ITEM NO: 8 (v)

Briefing notes on Issues included in the Forward Plan Issue No 4. 2007/08

Forward Plan Select Committee Meeting – Wednesday, 26th September 2007

SERVICE AREA:

Report ref	Report title
	Proposal to introduce a borough wide controlled drinking zone

Summary

The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 gives local authorities the power to designate public spaces as Controlled Drinking Zones (CDZ) by way of an order, where there is evidence of nuisance, annoyance or disorder caused by the public consumption of alcohol. It **does not** mean it becomes an offence to drink on the street in a CDZ. Within the zones it gives to the local police powers to require people to stop drinking and confiscate and remove alcohol. A person can only be arrested if they refuse to comply with the police instruction.

The report will consider an evaluation of the controlled drinking zone implemented in Kilburn since July 2006, evaluate the evidence from other areas of the borough where problems of anti-social behaviour caused by street drinking have been reported and the cost and implications of implementing a Controlled Drinking Zone across the whole Borough as part of the Borough's alcohol harm reduction strategy

The decision to implement a CDZ has to be taken at full Council. The proposal is in accordance with the Local Area Agreement objective to make Brent a safe place by developing 'Welcoming Streets and Parks'. The cost to the Council of implementing a borough wide controlled drinking zone comes from the costs of taking out notices in the local press and signage. £50,000 has been identified from the LAA budget to implement the scheme. The enforcement of the zone will be the responsibility of the police through their Safer Neighbourhood Teams. The provision of outreach workers to direct street drinkers into treatment and support is funded by the Brent Drug and Alcohol Team.

Nature of Decision to be taken/Intended Outcome

That the Executive endorses the proposal for a Borough wide CDZ and refers the report and its recommendation to full Council for agreement.

Timescale for decision:

Executive 8/10/07. Full Council 29/10/07

Contact Details:

Valerie Jones, Head of Community Safety, 020 8937 1035 valerie.jones@brent.gov.uk