

RUGBY EVENING TELEGRAPH / July 2002

# Anti-mugger bags and belts launched

**EUROPE'S first range of handbags and fashion accessories specifically designed to protect their owners from street crime was launched today.**

They include lingerie-style stealth belts and bands for concealing mobiles and other personal valuables, "stylish but

secure" handbags and high-security laptop computer cases.

Fashion designers have worked with the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science, police crime prevention and women's self-protection experts to develop the new collection which is being launched at the Design Council in London.

Even a former bag thief was consulted.

The accessories are designed to deter four of the most common techniques employed by street criminals, dipping, grabbing, lifting and slashing.

They include security features such as anti-slash materials, cut-proof straps, combination lock clips and personal alarms.

The products will be marketed by Selfridges and other stores throughout the UK under the "Karrysafe" brand.

Designer Adam Thorpe said: "We have a track record of producing designs which tackle social issues head on and there's little doubt that street crime is in the front of many people's minds."