

Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal
Outer West Area Committee

Project Name: CASAC Burglary Reduction

Lead Organisation: CASAC Leeds

Project Delivery - How will the project be delivered? (list any partners involved in the project):

In the first instance the grant would be targeted to those streets in each ward, as identified as a burglary priority by the Crime Reduction Officers. The full cost of a standard target hardening package is £150. The intention is for the grant to subsidise target hardening in Outer West and residents would be expected to pay the first £50 of any work required. The remaining £100 of the standard package would be paid from the £10,000 grant. If the work required is less than £50 then the grant would not have any funds taken from it, as the cost would be covered by the resident. However, it must be recognised that there are some household in severe hardship, and in the absence of alternative funding, CASAC suggests that 20% of the funding be allocated to provide the service free of charge for those who are vulnerable and cannot afford to pay for their contribution. These residents should be identified by local Crime Reduction Officers or Councillors, to ensure that only the most vulnerable people access the free service. This would ensure that the funding does not introduce barriers to the service for those in desperate need. The remaining 80% of the funding could then be directed to priority burglary areas and residents asked to contribute the first £50 towards the cost of the service. Once referrals in the streets identified by crime reduction officers have been exhausted then CASAC will accept referrals from all areas in Outer West using the aforementioned criteria. This “reserve list” will be managed on a first come basis, through referrals which are received during the course of the project. For example, residents who are outside of the priority area as identified by the Crime Reduction Officer who approach CASAC will be placed on the “reserve list” and will only be approached if there are funds left after the project has exhausted take up in the priority area. The well being funding will provide up to 95 households the opportunity to reduce their risk of burglary

Project Summary (include a brief description of the main activities, why the project is needed and links to key priorities):

CASAC Burglary Reduction was established in 2001 in response to meeting Home Office objectives of reducing domestic burglary by 25% and maintaining it. The service is delivered through a multi-agency partnership between Safer Leeds, CASAC-Leeds and West Yorkshire Police. Safer Leeds has indicated that domestic burglary has reduced by 44% over the past three years alone, and note CASAC Burglary Reduction as an effective mechanism to achieve such a reduction. These fantastic results mean that Safer Leeds is keen to ensure that investment is still made into target-hardening so that Leeds continues to experience a reduction in burglary offences.

Our service aims to alleviate the fear of burglary among residents in Leeds and to assist in reducing burglary and repeat burglary rates. We have visited over 35,000 properties since the scheme started in 2001. Safer Leeds analysis of burglaries has shown that the repeat burglary rate for properties target hardened is 2%, which is very favourable when compared to Leeds’ repeat burglary rates in non target hardened properties of 8%. This shows that target hardening significantly reduces your chances of being a victim of burglary.

We aim to tackle burglary by providing additional security to the homes of those who have been burgled or are considered particularly vulnerable to burglary. This involves the client arranging an appointment for one of our qualified Safety Engineers to visit their home, assess their current security measures and then fit additional door locks, high security handles/break secure cylinders for UPVC doors, window locks, chains and spy-holes where necessary. The engineer will only fit measures that the client is happy with and also provides advice on how to reduce the risk of burglary in the future. This list of measures is not exhaustive – the Safety Engineers will consider many security devices, which will help individual clients.

Safer Leeds have funded CASAC in the past, the provision for funding in this financial year is extremely

limited and can only cover the most vulnerable people and desperate households. This means that there is potential for vulnerable burglary victims in the West Outer area to be unable to access the CASAC target hardening service. CASAC has no other confirmed funding sources at present. The £10,000 grant from the West Outer Area Committee will enable CASAC to offer target hardening services in the Outer West areas of the North West division.

Outcomes (summarise the main outcome/output/benefit the project will achieve):

- Up to 95 household target hardened
- improved burglary figures for Outer West Leeds
- increased feeling of safety by venerable groups in the community

Project Cost. Please indicate

How much the project will cost?

Target Hardening Services (hardware, labour, operational costs etc) for up to 95 properties dependant on their needs - £10,000

The total amount of funds requested for this scheme is: £10,000 (capital)

Identify which geographic areas will benefit:

Pudsey, Calverley & Farsley and Farnley & Wortley