managers.

Aware of the risk, the police sent several cars that arrived along with other Portsmouth community wardens ready to give support to their colleagues.

Kath said: "I did not have time to phone the police as I rushed straight from the van and into the argument. I just hoped that SitexOrbis would take the decisive action required and thankfully for us they did."

Several of the gang were charged with a variety of offences. With the description given by the community wardens allied with the audio recordings provided by SitexOrbis placing them at the scene, all of them pleaded guilty.

Kath added: "The system [code5®] is very successful. The recordings for evidence are fantastic. They are available to us within hours of an incident taking place. They leave no doubt as to who said what and when." Portsmouth City Council has used SitexOrbis lone worker protection since 2004.

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