

Report No.
ES14074

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: Public Protection and Safety Portfolio Holder

For pre-decision scrutiny by the Public Protection and Safety PDS Committee on

Date: Wednesday 1 October 2014

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Key

Title: **FUNDING FOR TARGETED NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTIVITY PROJECT**

Contact Officer: Jim McGowan, Head of Environmental Protection
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Chief Officer: Nigel Davies, Executive Director of Environment & Community Services

Ward:

1. Reason for report

To advise Members of the proposal to spend the remaining balance of the Targeted Neighbourhood Activity Project Fund throughout the Borough.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Portfolio Holder:

Is requested to approve the detailed proposals set out in 3.7, to utilise £95k of the Targeted Neighbourhood Activity Project Fund

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable
 2. BBB Priority: Quality Environment Safer Bromley
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: £95k
 2. Ongoing costs: Not applicable
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Earmarked Reserve for Members Priority Initiatives
 4. Total current budget for this head: £95k
 5. Source of funding: Earmarked Reserve for Members Priority Initiatives
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Existing staff members
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: n/a
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: A number of statutes including the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 and Town and Country Planning Act 1990
 2. Call-in: Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Approximately 310,000; all persons living/working/visiting Bromley Borough.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: n/a

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 On 26th March 2012, the Council approved the setting aside of £2.260m in an earmarked reserve for Member priority initiatives. The Public Protection and Safety Portfolio is responsible for the delivery of the Targeted Neighbourhood Activity project.
- 3.2 On 7 August 2012, the Portfolio Holder agreed to initiate a pilot project aimed to bring about significant improvements in the physical appearance of an area of Mottingham, along with an increased sense of community cohesion within the area, £100k was allocated for this activity.
- 3.3 The basis of the scheme was to raise public awareness and to encourage the community to take pride in their neighbourhood using education, advice and support, whilst taking targeted enforcement action in specific areas to secure improvement.
- 3.4 The Mottingham Ward was selected as the location of the pilot as it was considered to be one of the borough's more deprived areas, suffering from a range of envirocrime, including anti-social behaviour, fly tipping, graffiti and littering. It was proposed at that time to expand this approach to other wards in the Borough at a future date.

The Proposal

- 3.5 The Public Health Nuisance Team in Public Protection is responsible for investigating a number of envirocrime issues across the borough; however, both officers and residents are often left frustrated by the limited enforcement powers currently available to them. More often, unsightly or inert rubbish accumulations on private land cannot be tackled due to the public health nature of their legally delegated authority.
- 3.6 It is proposed to extend this project into other Wards in the Borough and the various projects that have been proposed are outline in the Appendix.
- 3.7 It is also proposed to make part of the funding available in some instances to design out future problems, by taking measures to harden envirocrime hotspots, for example the installation of gates in alleyways or barriers to service roads to prevent unauthorised vehicle access.
- 3.8 The following table provides a summary of the proposed activities that will be met from the remaining £95k balance of the Project Fund: -

Summary of proposals	£'000
Co-operative store & recycling area	5.0
Geoffreys Estate	5.0
CCTV monitoring at this site at the junction of Maple Road	14.3
Additional street services vehicles for proactive fly tipping operations - Star Lane / Wagtail Way	3.0
Station Road SMC meadow view gating to prevent long term fly tipping	4.8
Sweeps Lane near Chesterfield Close - remove hedgerows & brambles, & erect steel fencing	17.0
Sweeps Lane: clear top of lower section, level & create new verge, to be included in grounds maintenance contracts	3.6
Teal Avenue Wagtail Way: Clear area & remove undergrowth, restore verge to prevent fly tipping	4.2
Park Road; remove undergrowth and reinstate verge & fence to prevent fly tipping	5.0
Maple Road/Graveny Grove: gate alleyway to prevent long term fly tipping & ASB	5.6
Star Lane junction at Wagtail Way: target harden area to prevent major fly tipping & arson	10.0
Targetted dog patrols on Op Crystal areas where there are major issues with dogs	6.5
Additional covert monitoring by private company 24/7 to catch the fly tippers during the unsocial hours at Gorse Road	5.5
Additional covert monitoring by private company 24/7 to catch the fly tippers during the unsocial hours at Star Lane	5.5
TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS	95.0

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 All enforcement activity will be undertaken in accordance with the Council's agreed Enforcement Policy.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 On 26th March 2012 the Council approved the setting aside of £2.26m in an earmarked Reserve for Member Priority Initiatives; £150k was allocated to a Targeted Neighbourhood Activity Project.
- 5.2 On August 7th 2012, the Portfolio Holder approved the allocation of £100k of these monies be used for a pilot within the Nottingham area of the Borough. As detailed in the budget monitoring report elsewhere on this agenda, a sum of £55k has been spent/committed, leaving an unspent

balance of £95k.

- 5.3 This report is seeking approval to spend the remaining balance of £95k on the list of activities summarised in 3.7 above.
- 5.4 Details of actual spend on these activities will be reported to Members in future budget monitoring reports.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Delegated authority exists for the relevant legislation under the pertinent statutes including the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Public Health Act and the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 but to handle non public health related matters under Section 215 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, discussions will need to be had with Chief Planner.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The projects will be carried out within existing resources.

Non-Applicable Sections:	[List non-applicable sections here]
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	[Title of document and date]