

Area Committee Well Being Fund - Commissioning of Service
Inner West Area Committee

Appendix 1

Project Name: Neighbourhood Wardens

Lead Organisation: Area Management

Project Summary:

The New Wortley area of West Leeds has 2 Neighbourhood Wardens. The wardens have been in post since October 2004 following the significant success of the pilot to place wardens in the area to combat previously high levels of crime and anti social behaviour. These posts are jointly funded by West Inner Area Committee and Leeds West North West Homes and at present are temporary for 2 years. This application is to continue joint funding of 2 neighbourhood wardens posts in New Wortley for a further 12 months and to joint fund a neighbourhood wardens post with WNWHL and Leeds Federated Housing Association for the Wyther estate in Armley.

The most deprived areas in West (by rank order) are now New Wortley, followed by the Fairfield, Heights, Upper Wyther and the Gilpins neighbourhoods - all these are in the worst 5% of deprived neighbourhoods nationally. All of these areas have a neighbourhood warden except for the Wyther estate.

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

The overall aim of the Leeds Neighbourhood Wardens scheme is to assist in achieving better neighbourhoods and confident communities by reducing crime and the fear of crime, deterring anti-social behaviour, assisting in making environmental improvements and supporting the local community.

The success of the Wardens, in New Wortley, is based on their flexibility to work when required, and the support and reassurance they give to the local community, which has seen improvements in the reduction of crime and Anti-social behaviour, as well as environmental improvements.

Over the last 2 years the wardens have been involved in a number of multi-agency projects as well as providing patrols and dealing with local issues on a daily basis. Some of the projects have included multi-agency tenancy sweeps in the high rise flats, working with the local PCSO on joint surgeries, attending police briefings, providing vital information that has assisted the police to target criminal activity/individual in relation to drugs, prostitution, nuisance motorbikes, criminal damage, burglaries and vehicle crime. The neighbourhood wardens have also organised environmental clean-up's and work with the environmental enforcement team targeting un kept gardens and fly tipping. The wardens have develop links with the schools, assisting in safe walking schemes and the road safety armband project, youth service and the boys group, youth offending service offering placements for young people to participate in reparation work. The wardens have strong links with the community centre and attend residents meetings support local people and have assisted local people into drugs treatment services and into training and employment.

Currently there is no funding for a warden on the Wyther estate in Armley. On going work and discussions with the Wyther Improvement Group have identified that this area would benefit from a full-time Neighbourhood wardens post. There are issues on the estate in relation to the environment, crime including instances of hate crime, ASB and criminal damage and it is felt that a neighbourhood warden who could have a base at the Wyther Community House would provide a valuable service to the local community and act as a link into to other services on both the top and bottom area of the Wyther estate.

All the Neighbourhood wardens are currently supported by the senior wardens and managed by the Area Community Safety Co-ordinator for West Leeds

Project Cost (please indicate how much the project will cost, how much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue):

Joint funding with WNWHL for 2 wardens post for New Wortley for 12 months = 26,905

Joint funding with WNWHL and Leeds Federated Housing Association for 12 months = 8,968

Total amount £35,873.00

Identify which geographic areas will benefit and which Area Committee (Inner or Outer) you are applying to:

Inner Area Committee Armley ward

State who will receive the funding for this project:

Sarn Warbis Project Manager LCC Regeneration Team