

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services

Social Justice Committee: 14 June 2006

Subject: Tackling Anti Social Behaviour : Mobile CCTV

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report seeks the Committee's retrospective agreement to allocate current Scottish Executive anti social behaviour funding to meet revenue costs of £20,000 per year, to enable the acquisition of a mobile CCTV vehicle funded by the Scottish Executive's Proceeds of Crime Re-investment initiative.

2. Background

- 2.1 Under the Proceeds of Crime Act, the Scottish Executive is redistributing £2m of criminal gains in the areas of Scotland most affected by violent crime. This money will be distributed among six Community Safety Partnerships in Scotland, including West Dunbartonshire.
- 2.2 This funding must be spent on supporting local projects aimed at reducing crime, improving people's quality of life and visibly repairing the harm caused to communities through the impact of serious violent crime.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive has provisionally allocated £250,000 to the West Dunbartonshire Strategic Community Safety Partnership for 2006/2007.
- 3.2 Following analysis undertaken by Strathclyde Police, the two Wards identified for investment by the Community Safety Partnership are Dumbarton North and Whitecreek.
- 3.3 The funding must be used to cover a four-point programme delivered under the 'Safer Scotland' brand. National providers identified by the Scottish Executive will deliver some aspects of the programme and the remainder of the programme is to be delivered locally.

- 3.4** The four points of the programme are:-
- A next steps refreshed Drug Dealers Don't Care Campaign (DDDC) targeted within specified localities
 - A sports related package of twilight basketball and other sports
 - A vehicle related package
 - A schools package
- 3.5** Within this funding allocation, the Scottish Executive has provisionally agreed that a sum of £100,000 can be used to enable the purchase of a mobile CCTV vehicle. This excludes revenue costs. The Community Safety Partnership will agree its bid for Proceeds of Crime funding at its meeting to be held on 30 May 2006.
- 3.6** A condition of the funding is that the vehicle must be deployed for the first year of operation in the areas where the proceeds of crime money will be reinvested namely, Dumbarton North and Whitecrook. However, at the end of the 12 month period the vehicle will be deployed in all areas across West Dunbartonshire as and when required.
- 3.7** It is anticipated that the CCTV vehicle will be utilised to cover a range of surveillance issues including:-
- anti social behaviour
 - crime prevention and prosecution
 - environmental enforcement
 - fly tipping
 - trading standards
 - emergency planning
- 3.8** The Department of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services Community Wardens service will have operational and management responsibility for the vehicle, and will monitor the CCTV activities.
- 3.9** Based on information supplied by other local authorities that deploy mobile CCTV units, it is estimated that revenue costs involved in running the vehicle will be approximately £20,000 per annum. This sum includes all the costs involved in deploying the vehicle, including the maintenance of technical equipment, road maintenance, fuel, and insurance costs.
- 3.10** The Scottish Executive has allocated £1,765,000 to West Dunbartonshire Council for 2006/2007. This funding must be spent on achieving, or making progress towards, the achievement of the outcomes set out in our anti social behaviour outcome agreement 2005 -2008. Cost savings have been identified within this allocation that enable resources to be used to support additional initiatives to tackle and combat anti social behaviour.

3.11 In order that the Community Safety Partnership can consider this bid at its meeting on 30 May 2006, the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services obtained the agreement of the Leader of the Council, Depute Leader and Leader of the Opposition, to make a commitment to meet the revenue costs associated with the mobile CCTV unit.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 As indicated at 3.9 above, the Council and community planning partners receive Scottish Executive grant funding to tackle anti social behaviour in West Dunbartonshire. While the initiatives previously approved by the Council are in progress, sufficient funds from this grant are available to meet the cost of £20,000 per year to fund revenue costs to support the deployment of a mobile CCTV unit.

5. Personnel Issues

5.1 There are no personnel issues since the mobile unit will be staffed from within existing resources.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Additional Scottish Executive funding of £100,000 through its proceeds of Crime Initiative provides the opportunity for the acquisition of a mobile CCTV vehicle, provided that revenue funding for maintenance and running costs can be committed.

7. Recommendation

7.1 **The Committee is asked to agree retrospectively to budgetary provision of £20,000 per year being made from the grant provided by the Scottish Executive for tackling anti social behaviour to support the deployment of a mobile CCTV unit.**

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Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services
Date: 1 June 2006

Wards Affected: 1 and 14

Appendix: None

Background Papers: None

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