

**REPORT TO: AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE
- 29 SEPTEMBER 2003**

REPORT ON: COST OF MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO NON-HOUSING PROPERTY

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INTRODUCTION

The annual level of malicious damage to non-housing property in Dundee has historically incurred an average self-insured cost of approximately £500,000. The following report outlines progress towards the reduction of this needless drain on resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- the reduction of £130,000 in the annual average cost of malicious damage in non-housing property be noted.
- the Council's Risk Manager be authorised to continue with varying initiatives to reduce and control the level of malicious damage to public property.

BACKGROUND

Traditional, urban authorities suffer from a high incidence of malicious damage to non-housing (in particular) properties.

During the latter part of the 2001/2002 financial year and through the course of 2002/2003 a range of risk management measures have been taken to try to combat malicious damage. Inter-alia, these include:

- provision of risk assessment help to front line departments to identify weak areas of buildings.
- financial assistance from the Risk Management budget to help with the cost of improvements to buildings.
- input to the Rapid Response Team and part funding of graffiti removal kits for the wider community.
- co-ordination of activity in conjunction with Tayside Police (deployment of the mobile CCTV unit).

The net effect of these initiatives has seen the cost to the Council of malicious damage in non-housing properties fall from £480,000 in 2001/2002 to £350,000 in 2002/2003.

CONCLUSION

Underpinning much risk management activity is acceptance of the "spend to save" philosophy. It is particularly welcome to see such a quick return on investment.

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