Anti-social behaviour in Bath on new police commissioner's hit list

The new police and crime commissioner has vowed to crack down on anti-social behaviour after listening to the concerns of people living in Bath.

Sue Mountstevens was in the city as part of a week-long tour of the Avon and Somerset force area to get the views of the public as she draws up her first police and crime plan.

Laura Coleman from The Princes Trust chatting to Sue Mountstevens

She paid a visit to Bath and North East Somerset Council's One Stop Shop, in Manvers Street, and invited people to talk to her about their pressing concerns.

Ms Mountstevens, who was elected in November, said the visit had allowed her to get an idea about the different kinds of problems facing Bath residents.

She said: "Anti-social behaviour seems to be one of the priorities. It is the only overwhelming subject which people feel very strongly about because it affects their daily lives.

"Luckily not many people are affected by rape or murder, but so often we will make choices because there is anti-social behaviour and we have to change our behaviour because of it."

She added: "Bath is very lucky to be a very low crime area, but there are residents who I have met today who have made a significant comment about anti-social behaviour and the night-time economy."

Ms Mountstevens said she rejected the idea that any crime was unimportant, saying: "One of the phrases I vehemently dislike is low-level crime, because I think that is me saying it is not important.

"I believe it is very important. No matter where you live, that pile of vomit will upset you, especially if you have to step over it every day."

People can give their views on what should be included in the police and crime plan by going to www.consultation.avonand somerset.police.uk.