

Area West Committee – 20th January 2010

## 8. Promoting Community Safety in Area West

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The following two items relate to the same theme, the active promotion of Community Safety in Area West. The short presentations should stimulate debate about tackling community safety issues in our area.

### (a) Area West Community Safety Panel Update

#### Purpose of the Report

To update members on the work of the Area West Community Safety Action Panel and in particular the forthcoming Youth in Your Community Workshop that is being organised by the Area West Youth Network group.

#### Public Interest

The Youth in Your Community is a free workshop for people that organise and deliver events and activities for young people in Area West. The workshop will provide useful information about funding, training, child safety, activity ideas and resources. In addition there will a session on how to set up activities or a volunteer youth group for people who are thinking about it but have never carried out such an activity before.

#### Recommendation

Members take note of the report and pass on the information to any relevant people in their community.

#### Background

In 2009, the Area West Community Safety Action Panel agreed to form a sub group called the Area West Youth Network made up of people that work with young people in Area West. A review of this Network was carried out during summer 2009. The results showed that a one off workshop providing advice and support would be beneficial.

#### Youth in Your Community Workshop

The aim of the event is to highlight how the District Council, the Police, the County Youth Service and Somerset Rural Youth can provide support to anyone organizing activities for young people.

This event will take place on Wednesday 3rd February at the Henhayes Centre in Crewkerne. The event opens at 6pm when people can register, network and view a variety of useful displays; this is followed by a few very short presentations by participating organisations.

There will then be two workshop sessions with a choice of five workshops in each session. The workshops on offer are:

1. Funding - where to go and how to apply
2. Training - how to access relevant free or cheap training for workers and volunteers
3. Resources - activity ideas and where to get resources
4. Procedures - CRBs and child safety
5. Starting Out - for people new to working with young people

The event is free and people wishing to attend will need to book a place by contacting the SSDC Area West Development Team: Zoë Harris or Claire Littlejohn.

### **Update on the Football Project**

The initial funding for this project has now ended but as it has helped reduce anti social behaviour the scheme will continue. The partners of the project have now formed a Steering Group, which has successfully secured funding from a variety of sources including Yarlinton Homes, and the Community Cashback Fund. Training sessions are still running in the original seven locations, which includes Chard, Crewkerne and Ilminster and are being led by two of the coaches from Yeovil Town Football club.

### **Local Action Groups (LAGs)**

The Local Action Groups continue to meet in their respective towns. The Crewkerne LAG held a very successful community safety day during September. The event attracted over 100 people and included a demonstration of how the emergency services deal with the scene of a road traffic accident. Crewkerne LAG is planning a larger event for Saturday 18th September 2010 at the Henhayes Centre. Chard LAG is planning a family focused community safety event in late July 2010.

### **Financial Implications**

The Youth in Your Community Workshop will cost approximately £500, which has already been allocated from this year's budget.

### **Corporate Priority Implications**

4.1 Deliver positive activities for children, young people (especially those at risk of exclusion or offending) and families, designed to reduce antisocial behaviour by October 2010.

4.9 Develop a range of approaches and initiatives that build confidence and reduce fear of crime by maintaining a level of 92% of population that feels safe in their community by 2012.

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

The event is being held in the Henhayes Centre in Crewkerne, which is a fully accessible building. Flyers and posters publicising the event have been produced using Arial font size 14 and larger to ensure anyone with a visual impairment can read the information easily.

**(b) Police Performance and Neighbourhood Policing**

Inspector Jackie Gold and Sgt. Andy Lloyd will attend the meeting and give a short presentation on local issues, crime trends and initiatives.

**Background Papers:**     *Area West Community Safety Update July 2009*  
                                  *Area West Community Safety Update January 2009*

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