
Report to
Cabinet

28th June 2005

Report of
Head of Corporate Policy

Title
Deployment of Neighbourhood Wardens 2005/06

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This reports outlines the proposal for the distribution and the deployment of Coventry's Neighbourhood Warden Service in 2005/2006.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is requested to agree the areas for deployment of Neighbourhood Wardens and agree to review numbers and locations in January 2006.

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Warden Schemes have existed in Coventry since 2000. The schemes have been developed in an ad hoc way in response to the requirements of a range of different external funding regimes. Although precise roles and responsibilities have differed between the various schemes, they are generally credited with providing reassurance, improving the environment and acting as the eyes and ears of the City Council and its partners in addressing neighbourhood issues.
- 3.2 The schemes were originally funded entirely from external finance, some of which fell out in March 2004. As part of the 2003 PPR process it was decided that the existing number of wardens should be retained in their existing areas in 2004/05, pending a decision about the longer term development of a City-wide scheme. Additional funds of £660,000 were made available for this purpose - £450,000 from NRF and £210,000 from the City Council.
- 3.3 In order to introduce some consistency across the existing schemes, some interim management arrangements have been put in place for those schemes that are now supported by Council funding, ie. Canley, Longford, Willenhall, Willenhall Wood, Stoke Aldermoor, Ernesford Grange and part of Binley Village. Each of these schemes has a Team Leader. The Team Leaders report directly to the Warden Operational Manager, who in turn reports to the Head of Area Co-ordination. The remaining schemes are managed through other arrangements, in line with their external funding requirements, although there are currently discussions with the NDC Crime Theme Group Manager regarding bringing the management of NDC Wardens into the Corporate Scheme.
- 3.4 In addition to the Coventry City Council funded wardens, 12 wardens and 2 Team Leaders are funded through New Deal for Communities in Wood End, Henley Green and Manor

Farm until December 2005. 4 wardens and 1 Team Leader are funded through the European Regional Development Fund in Hillfields until March 2006. 8 wardens and 1 Team Leader are funded through the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in the City Centre until March 2006.

- 3.5 In total during 2004/05 55 wardens have been deployed in Coventry.
- 3.6 Through the 2004 PPR process funding was provided to allow for the provision of 75 wardens on an ongoing basis. Therefore, this will require the recruitment of an additional 20 wardens during 2005/06.
- 3.7 During 2005/06 the City Council will have direct control over the deployment of 47 wardens. The remaining 28 are required, due to their funding, to be deployed within specific areas, as identified in para 3.3.
- 3.8 In 2006/07 all 75 wardens will be funded and managed by Coventry City Council and this will provide far more flexibility in terms of distribution and deployment.

4 Proposal and Other Option(s) to be Considered

- 4.1 The city-wide Neighbourhood Warden Service will operate 8am – 8pm from Monday to Friday. There will be two shifts; the early shift 8am – 4pm and the late shift 12pm – 8pm. Wardens will alternate between the shifts on a weekly basis. Patrols will be organised in such a way to ensure that areas that have not been patrolled between 8am and 12pm will be covered between 12pm and 4pm.
- 4.2 Except in exceptional circumstance wardens will patrol in groups of two.
- 4.3 The city-wide Neighbourhood Warden Service will be divided into the three developing Neighbourhood Management areas. Within each Neighbourhood Management area, smaller warden teams will be established and assigned regular areas that they will patrol. Each team will have at least one appointed Team Leader.
- 4.4 The employment of wardens according to a Neighbourhood Management area however, will allow the flexibility to deploy resources according to arising need and in the event of any annual leave/sickness, etc. It will also be made clear during the appointment process that circumstances may arise when Wardens will be required to work in another Neighbourhood Management area.
- 4.5 The flexibility that will be afforded to the deployment of wardens through their attachment to a Neighbourhood Management area will be an essential part of the developing Active Intelligence Mapping System (AIMS) process.
- 4.6 AIMS will combine data relating to community safety and environmental issues from a range of partners in order to deploy street based services in hotspot areas. The analysed data will be discussed at a fortnightly tasking meeting involving senior executives of the City Council and partner agencies and a resulting programme of activity, including the targeted deployment of street based staff, will be agreed. This process will ensure that there is a rapid and visible response to identified community safety and environmental issues.
- 4.7 Neighbourhood Wardens will be a key resource as part of the AIMS process. In practice, following the fortnightly AIMS meeting Neighbourhood Wardens may be tasked to patrol an area that is not part of their regular beat but within their Neighbourhood Management area.

4.8 The Neighbourhood Warden Manager and the various Team Leaders will be responsible for ensuring that the patrols that have been agreed as part of AIMS process are carried out, whilst maintaining a satisfactory minimum level of coverage on regular patrol areas.

5 Regular Deployment Arrangement

5.1 The areas in which Wardens will be regularly deployed and the numbers of Wardens to be deployed in those areas have been formulated through the use of Anti-Social Behaviour data from the Police, Fire Service and City Council over a 6-month period. These deployment areas will be periodically reviewed and also responsive to need, identified through performance management, ie. the AIMS process.

5.2 Long-term analysis of anti-social behaviour shows that the areas that have been established for a regular Warden presence are consistently hotspot areas for anti-social behaviour.

5.3 Presented below are the regular deployment arrangements within each Neighbourhood Management Area including the area to be covered, number of wardens and team leaders.

Neighbourhood Management – North West Area (M1)

AREA	SQUARE MILES 2005/ 06	WARDENS 2005/ 06	TEAM LEADER 2005/ 06
City Centre	0.96	8	1
Hillfields	1.6	4	1
Jardine Crescent	0.62	4	1
Spon End including Holyhead rd to Northumberland Rd	0.32	2	
TOTALS	3.5	18	3

5.4 The number of wardens deployed in the City Centre is currently dictated by ODPM funding for 2005/06, although there has been some agreed flexibility through the Local Area Agreement process. The shift patterns will remain the same as has been previously employed. Greater flexibility in terms of the size of the team and the areas in which they patrol will be available when the City Centre wardens become part of the city-wide Neighbourhood Warden Service.

5.5 The number of wardens deployed in Hillfields is dictated by ERDF funding for 2005/2006. The shift patterns will remain the same as has been previously employed. Greater flexibility in terms of the size of the team and the areas in which they patrol will be available when the Hillfields wardens become part of the city-wide Neighbourhood Warden Service.

5.6 The 6 wardens deployed in Jardine Crescent and Spon End will be part of one team. There will be a patrol in both areas during both the early shift and the late shift. In order to facilitate this, depending on the patrol timetable, wardens may be required to transfer between Jardine Crescent and Spon End mid-shift.

Neighbourhood Management – South Area (M2)

AREA	SQUARE MILES 05 / 06	WARDENS 2005/6	TEAM LEADER 2005/6
Canley to include Cannon Hill Rd shops	1.35	4	1
Stoke Aldermoor	0.54	2	
Willenhall / Willenhall Wood	1.63	4	
Ernesford Grange	0.52	2	
Caludon including Momus Boulevard	1.52	4	1
Ball Hill including Stoke Heath and the Forum	1.25	4	
TOTALS		20	2

- 5.7 All warden areas within this Neighbourhood Management area are part of the city-wide Corporate Neighbourhood Warden Scheme.
- 5.8 The 12 wardens in Canley, Stoke Aldermoor, Willenhall and Ernesford Grange will be part of one team. In practice the 6 wardens deployed in Canley and Stoke Aldermoor will alternate between the two areas. Canley will be divided into 4 beats and Stoke Aldermoor will be divided into 2.
- 5.9 The 6 wardens deployed in Willenhall and Ernesford Grange will alternate between the two areas. Willenhall will be divided into 4 beats and Ernesford Grange will be divided into 2.
- 5.10 The 8 wardens deployed in Caludon and Ball Hill will be part of one team. Each area will be divided into 4 beats and there will be a patrol on all beats during both the early shift and the late shift.

Neighbourhood Management – North East Area (M3)

AREA	SQUARE MILES 05 / 06	WARDENS 2005/6	TEAM LEADER 2005/6
6 WEHM	1.7	12	2
7 Riley Square	0.58	2	1
8 Longford	3.5	4	
9 Foleshill including Edgwick and Paradise	1.73	4	1
10 Holbrooks	0.93	2	
Radford including Jubilee Crescent	0.93	4	
11 TOTALS	9.37	28	4

- 5.11 The number of wardens deployed in WEHM has been decided by the NDC Board for 2005/06. The shift patterns will remain the same as has been previously employed. Greater flexibility in terms of the size of the team and the areas in which they patrol will be available when the NDC wardens become part of the city-wide Neighbourhood Warden Service
- 5.12 The 6 wardens deployed in Longford and Riley Square will be part of one team. There will be a patrol in both areas during both the early shift and the late shift. In order to facilitate this, depending on the patrol timetable wardens may be required to transfer between Longford and Riley Square mid-shift. In practice, Longford will be split into 4 patrol beats and Riley Square into 2.
- 5.13 The 10 Wardens deployed in Holbrooks, Radford and Foleshill will be part of one team. Due to its size Foleshill will be split into 4 patrol beats. 4 Wardens will be deployed on a regular basis to ensure that there will be a patrol in all 4 beats during both the early shift and the late shift. The 4 Wardens in Foleshill will not be required to transfer between areas.
- 5.14 The 6 Wardens deployed in Holbrooks and Radford will alternate between the two areas. Both Holbrooks and Radford will be split into 4 beats.

6 Other specific implications

	Implications (See below)	No Implications
Area Co-ordination	✓	
Best Value	✓	
Comparable Benchmark Data		✓
Corporate Parenting		✓

	Implications (See below)	No Implications
Coventry Community Plan	✓	
Crime and Disorder	✓	
Equal Opportunities		✓
Finance		✓
Health and Safety		✓
Human Resources	✓	
Human Rights Act		✓
Impact on Partner Organisations	✓	
Information and Communications Technology		✓
Legal Implications		✓
Property Implications	✓	
Race Equality Scheme		✓
Risk Management	✓	
Sustainable Development		✓
Trade Union Consultation		✓
Voluntary Sector – The Coventry Compact		✓

6.1 Area Co-ordination

Wardens will be based within the Neighbourhood Management Service and the Warden Manager will be part of the Management Team.

6.2 Best Value

Best value will be achieved through a standardisation of the look and 'feel' of the Warden service, through increased and rationalised communication and information-sharing strategies that allow us to determine citywide trends more effectively.

6.3 Coventry Community Plan

Wardens play a key role in building confidence in communities and reducing the fear of crime, which is a priority for the Coventry Partnership.

6.4 Crime & Disorder

The Warden service contributes considerably to a reduction in crime and disorder - albeit indirectly through interrupting the causal chain of criminal opportunity. Fulfilling an 'eyes and ears' role on the streets increases the risks of detection that people intent on criminal behaviour run. While support for vulnerable groups within communities enables and encourages those without a voice to re-empower themselves. This is critical in terms of tackling the perceived fear of crime.

6.5 Human resources

Current wardens will be transferred over to the newly revised job description and their areas for patrol will be negotiated with the Neighbourhood Warden Manager. The recruitment process for the additional 20 Wardens will allocate posts to specific Neighbourhood Management Areas. A Deputy Manager will also be appointed in order to provide capacity for the scheme to be effectively managed both strategically and operationally. It is anticipated that the recruitment process will allow for individual teams to be established area by area.

6.6 Impact on Partner Organisations

The service will allow for effective outputs for certain partners such as the Police and Street Services and Community Safety - by identifying and tackling the indicators of urban decay such as graffiti, litter and anti-social behaviour.

6.7 Property Implications

The existing Corporate Neighbourhood Warden Service, currently operates from office accommodation in three areas; Cannon Park Shopping Centre, Longford Road and Ernesford Grange. The Ernesford Grange office will in the near future be moving to Stoke Aldermoor's First Stop Shop, which will be a shared facility with Neighbourhood Management and other partnership agencies. Additional warden accommodation will be considered as part of the development plans for Neighbourhood Management and shared accommodation will be sought with partner agencies.

6.8 Risk Management

In terms of Warden activity, risk assessments are a consideration of daily routine.

7 Monitoring

- 7.1 There will be regular monitoring of warden referrals, emerging issues and trends and this will be used to both contribute to wider community safety performance management systems and also to inform the delivery of local street-based services.

8 Timescales and expected outcomes

- 8.1 The deployment framework outlined in section 5 is for 2005/06. This will provide an additional 8 areas for warden services across the City.
- 8.2 Following the fall-out of existing external funding for Wardens, the deployment framework will be reviewed in order to accommodate the additional 28 wardens in identified areas.

	Yes	No
Key Decision		√
Scrutiny Consideration (if yes, which Scrutiny meeting and date)		√
Council Consideration (if yes, date of Council meeting)		√

List of background papers

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