

**REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 8 SEPTEMBER 2003**

**REPORT ON: "BUILDING STRONG, SAFE AND ATTRACTIVE COMMUNITIES: GUIDANCE TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THEIR COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERS ON PREPARING SUBMISSIONS FOR WARDENS AND OTHER COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVES TO TACKLE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR."**

**REPORT BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY PLANNING)**

**REPORT NO: 571-2003**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To advise members of an outline submission on Wardens and other Community Based initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour to be submitted to the Scottish Executive.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that members agree to the proposals and timetable for final submission as detailed in Section 6 of this report as the Council's outline submission to the Scottish Executive.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The outline submission is in relation to the proposed Scottish Executive allocation to Dundee City Council of £1,050,000 for 2004-05 and £1,050,000 for 2005-06. This proposed allocation is made up of £650,000 for a Community Warden Scheme and £400,000 for other initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour in each financial year.

## **4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

This report has an impact on the following key Local Agenda 21 themes:

- People live without fear of personal violence from crime
- Health is protected by creating safe, clean, pleasant environments
- All sections of the community are empowered to participate in decision making

## **5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **6 BACKGROUND**

### **6.1 Scottish Executive Funding and Consultation**

6.1.1 In the 2002 spending review, the Scottish Executive committed £15M in each of the years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 to tackle anti-social behaviour and the poor quality of the environment, and to help local people build strong, safe communities. Of the total £30M, £20M has been allocated to extend community warden schemes and £10M has been earmarked for other initiatives to address anti-social behaviour.

6.1.2 The Executive proposes to offer funding to all 32 local authority areas, with banded allocations, which take account of factors such as deprivation, population, population density and crime rates. Dundee City Council's allocation is proposed at £1,050,000 in each of the two financial years. This is broken down as £650,000 towards Community

warden schemes and £400,000 for other initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour in each financial year.

6.1.3 Following the Consultation exercise, the Executive has produced Guidance to local authorities and their community planning partners on preparing submissions for Wardens and other community based initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour. The Executive is proposing a two-stage process for submissions leading to the commencement of schemes from April 2004. Local authorities on behalf of their community planning partners will be invited to submit outline proposals to the Scottish Executive by 31 August 2003. Comments will be offered back to local authorities from the Executive by 30 September 2003. Following this, full proposals should then be submitted to the Executive by 30 November 2003. Scottish Ministers will make final decisions on these submissions early in 2004 to enable schemes to begin operation from April 2004.

6.1.4 Submissions should cover both proposals for Community wardens and for other initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour. The Executive have made it clear at this stage that outline proposals should map out the routes to be followed to achieve the proposals rather than give the detail of the schemes at this stage.

## 6.2 Outline Proposal

6.2.1 In order to prepare an outline submission an officer and community planning partner group has identified initial relevant information which will be further refined for the full proposal in November 2003. The Scottish Executive allocation of resources to Dundee City Council included additionality for deprivation and crime. This has been recognised in pulling together the information used in the mapping exercise.

6.2.2 Initial information collected has included; case numbers by ward and type of referrals to the anti-social behaviour team, themed maps showing indicators of deprivation and maps showing the intensity by geographical location of crime and disorder in Dundee. The information from these three main areas of anti-social behaviour, deprivation and crime will be crucial in identifying the main areas to be covered for the final proposals in November 2003.

## 6.3 Strategic and Community Involvement Issues

6.3.1 A key area towards the success of the scheme is the involvement of communities and key agencies in the process. To this end consultation with key planning partners and community, tenant and resident groups is already underway. A full programme of consultation will be undertaken in advance of the final submission in November.

6.3.2 In order to ensure that the scheme will be firmly established and monitored from a Best Value perspective a Member/ Officer Best Value Review of Community Warden provision with representation from Community Planning partners including relevant Community groups will be established.

## 6.4 Community Wardens and Other Community Based Initiatives

6.4.1 The key proposal of the initiative is to extend the use of Community Wardens, which have been piloted across Scotland with positive results. The Executive expects warden schemes to contribute to one or more of the following outcomes:

- Reducing crime (including youth crime) or the fear of crime
- Reducing anti-social behaviour

- Improving environmental quality

6.4.2 It is felt that all these areas would play a part in the wardens role in Dundee, however the primary emphasis would be on community safety. Wardens need to work closely with and be supported by local communities. To this end the development of Neighbourhood Compacts, which constitute an agreement between Community Planning Partners and local communities, will be key to agreeing the role and review structure for Community wardens. The detailed tasks carried out by wardens will depend on the particular problems and priorities of local residents, but crime prevention will be central and key principles include:

- Wardens will not be a substitute for the Police
- Schemes must involve and have the support of local residents
- Protocols need to be established, especially on the engagement of the Police with warden schemes
- Wardens must be properly recruited, trained and managed.

6.4.3 At this stage taking the costings from pilot schemes across Scotland as an indicator it would be possible to project within the Scottish Executive allocation the possibility of funding five teams of four wardens per team with a senior warden for each area. This is an indicative example and will be further refined over the coming months.

6.4.4 The allocation also includes an amount of £400,000 for other initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour. At this stage only a broad outline of initiatives for which funding is being sought is required. A key area identified at this stage is the possibility to use part of this funding to increase the effectiveness of the current dedicated anti-social behaviour team. Initial areas identified include providing an Out of Hours Service, increasing the range of surveillance equipment available, seconding a police officer to the anti-social behaviour team, increasing support staff to address complaints from the private and owner occupied sector and providing information about community safety initiatives to the citizens of Dundee.

6.4.5 A timetable outlining the pathway for submissions is shown at Annex I.

## 7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

"Building Strong, Safe and Attractive Communities: A Consultation Document on Wardens and Other Community Based Initiatives to Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour"  
Scottish Executive-March 2003

"Building Strong, Safe and Attractive Communities: Guidance for Submissions-Guidance to local authorities and their communiity planning partners on preparing submissions for Wardens and other Community Based Initiatives to Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour."- July 2003

Report No. 354-2003 "Scottish Executive Proposals on Wardens and other initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour." Policy and Resources Committee- 9 June 2003

Chris Ward

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## APPENDIX I

Submission Pathway Timetable

| By 31.8.2003                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | By 31.11.03                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | April 2004                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare outline proposal for Scottish Executive</li> <li>- Routes and processes to underpin scheme</li> <li>- Collate information on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• requirements on strategic and community involvement issues (involving communities, key agencies)</li> <li>• specific requirements for Community Wardens (outline of scheme)</li> <li>• specific requirements for community-based initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour (broad outline)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report back to committee with findings of the Best Value Review Working Group and final proposal</li> <li>- Finalise statistical and other relevant data on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• deprivation</li> <li>• crime</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Full consultation with key planning partners, communities, tenants and residents groups</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- funding comes on stream. Projects start</li> </ul> |