

'INTERACTION'

Neighbourhood Management Partnership

Date; 20 February 2007

Title; Interaction Community Warden Scheme

Action; For information

Summary

The purpose of the attached paper is to provide an overview of the objectives, remit, functions and initial priorities of the Interaction Community Warden Scheme.

Recommended: *The Board receive the paper*

INTERACTION COMMUNITY WARDEN SCHEME

1. PURPOSE OF PAPER

The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of the objectives, remit, functions and initial priorities of the Interaction Community Warden Scheme.

2. BACKGROUND

The Community Warden Scheme is a major component of the Interaction Partnership which is funded until 31 March 2010 from the Neighbourhood Element of Central Government's Safer and Stronger Communities regime (subject to the outcome of the 2008 Spending Review). The scheme will cover;

- Jaywick, including Tudor Green, The Village, Brooklands and Grasslands, comprising the ward of Golf Green
- Pier ward in the Town Centre

The Warden Team reports to the Interaction Neighbourhood Manager and is comprised of;

- A Scheme Supervisor/Senior Warden
- Two Wardens

The team was appointed at the end of 2006 and all staff have gained formal accreditation through the Essex Police Accreditation Scheme. The scheme is expected to become fully operational at the beginning of March 2007.

3. SCHEME OBJECTIVE AND KEY OUTCOMES

The overarching objective of the Community Warden Scheme is "To improve the quality of life for residents and reduce the incidence and fear of crime and disorder".

The key outcomes will be to;

- **Reduce incidents of crime and disorder** through working with key enforcement agencies, such as the police, to report and ultimately tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.
- **Improve resident perceptions of personal safety and promote greater civic pride and responsibility** through providing a receptive, responsive and highly visible uniformed presence in the scheme's catchment areas. The wardens will also seek to raise local awareness on the importance of civic pride and responsibility.
- **Maintain the quality of local environments** through working with key council departments, such as Environmental Services, to quickly and effectively respond to key concerns, such as fly tipping, graffiti and abandoned vehicles. This will play a key part in raising resident satisfaction with the warden scheme and the provision of council services as a whole.

- **Actively promote community development** through working with residents and other stakeholders in the generation of community projects and activities.

4. OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONS

The Warden's will carry out a range of tasks which will be spread across 2 principal functions;

4.1 Community safety and environmental management

- Patrolling
- Assisting in the promotion and development of Neighbourhood Watch Initiatives
- Distributing crime prevention literature
- Liaising with the Police over crime and safety concerns and intelligence
- Reporting significant anti-social behaviour to the Police
- Providing "spontaneous education" and, where appropriate, issuing fixed penalty notices to reduce low level anti-social behaviour, such as, dog fouling, littering and cycling on footpaths.
- Confiscating alcohol and tobacco from young people
- Reporting abandoned vehicles and issuing notices for evasion of car tax to the DVLA
- Removing drug paraphernalia
- Reporting incidents of environmental abuse, problems and concerns to relevant Council departments. A key priority will be to patrol public land, especially areas owned and maintained by the Council.

4.2 Community Development

- Attending community meetings to convey their roles and responsibilities and to ascertain/report back on community needs, issues and concerns
- Assisting in the development of community improvement projects and activities
- Signposting residents to local services and community activities
- Visits to vulnerable residents

5. KEY DELIVERY PRIORITIES

Over the initial 3 month period from when the scheme becomes operational (March to May), the following priorities have been established to help ensure that the practical delivery of the scheme will meet local expectations and be positively received.

5.1 Strategic priorities

- To convey a clear understanding of the objectives, roles and parameters of the scheme to residents, partner organisations and the local media. This will be achieved through briefing sessions at community meetings, the inaugural Interaction newsletter in April and scheme launch/publicity through the local media.

5.2 Operational priorities

- To develop a clear understanding within the Warden Team on Environmental Services' procedures and timescales for responding to fly-tipping, graffiti, noise pollution, dangerous animals, pest control matters, drug paraphernalia. The

wardens will also need to develop a close working relationship with the Planning and Environmental Liaison Officer.

- To develop a close working relationship and understanding with the Police over key operational matters, such as responding to anti-social behaviour, including the designation and monitoring of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.
- To forge strong links and dialogue with local community groups and organisations and to begin to ascertain local needs and priorities for the Interaction Partnership to act upon. However, the wardens will also play a critical role in ensuring that local expectations from the scheme, and the council in general, are commensurate to operational and financial parameters.
- To counter low level nuisance and anti-social behaviour through a spontaneous education approach which will seek to change peoples' behaviour through informed persuasion rather than legal enforcement. This will help to establish a positive public perception of the scheme rather than an unwelcome imposition. This approach, however, may need to change over time.

6. KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The following system has been devised to measure the impact of the scheme. It is proposed that the performance of the scheme is monitored by the Interaction Community Safety and Environment Sub-Group (yet be presented to, and approved by, the Interaction Partnership Board) on a quarterly basis. The Group will also be responsible for reviewing and evaluating the scheme and overseeing any improvements and developments. It is intended that a formal review of the scheme will be carried out after 6 months of it being operational.

6.1 Community safety and environmental maintenance

-(Percentage of scheme hours spent on) **Visible patrol** time

-Number of **intelligence reports** to the Police

-Distribution of **crime prevention** material and advice

-Notification of **Abandoned Vehicles**

-Notification of Abandoned Vehicles reported with in 24 hrs

-Notification of Abandoned Vehicles removed within x days

-Educational activity, aimed at reducing **Dog Fouling**

-Number of dog Fouling enforcements/spontaneous education provided

-Number of **Unlicensed Vehicles**

-Number of Unlicensed Vehicles reported within 5 days

-Number of Unlicensed Vehicles removed within x days

-Number of **cycling enforcements**/spontaneous education provided

-**Drug disruption** – Number of needles reported

-Drug disruption – Number of needles removed within 15 hours of being reported

- Number of **under age alcohol/tobacco confiscations**

- Number of **fly tipping** cases reported
- Number of fly tipping cases reported within 24 hrs
- Number of fly tipping cases removed within x days

- Number of standard **graffiti** reports made
- Number of standard graffiti incidents cleaned within x days
- Number of Obscene graffiti reports made
- Number of Obscene graffiti reports made reported within 4 hrs
- Number of Obscene graffiti incidents removed within x days

- Planned educational activity, aimed at reducing **litter**

6.2 Community Development

- Number of **stakeholder meetings** attended
- Number of **community events** attended
- Number of **vulnerable visits** made
- Number of **visitors** assisted
- Number of **community improvements** identified
- Number of community improvements implemented

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