

Report of Head of Neighbourhood Development

GROUNDWORK QUARTERLY UPDATE REPORT

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 Use this section to indicate:

- (a) This report gives members a quarterly update about the work being carried out with young people in Irchester and Finedon by Groundwork North Northants
- (b) This report addresses the objectives of Reducing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour and Improving Life Chances for Young People

2 Executive Summary

- 2.1 Groundwork North Northants has been commissioned by the Neighbourhood Development Service to work with young people in Irchester and Finedon. Details of the work being carried out, and the outcomes achieved are set out in the main body of the report.

3 Appendices

- 3.1 None

4 Proposed Action:

- 4.1 **The Committee is invited to NOTE the progress of the pilot scheme of Groundwork working with young people in the rural areas of Finedon and Irchester**

5 Background

- 5.1 During 2009 it became obvious that although work was being carried out to tackle anti-social behaviour in the urban areas of Wellingborough (Hemmingwell, Queensway and Croyland) under the auspices of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), a response was needed in the rest of the Borough, specifically in the large villages of Irchester and Finedon. This was backed up by police data and requests from residents through community panel priority setting.

- 5.2 The Community Committee agreed to Groundwork North Northants being commissioned to carry out this work at the meeting in March 2010.

6 Discussion

- 6.1 The majority of the work with the young people commenced after the March Community Committee and since then youth workers have been working on two nights a week in Irchester and Finedon.
- 6.2 The aims and objectives of the projects have been to build relationships based on trust and honesty. The workers encourage young people to think of the consequence of their behaviour and divert them from anti-social behaviour into positive activities. They also ensure that young people understand the role of the detached youth worker and their link to the wider partnership. A further aim is to encourage young people to have a respect for their community and work towards making their communities better and safer places to live for young people.
- 6.3 During the time of the project Groundwork has interacted with 52 young people to varying degrees. There have been a variety of face to face contacts ranging from participation in alcohol awareness sessions, participation in informal education around sexual health, sessions around awareness raising of anti-social behaviour and its impact on communities, sports sessions and equality and diversity session.
- 6.4 One major achievement was that one young person only recently worked with, delivered training on youth engagement at a County Anti-Social Behaviour Conference at Kings Park, in Northampton.
- 6.5 Since the project has started, two new youth workers have been recruited and they are now fully involved in the project.
- 6.6 To further explore the work carried out and the outcomes from this, Ann-Marie Lawson the Groundwork Youth Programme Manager will be attending the Community Committee meeting on 21st June and will present a fuller picture to the Committee.

7 Legal Powers

- 7.1 Section 111 of The Local Government Act 1972 gives the Council power to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions.
- 7.2 Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 gives the Council the power (subject to certain exceptions) to do anything which they consider is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the Borough

8 Financial and Value For Money Implications

- 8.1 The Budget for an Anti-Social Behaviour currently sits in the Neighbourhood Development Base Budget. During 2009/10, £8,800 of this was offered up as a saving under the ZBB process, funding was put towards the budget to pay for

extra hours for the Community Safety Manager and £15,000 was to put towards Groundwork North Northants for work with young people and anti-social behaviour. The work in this report commenced in the 09/10 financial year and continues into 2010/11.

- 8.2 As this is a quarterly update to the Committee there are no additional financial or VFM implications.

9 Risk Analysis

Nature of risk	Consequences if realised	Likelihood of occurrence	Control measures
Anti-social behaviour is not tackled in the rural areas	Damage to communities, both for young people and adults, residents concerns not being addressed, home office interventions and government scrutiny increased	High	Put in place effective and innovative activities to prevent asb in communities and to give everyone a better quality of life

10 Implications for Resources

- 10.1 This does not have an implication for existing staff and the budget is already in place in Neighbourhood Development

11 Implications for Stronger and Safer Communities

- 11.1 The reduction of Anti-Social Behaviour is one of the high priority areas that residents need tackling. It can affect community cohesion, fear of crime, all sectors of society. Damage can occur to property, people and lives. If this project can alleviate some of these things, we will also be seen as a Council who is tackling ASB and its causes.

12 Implications for Equalities

- 12.1 All young people will have an opportunity to take part in projects designed and implemented by Groundwork.

13 Author and Contact Officer

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14 Consultees

Ann-Marie Lawson – Youth Programme Manager, Groundwork North Northants
Michael Quinn – Management Accountant

15 Background Papers

Groundwork Quarterly update reports – May 2010