



Overview & Scrutiny Committee 23rd March 2010

Report from the Director of Policy & Regeneration

For Action

Wards Affected:
ALL

Crime and Disorder Follow Up – Community Payback and Section 60 Authorisations in Brent Borough

1. Summary

- 1.1 This briefing is reporting back on two key areas of interest Community Payback and Section 60 Authorisations in Brent Borough

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes ongoing and future actions for the Community Payback scheme and information on Section 60 Authorisations in Brent.

3. Detail

3.1 Brent Community Payback

- 3.2 Brent is a Pioneer Area for **Justice Seen, Justice Done (JSJD)** a government programme to increase public confidence in how crime is tackled and justice is delivered. Community Payback is a critical element in the JSJD campaign, as it demonstrates to the public that community sentences are not soft options and that criminals face tough consequences for their actions.
- 3.3 3,000 hours a year of work has been ring fenced for Community Payback in Brent to allocate to highly visible activity. The team work to clear rubbish, public spaces, graffiti and general clear ups under the supervision of the Probation Service, Community Payback team. All offenders are assessed for risk and no offender working on the programme will be in the high risk category.
- 3.4 Brent has always had a Community Payback Scheme, but since the start of JSJD is has become more visible and the hours have increased.
- 3.5 The local joint action group (JAG) chaired by the Met Police, Brian Lockie regularly assesses new work, tracks on going work , seeks to solve problems and to engage with all other partners. The group has representatives from Brent Council Streetcare & Highways, London Probation Service, and Brent ASB team, Brent Housing

Partnership and Environmental Services and Brent Community Safety Partnership Unit. It also includes representation from the Graffiti Board, Simon Egbor, who works closely with Stephen Harrell the Community Payback, co ordinator.

- 3.6 The scheme has raised its profile over the last six months and with all offenders now wearing high visibility vest, the community can see that 'justice is being done'. JSJD ran a community consultation on line /poster campaign in the Summer 09 asking community members to vote for the area they wanted cleared. The Canal in Brent was chosen as its major project, an over a week all the partner agencies spent considerable time ensuring that the Canal was cleared of rubbish. Local residents, Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT'S) and others were fully involved in this.
- 3.7 More recently the Brent Community Safety Partnership has highlighted the work of Community Payback with a calendar and information on how to nominate 'grime and crime hot spots', by using the Community Payback phone number or on line. Local residents can also nominate an area by contacting their local SNT.
- 3.8 The information below tells residents what Community Payback is and how to nominate in your area.

'Is there a project in your area that needs Community Payback? To be considered your project must meet the following criteria:'

- **It must benefit the local community**
- **It must not take paid work away from others**
- **No one must make a profit from the work**
- **It must be challenging and demanding**
- **It must be worthwhile and constructive**
- **Offenders must be seen to be putting something back into the community.**

- 3.9 The Community Payback team will assess the project for suitability and for health and safety implications. Once the work has been completed a plaque will be displayed with the Community Payback logo, if appropriate. This will indicate where offenders have positively contributed to improving a neighbourhood.
- 3.10 Anyone can nominate a project, so, if you are an individual, member of a club, community group, faith group or voluntary organisation and have a project that fits the criteria above, please complete our online form.

Community Payback Nomination Form

**If you have any queries about Community Payback please contact us:
Call our dedicated Community Payback helpline: 07894 176943.
Or email payback@london.probation.gsi.gov.uk**

- 3.11 **Section 60 Authorisations in Brent Borough**
- 3.12 **Power and procedures** – Section 60 is a search power provided by the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994. It allows senior police officers from Home Office Police Forces and the British Transport Police to authorise constables to stop and search persons in a specific area, either where a serious public order problem is likely to arise or has taken place, or for offensive weapons or dangerous instruments.

- 3.13 It is possible for Inspectors to authorise this power to be used at short notice and for them to declare the area to be included in the authorization, but this then needs to be conveyed to an officer not below the rank of Superintendent as soon as practicable. If the decision is not urgent then a Superintendent will be the authorising officer.
- 3.14 All authorisations are documented and forwarded to Territorial Policing who maintain a record of the occasions when Section 60 has been authorised.
- 3.15 There are additional powers that can be attached to the original authorisation including the requirement to remove a face covering (Mask).
- 3.16 When a Section 60 Search power is authorised it is always discussed and reviewed at the Brent Police Daily Management Meeting, attended by all available Senior Management Team members. The use is reviewed every 24 hours. The Section 60 geographical area is also stipulated by the authorising officer, not all authorisations are borough wide, dependent on the intelligence and information that is provided.

3.17 Community engagement and notification

- 3.18 Where possible the Police will always try and speak to a community leader before authorizing an authority.
- 3.19 When a Section 60 is authorised Superintendent Simon Corkill informs key community representatives, providing a short explanation as to why that authorisation was given. The same community members will also be informed when the Section 60 authorisation has been cancelled.

3.20 Number of times that a Section 60 has been authorized in 2009

- 3.21 In the last 12 months Brent Police have authorised a total of 96 periods where Section 60 was in force. This compares to 353 times in Newham, 263 times in Southwark and 193 times in Hackney. It is worth noting that like Brent these are Operation Trident boroughs. The statistics on neighbouring boroughs include 44 times in Ealing, 36 times in Camden and 25 times in Harrow. (non Trident boroughs) are not really comparable.

3.22 Numbers of people stopped

- 3.23 In total 4431 people were stopped using Section 60 during the whole of 2009.

3.24 Results of stops

- 3.25 130 of the Section 60 stops resulted in an arrest (3%) and a further 63 of these resulted in a Cannabis Warnings (1%). The remainder saw police taking no further action. On most occasions the use of this authority with an increased police presence prevents violence or further violence from occurring.

3.26 Breakdown of people stopped by gender and ethnicity

- 4355 were males
- 76 were females
- 919 were white
- 156 were defined as dark skinned Europeans
- 2210 were of African-Caribbean appearance

- 1029 were of Asian appearance
- 28 were of Chinese/Japanese appearance
- 66 were of Arabian/Egyptian appearance.
- 23 persons were described as an unknown appearance. These are police attributed appearances and not self defined ethnicity

3.27 Breakdown of people stopped by age

- 1925 were aged 18-25 years old
- 1607 were aged 10-17
- 813 were aged 26-45
- 69 persons were aged 46-65
- 11 were described by police as being of an age unknown
- 3 were over 65
- 3 were under 10

2.28 Geographical areas

3.29 There are occasions when the power is extended to the whole of Brent, but where possible the power will be restricted to a defined area

4. Financial Implications

4.1 Nil

5. Legal Implications

5.1 Nil

6. Diversity Implications

6.1 Nil

7. Staffing/Accommodation implications (if appropriate)

7.1 Nil

Background Papers

Contact Officers.

Genny Renard

Head of Brent Community Safety Partnership Unit

Genny.Renard@brent.gov.uk

Phil Newby

Director Policy & Regeneration

Phil.Newby@brent.gov.uk