

REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

WEST AREA CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY SAFETY CAMPAIGN

1 SUMMARY

This report seeks approval from the West Area Committee for funding to be made available to support the Christmas Community Safety initiative pack. The initiative will aim to supply a package containing resources to prevent burglaries in the West Area. The campaign will focus on the 'hot spots' identified in partnership with colleagues in the Police Service.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee allocate £5,000 from the West Area Crime and Anti-social behaviour budget.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Members will be aware that crime across the City was reduced by 26% between 2006 – 2008. The West particular benefited from major reductions in car crime, burglaries, theft and anti-social behaviour.

3.2 There are many actions that can be attributed to the crime reduction achieved within the West Area, these include:

- § Weeks of Action;
- § Parklife Events;
- § increased presence of Community Protection Officers;
- § partnership operations targeting Broxtowe Country Park;
- § activities organised through the positive action for young people budget;
- § 12 days of Christmas campaign.

3.3 Whilst considerable reductions in crime have been achieved, there is no room for complacency. It is recognised that during the run up to Christmas burglaries tend to increase. This year the Police, Nottingham City Homes, Neighbourhood Management Team and other partners are keen to raise awareness of risks of burglaries during the Christmas period.

3.4 The Area Management Team have suggested that vulnerable neighbourhoods are provided with community safety literature and devices to enable them to be better prepared in preventing burglaries. The types of items that can be included in a gift style box are:

- § a calendar with telephone numbers of emergency services;
- § door and window safety alarms;
- § timer switches for lights;
- § personal alarms;
- § crime prevention literature;
- § fire prevention literature;
- § ultra-violet security marker pens;
- § Christmas card from the Area Committee.

3.5 The Local Area Commander has ensured that the Police will make available matched funding from their community safety budgets. The Christmas gift box will be part of an area wide campaign to reduce crime in the West Area.

3.6 The money provided by the Area Committee will be used to pay for printed materials and postage as much of the security equipment has been obtained from the surpluses left by the 12 days of Christmas campaign. It is envisaged that officers from the Police and the Community Protection service will be able to support the distribution of the boxes as much as possible.

4 PROPOSALS

It is proposed that members agree to the request made in the Section 2 of this report.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The £5,000 costs can be met by charging the West Area Crime and Anti-social Behaviour budget. The uncommitted balance of the Crime and Anti-social Behaviour budget, not including the affect of other requests for allocation elsewhere on this agenda, stands currently as follows:

Crime and Anti-social Behaviour	£20,000
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6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None arising from this report.

7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

Much of the crime occurring in the West Area affects communities who reside in deprived neighbourhoods and experience poverty. The Christmas community safety campaign will be targeted to benefit such neighbourhoods.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The contribution from the West Area Committee is needed towards the costs. Without the £5,000 requested it will not be possible to deliver the campaign.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS

This initiative will impact directly in reducing crime in the West Area.

10 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

This report contributes towards the following strategic priorities:

- people feeling safe in their communities;
- a cleaner City;
- respect for Nottingham.

11 VALUE FOR MONEY

The West Area Team aims to develop projects which make a valuable contribution to the Best Value Review process and to adhere to the Best Value principles.

12 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

13 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

None

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