



AGENDA ITEM NO.12

FILWOOD, KNOWLE AND WINDMILL HILL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

25 September 2012

Report of: Kurt James, Neighbourhoods Department

Title: Wellbeing Report for Information and Decision

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Recommendations

This report is from the Area Co-ordinator. It is for information and decision and Neighbourhood Committee members are recommended to:

1. Note the Filwood, Knowle and Windmill Hill Wellbeing Grant fund financial position as at 25 September 2012.
2. Agree Wellbeing Grant Fund recommendations for Filwood, Knowle and Windmill Hill.
3. Agree to make £1,500 available to support Operation Biker.

Context

Wellbeing Budget as at 25 September 2012

Ward	Process	2012-13 Available Funds	Expenditure To Date	Balance
Filwood	Grants Panel	£10,000.00	£6,410.00	£3,590.00
Knowle	Grants Panel	£10,000.00	£5,449.00	£4,551.00
Windmill Hill	Grants Panel	£11,126.00	£2,300.00	£8,826.00
Total		£31,126.00	£14,159.00	£16,967.00

As of April 2010, the NP Wellbeing grants funding became a devolved budget, therefore final decisions on spend need to be agreed by the Neighbourhood Committee prior to the release of funding.

Proposals

Wellbeing Grants. See Appendix A

- The Neighbourhood Committee agree the Wellbeing Grant recommendations totalled £4,590 (excluding Windmill Hill) from:
 - Filwood (£3,590.00)
 - Knowle (£3,000.00)
 - Windmill Hill To be tabled at the meeting

Operation Biker. See Appendix B

Due to cuts to the funding of Operation Biker, which is the Police Motorcycle Unit used to catch nuisance motorcyclists in the area, the Neighbourhood Partnership agreed on 25 January 2012 to a request from Inspector Colin Salmon that all South Bristol Neighbourhood Partnerships contribute £500 per ward to allow for the continuation of this valued service.

The request for funding was not progressed at the time due to the service being in receipt of funding to 2012.

Additional funding for Operation Biker has now ceased, therefore the Neighbourhood Committee is being asked to make £1,500 available if it wishes the service to remain as a responsive service for local residents.

- The Neighbourhood Committee agrees to make £1,500 available to support the continuation of Operation Biker.

Legal Information

When councillors decide how the wellbeing fund is spent they should have due regard to the public sector equality duty that applies to all public bodies. This duty is contained in the Equality Act 2010 and came in to force on 6 April 2011. It replaces previous equality duties under the Sex Discrimination, Race Relations and Disability Discrimination Acts.

The duty means that councillors are required to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Promote equality of opportunity between different groups
- Foster good relations between people from different groups

The duty covers the following protected characteristics:

- Disability, Sexual orientation, Age, Gender reassignment, Religion and belief; Sex, Race, Pregnancy and maternity.

It also applies to marriage and civil partnership, but only in respect of the requirement to eliminate discrimination and harassment.

Recommendations

- **Agree Wellbeing Grant recommendations for Filwood, Knowle and Windmill Hill.**
- **Agree to make £1,500 available to support the continuation of Operation Biker.**

NP Grants – Filwood (September 2012)

Organisation	Purpose of Application	Spend by	Recommendation	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
KWHA	Christmas meal	December 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	300.00
KWHA	Teenage male cookery	October 2012	Declined	500.00	0
Broad Plain House	Disable toilets	March 2013	Declined	500.00	0
Nover Park OAP club	Christmas meal	December 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	340.00
Broad Plain House Football Club	Dug Out	November 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	350.00
Youth Moves	Wild Fest	November 2012	Declined	500.00	0
WOW	Christmas meal	December 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	350.00
KW Boxing Club	Annual Affiliation/Registration/Medical fees	October 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	350.00
Filwood Dance Club	Christmas meal/Coach	December 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	300.00
The Park Knowle Football Club	Training equipment	October 2012	Declined	500.00	0
Broadwalk FC	u10's Kits/jackets	October 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	350.00
Eagle House CA	Halloween/Childrens party	December 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	250.00
Eagle House CA	OAP Christmas meal	December 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	250.00
The Park	OAP Christmas meal	December 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	200.00
Mens Health Group	Tutor/materials	November 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	250.00
CIPKW	Venue Equipment	October 2012	Agree to Part Fund	500.00	300.00
Total				8000.00	3590.00

NP Grants – Knowle (September 2012)

Organisation	Purpose of Application	Spend by	Recommendation	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Stonebury Friends	Stonebury Friends Gating Project	November 2012	Agree	500.00	500.00
Entertaining Local, Knowle	Shakeskids Theatrical Performances	October 2012	Agree	500.00	500.00
Knowle Disability Group	Group Trips to Burnham and Weston	September 2012	Decline due to retrospective funding	1510.00	0
Key Projects	Catch 12 –18 years - artists to deliver regular sessions involving t-shirt design, graffiti, trash to treasure, pottery, drawing, jewellery making and painting.	October 2012	Agree	500.00	500.00
Key Projects	Jubilee Juniors 8-12 - artists to deliver regular sessions involving t-shirt design,	October 2012	Agree	500.00	500.00

Organisation	Purpose of Application	Spend by	Recommendation	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
	graffiti, trash to treasure, pottery, drawing, jewellery making and painting for				
Knowle Bowling Club	Conversion of a room into a committee and conference room.	March 2013	Agree	500.00	500.00
Knowle Senior Moments	Speakers for Senior Moments Meetings	March 2013	Agree	500.00	500.00
Total				4510.00	3000.00

DRAFT - Operation Biker South Bristol – September 2012**Background**

In the late 1990's Bristol like many cities nationally was suffering from an increase in anti-social use of Motorcycles in open spaces. This was a problem for south Bristol as it benefits from a number of open spaces.

By 2003 Local police officers were calling for help of the Police Traffic Department so that pre-planned operations could be conducted with their few Off-Road motorcycles at problem locations. These operations were successful at catching and discouraging offenders; as news of their presence in the area would soon spread. Sadly these operations could only take place infrequently, due to demand on their services from others and their other duties.

Communities across south Bristol identified this behaviour as a significant safety and quality of life issue. Even though the prevention of this activity is not a core police responsibility, a plan to make off road motorcycles available to local officers was developed. Funding was secured from Safer Bristol of £12,000 to purchase two motorcycles and equip and train 4 officers for a 3 year period for the 4 wards of Brislington, Stockwood and Hengrove. The police agreed to provide additional training and officer hours, plus cover maintenance and running costs of the vehicles – in affect match funding over the 3 years. These officers had an immediate impact in 2004. The timing of this initiative was opportune as new legislation came into being to allow the seizure for anti-social use of motor vehicles. It also meant there were resources to address the new problem in the mid to late 2000's of the widespread import of cheap mini motos and quad vehicles.

The initiative was so successful that the communities of Knowle West and Withywood wanted their own motorcycles and funded similar initiatives in their area. Other areas of the city and some rural locations also followed.

It became apparent that the small number of officers equipped and trained were limited in the hours they could patrol in duty time i.e where they were subject to operational demands. Officer deployment depended on staff availability, which often meant they were unavailable to be deployed when problems occurred at locations.

The majority of the problems were occurring in parks and open spaces. Where the responsibility for preventing this activity lies with the landowners, not the police; which in most cases was the local authority. An approach was made to the Parks department in late 2005 to provide funding based on the potential saving to them from reduced damage caused by this activity, the avoidance of installing expensive preventative measures and potential liability for injuries that could occur to other users of these areas. They provided £4000 for 6 months. This allowed for more police staff to be trained and equipped for additional patrolling. More importantly it provided a budget which could be used to commission dedicated police patrols as 'overtime' to focus solely on the issue. This funding provision prevented officers being redirected to other duties.

This partnership had an impact and from 2006 the Parks department provided £6000 each year to cover activity on all 12 south Bristol wards – equating to £500 per ward

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per year. There were some difficulties; as each year there was uncertainty as to whether that funding would continue

Current Situation

During this period the running costs to the police of these off road bikes and maintaining/equipping sufficient staff (Approx £800 to £1000 per officer) has increased. There had been no increase in contributions from the local authority.

The police supplied data in relation to the officer patrol hours in duty/overtime, bike seizures and until summer of 2011 calls attended, The later could no longer be provided due to the way in which anti-social behaviour calls was recorded. Patrol hours were almost doubled by the availability of the parks funding.

In the spring 2012 the local authority confirmed no further funds for the joint initiative would be provided for the reason that 'the police could not provide tangible evidence as to the effectiveness of the project.'

The police are not able to supply details of savings in repair costs, installing preventive measure saving or liability costs. There are also no specific questions in the local authority Quality of Life survey which covers community views on this type of behaviour. Anecdotal comments from the community are that the operation is an effective approach in preventing and stopping this type of behaviour.

Due to this withdraw of funding the police have had to reduce the dedicated patrol hours to maximise some funds they were able to secure in order to keep the initiative active across the south of Bristol for the summer of 2012 (the summer being when this type of problem is at its worst). Although the recent weather has been of great help, complaints of this type of activity in some parks and opens spaces appear to be increasing. Patrolling in duty time has continued however this has been affected by operational demands on the police service over the summer of 2012.

The police have committed to continue to maintain and run the off road motorcycles currently in the South Bristol area and to equip those staff currently trained for the remainder of 2012/2013.

In the spring of 2011 all Neighbourhood partnerships (NP's) in south Bristol were made aware there would be no longer be funds available for dedicated police patrols as part of this operation. Two NP's (Knowle, Filwood and Windmill Hill & Greater Brislington) have agreed to provide £500 per ward for 2012/2013 for the continued provision of these additional patrols on their areas.

Although great reductions have been seen with regards to long standing problems in Hengrove, Stockwood, and Brislington and more recently in Victoria Park, and Bedminster down, incidents still occur in these areas. Recently areas such as Dundry slopes and Whitchurch Village Green have had community priorities for this problems raised at their Neighbourhood Forums (NF), so local concerns regarding this behaviour still occur.

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From 1st September 2012

Police will continue to provide Op Biker patrols across the whole South Bristol area during normal duty time whenever possible.

Specific dedicated patrols funded by NP's will take place when there is a need to do so, based on issues being identified by the police or as a direct request from the two NPs or their NFs. These patrols will focus on the problem identified and also carry out preventive high visibility patrols of problem locations in the wards who are contributing to this funding.

These funded patrols will provide a detailed breakdown of activity undertaken during the funded patrols, including the issue which warranted the use of the funds, all locations visited and any outcomes from the patrols. An approximate cost of each commissioned activity will also be provided. The aim being to provide patrols to the mutual benefit of the contributing NP's, maximising the funds for preventative patrols across many problem locations.

The police will not be able to provide costs on any ward for the following; which may be associated to this type of behaviour

- Repair costs to grounds or fixtures.
- Preventive measures.
- Liability costs.

NP's may have to seek this information if it is needed for their wards for any such problems in their area.

The police will not conduct community satisfaction surveys or be able provide details of calls they receive about such behaviours in order to evaluate this initiative as the costs of doing so are likely to exceed the funding received for the initiative.

During commissioned funded patrols no patrols will take place of the wards outside of the areas covered by the two funding NP's.

Complaints received by the police regarding this type of behaviour on open spaces in south Bristol will be redirected to the land owners to ensure they are aware and to consider their potential liability risks should they not introduce measures to prevent this activity. The relevant NP will be informed when this has happened if the area is a NF priority. The police will continue to deal with such issues on highways.

Any request from those NP's not providing funding to provide dedicated patrols to address problems associated with use of vehicles in open spaces in their areas will be accommodated - **subject to the provision of funds to cover the patrols**. These patrols will operate in the same way as those above.

At the beginning of 2013 the police will review the continuance of their funding of this non-core service provision, considering the maintenance and running costs of the motorcycles, as well as the equipping and training of officers. This review will take into account the views of the NP's.

Insp Colin Salmon Op Biker south Bristol lead – 31st July 2012