

Project Name: Police Off-Road Bikes

Amount Applied for: £1,500

Lead Organisation: West Yorkshire Police

Project Summary:

The aim of this project is to enhance the safety and quality of life of residents living in the North West Police Division area by providing an effective response to illegal off road motor cycling, anti social behaviour and to assist with high visibility patrols, particularly focusing on green spaces.

The police currently employ their powers under the No Insurance scheme and Section 59 of the Police Reform Act wherever possible and in conjunction with Park Watch to seize offending vehicles and prosecute their riders. However, by its very nature off road motorcycle offending can be difficult to combat. Foot officers and Police Community Support Officers are obviously unable to give pursuit to them and marked police vehicles are usually unable to follow across open ground. Being able to utilise the Off Road Bikes has assisted the division in combating other forms of criminality for example street drug dealing and street robbery, by providing a quick means of accessing hard to reach open areas where such offending occurs.

The results of the funding have made a definite positive impact on figures re nuisance motorcycles Anti Social Behaviour and most other crimes where the Police motorcycles patrol. This has in turn made the quality of life better and safer for all constituents in the Division. The Team works well with the Council's Parkwatch Service undertaking joint initiatives and co-ordinating patrols to tackle specific problems such as complaints of nuisance bikes, anti social behaviour . The Off Road bikes Officers have worked on cross boarder initiatives with Bradford Council to tackle anti-social /illegal motor-bike in area such as Black Carr Woods, Tyersal, Dick Lane Thornbury, and Calverley Woods, as well as open land such as Post Hill , the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, and other hotspot areas in Outer West.

In all ward's the motorcyclists issue Fixed Penalty Tickets both endorsable and non endorsable for all manner of offences, assist at the scene of Road Traffic Accidents 's and immediate calls where prudent. On occasions due to their manoeuvrability in traffic and ability to ride through estate's and parks the off road motorcycles arrive first on the scene of an incident of all type's and back up 'just in case'. They routinely patrol known hotspots for nuisance bikes and also work in the burglary hotspots across all wards. The team also undertake joint initiatives with the Council's Parkswatch Service, and Officers have also undertaken work with schools to promote safe riding.

Outcomes

- Reduction in number of complaints of ASB in relation to motorbike nuisance
- Compliment and work with Councils Park Ranger Service
- Public Reassurance through patrols on public greenspace
- Regular patrolling of hotspot areas to proactively deal with problems
- Increase of awareness of safe riding via partnership work with the Lazer centre,

schools and other partners

Ward / Neighbourhood:

All Outer West Wards

Project Cost & Financial Breakdown

Application to Outer West Committee - £1,500

This project is joint funded across 4 Area Committees:

Lease of 2 bikes: £6,000 (£1,500 for each area committee)

Police equipment: £1,200

Officer training: £3,000

Total cost per year: £10,200 (including Police match)