

Report to: Community Safety Executive

Report by: Rachael Dalby, Head of Community Safety

Date: 29 November 2006

Subject: Community Warden Service Budget Carry Forward

1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 To inform the Executive Member for Community Safety on the service development facilitated by the carry over of grant funding from 2005/6 to 2006/7

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Executive Member for Community Safety takes note of this report.

3.0 Background

3.1 Two grants were received in 2005/06, one for Community Wardens and another for a Community Warden Resource Centre. In both circumstances additional income had been earned in these areas of activity resulting in an overall underspend totaling £42,000. The Department for Local Government and Communities has confirmed that they will not look to recover these sums from the Council so long as they are spent on delivering new initiatives linked to Community Wardens and the Resource Centre.

3.2 This £42,000 will be used to fund the recruitment of 4 to 5 school leavers as Apprentice Wardens in the Charles Dickens ward plus help fund a Young Advisor pilot scheme in Portsmouth as part of a national initiative to engage with young people.

4.0 Youth Advisors

4.1 This is a local pilot to be launched as part of a national initiative to enhance engagement with young people. Rather than demonising young people as a cause of anti-social behaviour this initiative will seek to involve them in identifying solutions.

4.2 The young advisors will be young people's champions and as such will:

- Advise and demonstrate to community leaders and frontline service providers how they can engage young people in community life, regeneration and renewal
- Advise and demonstrate to community leaders and frontline service providers how they can build respect through engaging with young people and involving them fully in tackling anti social behaviour

- Identify, lead and develop community-based projects that tackle anti-social behaviour and promote and encourage the involvement of young people

4.3 Young people will be required to apply for the roles and following their appointment into the roles will receive 2 days training before becoming working young advisors. To assist and support their development 4 community wardens will be trained as mentors.

4.4 It is expected that the young advisors will work around 4 hours per week.

4.5 Once piloted in Portsmouth, the scheme will be rolled out by the South East Warden resource Centre to other warden schemes and local authorities in the South East.

5.0 Apprentice Wardens

5.1 The Community Warden Service will appoint 4-5 school leavers resident in the Charles Dickens Ward. This would add value to the work, which is being done in the Super Output Area through the Neighbourhood Management Pilot

5.2 The Apprentices will undertake NVQ 2 Community Warden Award, some key Skills through Highbury College and importantly obtain practical work experience in the Community. They will work as an integral part of Portsmouth City Councils Community Warden Service.

6.0 Signing Off The Report

Signed..... Date

Rachael Dalby, Head of Community Safety

7.0 Approval to The Recommendation(s)

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved / approved as amended / deferred / rejected* by the Executive Member for Community Safety.

Signed Date

Councillor Paula Riches, Executive Member for Community Safety