

**REPORT TO: NEIGHBOURHOOD RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE -  
12 MARCH 2001**

**REPORT ON: COMMUNITY SAFETY - HOME SECURITY TARGET HARDENING**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOOD RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT**

**REPORT NO: 158-2001**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of this Report is to report on progress achieved within the home security target hardening initiatives and to seek consent for funding for 2001/2002 to continue the work.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 notes the progress of the project initiatives.

2.2 notes the recommendations of the Dundee Partnership Community Regeneration Group to fund project work within Social Inclusion Partnerships (SIPS) areas for 2001/2002 as per paragraph 3.3 below.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The Scottish Executive Challenge Funding for 2000/2001 for non-SIPS designated areas will be 67% used by 31 March 2001. Consent for variance to 2001/2002 for the remaining 33% of the one off grant (£30,000) has been obtained on 16 January 2001.

3.2 Previous grant allocation for SIPS areas of £55,000 in the year 1999/2000 funded from the Dundee Partnership under the Social Inclusion Programme has been fully utilised.

3.3 The Partnership has recommended a further provisional allocation of up to £55,000 to continue priority work within the SIPS designated areas. This grant is contained within the Social Inclusion Fund section of the Neighbourhood Resources and Development Department budget for 2000/2001.

## **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 These initiatives directly contribute to local community safety and security. Their result is a reduction in opportunities for crime by intruder entry and repeat victimisation. The speed of response is a key feature in reducing trauma from repeat victimisation and contributes in a practical way to a reduction in the fear of crime within local communities.

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Priority is given to project services where race, gender or age are determining factors in repeat victimisation through intruder entry to domestic properties.

## **6.0 BACKGROUND**

6.1 The target hardening of domestic property subject to repeat victimisation from intruder entry or within areas where a higher incidence of intruder entry is being experienced has been operating for 2 years.

6.2 During 2000/2001 the Council was successful in attracting a one off grant of £90,000 under the Community Safety Challenge Fund to extend the project outwith SIPS designated areas.

6.3 The project works in close co-operation with Tayside Police, Victim Support, The Claverhouse Group and the Multi Agency Panel for Racial Harassment. Key Council Departments also assist with the identification of domestic properties where security is a major issue in terms of residents personal security eg racial harassment, personal violence etc.

## **7.0 CURRENT POSITION**

7.1 The project, actioned as a result of referrals, seeks to establish home security within 3 working days of notification of intruder entry.

To date 95% of all notifications have been actioned within this timescale. The project provides free door strengthening, locks and security advice. During survey a smoke detector sealed unit is also fitted if none exists.

7.2 To complement the services outlined in para 7.1 an intruder crime analysis of specific community areas has been undertaken by Tayside Police and a proactive programme of security upgrades is ongoing with the collaboration and support of the Housing Department. This work has dramatically reduced the incidence of intruder entry to domestic property within vulnerable communities.

7.3 To date during 2000/2001 the following numbers of domestic properties have received security upgrades as per paragraph 7.1:

Non SIPS Areas	313 houses
SIPS Areas	251 houses

In addition, a total of 746 security inspection visits have been made which have resulted in the issue of security advice but have been funded by residents own resources eg insurance.

## **8.0 FUTURE POSITION**

8.1 Twenty five percent of 2000/2001 Challenge Funding has been authorised as a variance by the Scottish Executive for project work outwith SIPS designated areas. This will be prioritised to exclusively deal with intruder entry to avoid repeat victimisation and will concentrate on Housing Department stock.

8.2 The funding from the Dundee Partnership will allow the project to continue to react to intruder entry security upgrades and will allow modest ongoing preventative work to continue. The programme is demand led and will be monitored throughout the year with a further report on the level of service required being made to committee in March 2002.

## **9.0 CONSULTATION**

9.1 The Chief Executive, Directors of Finance, Support Services and Housing have been consulted on the content of this Report.

9.2 The Chief Constable, Home Security Trust, Partnership agencies, community representatives and voluntary sector representatives have also been consulted and involved in the assessment of the application and are in agreement with the proposals.

## **10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10.1 No background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1073 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

**Director, Neighbourhood Resources and Development** .....

**Date** .....

FRP/ADB/AHPH (TargetHardening)  
February 2001