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# PRESS RELEASE

**Free posters let trick or treaters know when to call**

**Halloween is this weekend and Mid Sussex District Council has joined up with Sussex Police to produce free posters that show ‘Trick or Treaters’ if they are welcome to call.**

Many young children will soon be putting on their scariest costumes and taking to the streets to celebrate Halloween. There will be lots of fun activities taking place right across the District but there are members of the Mid Sussex community that do not wish to participate in the celebrations.

Mid Sussex District Council and Sussex Police are asking revellers to be respectful of people who do not wish to take part in the trick or treat ritual. The Council is making ‘No trick or treat’ and ‘trick or treaters welcome’ posters available from the District Council offices, Town Council Help Points and online.

“Dressing up for Halloween and asking for sweet treats is great fun for children but there are members of the community who are nervous about people calling at their home after dark,” said Councillor Norman Webster, Cabinet Member for Health and Community. “We want everyone to enjoy the evening of 31st October so we’re encouraging people to display one of these posters in their front window to either welcome trick or treaters to call, or to ask them not to stop this time.

“It only takes a minute to download one of the posters or to collect one from the Council offices so make sure you’re ready for Halloween and grab one today.”

The District Council’s Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator has visited a number of local schools alongside representatives from Sussex Police to raise awareness among young people about how they can be perceived at this time. Groups of young people in high spirits and scary costumes can be intimidating for some residents and students were asked not to approach properties displaying the ‘no trick or treat’ signs.

To download the free Halloween posters visit <http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/community/10101.htm>

For more information on Community Safety contact Lucie Venables, MSDC Senior Community Partnerships Officer on 01444 477204 or email lucie.venables@midsussex.gov.uk.

#### ENDS

For more information please contact **Martin Faulconbridge on 01444 477478 or Martin.Faulconbridge@midsussex.gov.uk**