

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee North Warwickshire Area Committee

Date of Committee 29 November 2006

Report Title Social Inclusion Fund 2006/07

Summary Report gives details of an existing post within North Warwickshire police which requires additional financial support to sustain the post in the short term whilst longer term funding is sought

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s) Area Committee Funding sub-group. In attendance: Cllrs Sweet, Grant, Stanley, Moss
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member
- Chief Executive
- Legal Sian Stroud
- Finance Nicola Cumberledge
- Strategic Directors David Carter
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

Area Committee Funding Sub-Group

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by
this Committee

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To Council

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To Cabinet

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To an O & S Committee

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To an Area Committee

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Further Consultation

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North Warwickshire Area Committee – 29 November 2006

North Warwickshire Social Inclusion Fund 2006/07

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

Recommendation

- 1) That the North Warwickshire Area Committee endorse the view of the Funding sub group to support the post of Nuisance Co-ordinator to the value of £7,065 for the remainder of the financial year 2006/07 and review the outcomes of the post before giving further commitment in year 2007/08.
- 2) That North Warwickshire Area Committee provides match funding to the value of £1,000 for a 'Building Respect' event to be held in December 2006 in support of the post.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Safer Neighbourhoods agenda has recently been launched and piloted across North Warwickshire through the network of local Area Forums that are supported in a partnership agreement between North Warwickshire Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council's North Warwickshire Area Team.
- 1.2 These public meetings have been in place for over 4 years and have allowed the public, borough and county officers, parish councils and the local police force to meet within the community to discuss and consult on local issues and progress new initiatives.
- 1.3 The Area Forums are one of the vehicles chosen by Warwickshire Police to deliver Safer Neighbourhoods in North Warwickshire. Through the Forums the Safer Neighbourhood teams will bring together the skills of police, partner organisations and the public to prevent, detect and solve crime, tackle disorder and address issues that are important within local communities.
- 1.4 Within the PACT (Partners & Communities Together) sections of the Area Forums the issues of nuisance and antisocial behaviour have been highlighted as key concerns within communities across the borough.
- 1.5 This feedback from local communities has highlighted the importance of the role played by the Nuisance Co-ordinator in updating the database recording incidences of nuisance and anti-social behaviour.

2. Support for Nuisance Co-ordinator Post

- 2.1 The post has been identified by Chief Inspector M Naughton as a central role in enabling the police to work with partner agencies eg North Warwickshire Borough Council's Community Development Team to provide longer term solutions through positive divisionary activities for known offenders, as well as addressing the more immediate need to reduce the number of incidents in the shorter term by targeting hotspot areas.
- 2.2 The Co-ordinator's role in regularly updating the database with new intelligence enables key agencies to plan their work accordingly. The officer also makes school visits and organises events to help address the rising concern of nuisance and anti social behaviour.
- 2.3 A short fall in funding has been identified for the post. As a contribution to the Safer Neighbourhood team it is proposed, with Member approval to use Social Inclusion Funding to support the post in the short term in anticipation that the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) would look to secure further funding to maintain the post in the following year and beyond.
- 2.4 At the Members Funding sub group meeting on 1st November it was agreed to support the post to the end of this financial year as requested, and then to review the outcomes of the post in providing longer term measures towards reducing nuisance and anti-social behaviour across the borough before considering further support in year 2007/08.
- 2.5 See appendix A for full details of the post.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 There are funds available of around £20,000 to be committed from the Social Inclusion Fund 2006/07. A commitment of £7,065 towards this post and a further £1,000 towards supporting the 'Building Respect' event would leave around £12,000 remaining.
- 3.2 Support for the post would assist in providing a comprehensive database of nuisance and antisocial activity to enable agencies to respond in partnership to public concern raised at Area Forum meetings and other avenues of communication made available through the Safer Neighbourhoods initiative for the reporting of crime and passing of information to the police.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director for
Performance and Development

Shire Hall
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Warwickshire County Council Social Inclusion Fund 2006/07

Name of Project: Co-ordination, sharing, and application of intelligence on nuisance and anti-social behaviour

Name of Local Strategic Partnership: North Warwickshire

Name of Theme Group promoting project: Community Safety Partnership

Description of Project for which funding is sought from Area Committee

Within the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) sections of the Area Forums Community safety issues are now discussed with priorities identified and taken forward for action. An issue likely to feature highly is nuisance and anti-social behaviour; this has already been identified as a priority at Area Forums North, East and West in October.

A database has recently been set up in direct response to the lack of a systematic approach to nuisance and anti-social behaviour. This database records information relating to the dates, times, addresses and types of nuisance on a beat and Area Forum basis. The data is categorised by young people, adults and motorbike nuisance.

The intelligence gained from this database is fundamental to the addressing of nuisance and anti-social behaviour issues across North Warwickshire. This data will inform the responses and deployment of resources by a number of agencies at specific locations within Safer Neighbourhoods Areas where anti-social behaviour is identified as a priority at the PACT section of the Area Forum meetings. It can also identify and target hotspot areas as they emerge. This should help those agencies involved to take effective action to find out why these individuals are behaving in this way and work with them to help change their behaviour. Such action should also serve to address the public's concerns. The actions taken by the police and other partners in dealing with anti-social behaviour should be reflected in the data and can be used as a form of evidence of the results of actions taken to address Area Forum priorities.

The post of Nuisance Co-ordinator is essential to the upkeep of the database, adherence to the newly emerging protocol for dealing with nuisance and anti-social behaviour, and the distribution and use of the data and intelligence this provides. For example, the Nuisance Co-ordinator works closely with partner agencies, such as North Warwickshire Borough Council, who provide diversionary activities to encourage individuals to change their behaviour. The Co-ordinator also visits local schools to liaise and advise the school in relation to the behaviour of the children outside school in order to help support these young people.

Without this role it is likely that data errors and gaps would emerge as no one would

take ownership of entering information onto the database. Either no or inaccurate information would then be provided to partners which could lead to the inappropriate targeting of resources causing an ineffective approach to nuisance and anti-social behaviour in North Warwickshire. This could lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour and public concern.

Funding is sought primarily to support the continued employment of the Nuisance Co-ordinator. The officer came into post in August 2006 with funding of £8,000 provided by the North Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership. This current level of funding is only expected to support the post up until December 2006.

Further financial support is required to cover the full salary costs of the post in the immediate future, with the post then being part funded by North Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership (NWCSP) in 2007/08, subject to funding being secured. The post is currently not a mainstream police function having been created as an outcome of developments in partnership working.

The Partnership would look to support the post as part of its developing approach to tackling anti social behaviour. Without this funding it will not be possible to continue with this post and therefore the intelligence and reporting to Area Forums will no longer be possible. This will also have a significant impact on the community and will result in agencies being less able to tackle the problem of nuisance and anti-social behaviour in an informed way, as highlighted above.

Some additional financial support is also sought to enable a 'Building Respect' event to be run in order to attract, and thus increase, the number of agencies, organisations and services involved and contributing to reducing nuisance and anti-social behaviour in North Warwickshire. As this initiative has become established, it has been recognised that the benefits of this work could be extended to work with wider organisations and wider services within organisations that are already involved, such as Youth Offending Team, Positive About Young People, Probation Service, Housing, Community Development. In order to attract and involve these agencies and services it is proposed to hold a 'Building Respect' event. This will provide the opportunity for these agencies and services to come together and hear of this initiative, the benefits it is having for those partners already engaged and to discuss how they may also benefit. The outcomes of this event will help to further shape and influence the future work and role of Nuisance Coordinator.

The 'Building Respect' event is planned for December 2006 and currently has funding of £1,000 from NWCSP.

Location of Project

The project will cover the whole of North Warwickshire. The Nuisance Co-ordinator will be based at Atherstone Police Station.

Who will benefit from the project?

Project will benefit the whole community by addressing public concerns. It will help to improve the behaviour of specific individuals for their own benefit and the wider

community through removal of nuisance and associated fear of crime leading to an increased confidence in the local area.

Victims of anti-social behaviour and nuisance will be identified through this process are identified and are referred direct to victim support for advice, support, and further referral to appropriate agencies as necessary.

When will it be delivered?

December 2006 – end May 2008

Expected Outputs

- Nuisance Database maintained and updated on a fortnightly basis
- Building Respect Event delivered.
- Employment of a Nuisance Co-ordinator
- No. of agencies / services utilising data increased.

Expected Outcomes

Better management of resources between organisations and improved multi-agency working to tackle anti-social behaviour.

Reduction / better management of nuisance and anti-social behaviour through closer monitoring of individuals and more timely planned reactive responses to emerging / existing hotspots.

Improved community and quality of life for local residents and reduction in the local residents fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Proposed monitoring arrangements/Indicators of success

The work of the Nuisance Co-ordinator will be monitored by the Community Safety Partnership. Progress reports will be submitted every six weeks to the Area Committee Funding Sub Group. Feedback from the Area Forums will also help to gauge the effectiveness of the initiative. An end of year summary report will be submitted to Members on the outcomes and successes of the post in addressing the wider issues of nuisance and anti social behaviour with due consideration to offer further support to the post in 2007/08 in light of commitment from NWCSF and feedback from the wider partnership.

The event will be evaluated on the number of agencies that attend, their comments and their sign-up or otherwise to the anti-social behaviour initiative.

What is the long term future of the project (If appropriate)

It is anticipated that new funding from the CDRP will be made available in the new financial year. However, currently there is only a commitment to run the Safer & Stronger Communities Fund for another year, which is the most likely source of

funding available to NWCSP to support this post. The allocations for CDRP's in 2007/08 is not yet known. There is a risk that funds may not be forthcoming. This is an inevitability for a post that is not mainstreamed. Should the project be unsuccessful at attracting a proportion of funding from CDRP, the viability of the project will be reviewed and a report submitted to the Area Committee regarding the way forward.

Analysis of costs	
Total Project Cost	
Staff (Salaries and Expenses)	£
06/07 Nuisance Co-ordinator (£471 per week for 15 weeks)	7,065
07/08 Nuisance Co-ordinator ~ 50% of salary (subject to continuation of Social Inclusion Funding at 06/07 levels)	13,000
N.B. On-costs relating to the post are to be covered by Warwickshire Police	
Capital/Equipment	£
Other	£
Building Respect Event (inc venue hire, facilitator and refreshments)	1,000
N.B., Some of the costs of this event are to be covered by Community Safety Partnership	
Total (Of which:	21,065
06/07	8,065
07/08	13,000)