



# Report from the First Welfare Officers' Forum

March 2010

**"An excellent night, very informative, gave me some information I didn't know. I am now better equipped to do the Welfare Officers role."**

That was the verdict from Steve Beale of Tamarside JFC at the end of the first Welfare Officers' Forum hosted by Cornwall and Devon FAs.

About 30 people attended the event from football clubs, youth Leagues, and the Cornwall FA Girls' Centre of Excellence. They were able to discuss

- **The FA CRB's Online Safeguarding Reports**
- **'need to know'**
- **CEOP**
- **ThinkUKnow**
- **the Welfare Requirements Affiliation to the 2010/11 Season**
- **The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act**

Club Welfare Officer Hilary Desousa from Tintagel said, "A useful evening in all respects particularly the online safeguarding report which I am keen to access now I am aware of its benefits, it was helpful to make us aware of our role and responsibilities as club welfare officers."

The purpose of the evening, held at Saltash United FC, was to give the club and league volunteers the opportunity to refresh themselves on safeguarding Issues, and to meet and exchange experiences with other welfare officers.

The hosts were Cornwall FA's County Welfare Officer Mandy Kimmins and Dave Keast, her equivalent in Devon. Mandy said, "The informal evening proved to be a lively one with excellent participation from those attending as important updates concerning Safeguarding in football were explained and discussed."

**Club Welfare Officer Rayna Toms from Looe:" This was a very useful evening, the FA CRB input was useful as was the information about online safeguarding reports, I will be on the computer tomorrow!"**

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