

report

meeting	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY	
	COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE	
date	19 October 2007	agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

WEEKS OF ACTION

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform and update the Community Safety Committee on progress of the "Respect for Nottingham" agenda and the "Weeks of Action" within the City boundary.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Committee is very familiar with Service interventions and the measures the Service utilises to create safer communities. A well understood partnership agenda exists allowing services and agencies to work collaboratively for the greater good of the communities we serve.

2.2 As part of this relationship, organisations have worked to address local issues in the form of "Weeks of Action" in the following areas :

Bulwell	w/c 14/08/06
Aspley	w/c 25/09/06
Radford	w/c 23/10/06
Dunkirk & Lenton	w/c 04/12/06
The Meadows	w/c 22/01/07
The Arboretum	w/c 19/02/07
St.Anns	w/c 26/03/07
Top Valley and Bestwood	w/c 23/04/07

3. REPORT

3.1 The Service contributed to the above events in the form of Home Safety Checks (HSC), Road Traffic Collision (RTC) awareness information, school visits, vehicle child safety checks and leaflet drops. All activity was fully co-ordinated utilising the skills of station based staff, district managers and relevant Community Safety Advocates. Over the periods identified, 535 HSCs were completed. Smoke detectors, deep fat fryers, extension leads etc. were issued where it was felt appropriate. In addition, referrals were made to Surestart, City Housing Officers and crime reduction managements, to deal with issues identified, and where partner agencies' services were most appropriate to deal with those issues.

- 3.2 Children and young people’s engagement is a primary issue for the “Weeks of Action” with youth centres visited by the Service. Co-ordinated activity to maximise this engagement included road safety material and the use of a “brake test car” with the ability to measure reaction time and travel distance under deceleration.
- 3.3 In total the overall numbers of people engaged and activities taken forward were very encouraging and are testament to the collaborative approach. These are illustrated below :

Arrests	295
Anti-Social Behaviour Orders Served	13
Number of properties protected by Smartwater	9346
Tonnes of rubbish removed	423
Home Safety Checks	535
Vehicles seized	29
Children and young people engaged in activities	3596
New Neighbourhood Watch Groups established	16

- 3.4 It is of particular note the above serves to progress individual organisations’ commitments, whilst subtly easing burdens on others. For example, the 433 tonnes of rubbish removed eliminated the potential for secondary fires and consequently unneeded attendance at a reported fire by the Service, whilst making streets and neighbourhoods more pleasant to live and work in.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The activity referenced within this report has been sustained from existing budgets.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

The Service is structured around this type of practical delivery, utilising the skills, knowledge and attributes of staff to best effect. No detrimental implications have been identified.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

By the very nature of the work being undertaken the collaborative assessment of equality impacts has brought around local communities being identified who are most at risk. It is well understood that the “less well off” are the most vulnerable. This exercise has enhanced the Service’s understanding of community cohesion and what the Service has to offer vulnerable groups.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The risks associated with poor performance and not assisting partners through commitment and resources could open the Service to scrutiny. The Service continues to assess these risks and effectively manages them through maximised engagement and agenda setting with partners.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report and continue to encourage the Service to enter, as committed partners, future “Weeks of Action” and support all activities it can which complements the Authority’s vision.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)

None.

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