

Decision Maker: PUBLIC PROTECTION AND SAFETY POLICY DEVELOPMENT
AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday 8 April 2015

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Key

Title: 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: N/a

1. Reason for report

To advise Members of the progress with the spend on the Targeted Neighbourhood Activity Project Fund targeted initiative and provide details of the remaining balance of the Fund.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

Corporate Policy

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

1. Cost of proposal: N/A
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Earmarked Reserve for Members Priority Initiatives
 4. Total current budget for this head: £150k
 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 The Portfolio Holder initially agreed a pilot project aimed to bring about significant improvements in the physical appearance of an area of Mottingham, to target harden against fly tipping and to provide an increased sense of community cohesion within the area.
- 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 reduce fly tipping and 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 Project Update

- 3.5 The Portfolio holder and the Public Protection PDS considered the extension of this work to include enviro crime issues across the borough at its Committee meeting on October 1st 2014 and agreed a schedule of projects to be initiated at that time.
- 3.6 A number of the initiatives identified within the attached appendix have had to be cancelled or redirected as follows:-

Project	Reason for cancellation/non-progression
Maple Road, Penge (CCTV monitoring/gating)	Cancelled as the current CCTV camera in Penge had to be removed for commercial reasons and is due to be replaced in this position
Star Lane/Wagtail Way (Street service vehicle for pro-active flytipping work)	Cancelled as the land is owned by Bromley Council and is due to be sold
Station Road/Meadowview, St Mary Cray (Gating)	Cancelled as the Government have changed the legislation for gating and this scheme was no longer considered viable
Sweeps Lane (Vegetation removal, fencing)	Cancelled
Sweeps Lane (Clear, level, create new verge, add to grounds contract)	Cancelled
Maple Road/ Gravney (Gating alley)	Cancelled as the Government have changed the legislation for gating and this scheme was no longer considered viable
Op Crystal areas (Dog patrols in crystal areas)	Works carried out and paid for from a different budget
Star Lane and Gorse Road (Covert CCTV monitoring)	Works carried out and paid for from a different budget

- 3.7 The schedule of initiatives is attached (Appendix) with an update and details of further initiatives also undertaken in agreement with the Portfolio Holder and the Executive Director for Environment and Community services.
- 3.8 It was proposed to make part of the funding available in some instances to design out future problems, by taking measures to harden enviro crime hotspots, for example the installation of hardstanding, seating, barriers to prevent unauthorised vehicle access and specialised planting.
- 3.9 The table in the Appendix provides a summary of the existing and proposed activities that will be met from the balance of the Project Fund.

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 £150k of these monies be used for a pilot within the Mottingham area of the Borough.
- 5.3 On 1st October 2014, the Portfolio Holder agreed the allocation of £95k towards various projects as listed in the attached appendix. As mentioned above, several of these projects were not progressed and alternative projects have been agreed and commitments raised for the works. An unallocated balance of £35k remains.
- 5.4 Details of actual spend on these activities is contained within the attached spreadsheet and the final summary will be reported to Members in future budget monitoring reports.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Delegated authority exists for the relevant legislation under the pertinent statutes including the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Public Health Ac 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

The project is being carried out using existing resources.

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