

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

HOUSING COMMITTEE – 17 MARCH 2004

BUILDING STRONG, SAFE AND ATTRACTIVE COMMUNITIES

Report by the Director of Homes and Technical Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the success of the Council's bid for Scottish Executive funding for Community Based Wardens and other Community Based Anti-Social Behaviour Initiatives.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the Emergency Powers Committee of 28 August 2003, Members were advised of a funding opportunity, provided by the Scottish Executive to the Council and its Community Planning Partners, to secure additional resources to implement a pilot community wardens and other anti-social behaviour initiatives' programme.

- 2.2 The Emergency Powers Committee agreed to target these additional resources, when secured, on the following neighbourhoods:

- The pathfinder area of North West Kilmarnock
- The pathfinder area of Shortlees, Kilmarnock
- New Farm Loch, Kilmarnock and
- Cumnock East (Barshare) and Auchinleck

- 2.3 At its meeting on 19 February 2004 the Policy and Resources Committee were advised that East Ayrshire's submission for both the community wardens and other anti-social behaviour initiatives had been approved by the Scottish Executive.

- 2.4 This secures resources valued at £1,050,000 over a two-year period, detailed as follows:

	2004/05	2005/06
Community Wardens	£400,000	£400,000
Anti-social behaviour initiatives + Monitoring and Evaluation	£125,000	£125,000
Total Allocation	£525,000	£525,000

- 2.5 The Committee also authorised the Director of Neighbourhood Services to assume responsibility for local implementation, local spend and effective user involvement, and for ensuring that a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary approach is adopted to ensure maximum benefit and impact in the delivery of the Building Strong, Safe and Attractive Communities' initiative. The day to day management of the initiatives will be the responsibility of the Council's Housing Service.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 In order to implement the Executive's initiatives within the identified Neighbourhoods it is proposed, using Building Strong, Safe and Attractive Communities' funding, to recruit on a temporary basis until March 2006:
- one Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator
 - one Anti-Social Behaviour Investigator
 - two Senior Community Wardens and
 - sixteen Community Wardens.
- 3.2 A separate report is being submitted to Corporate Governance Sub-Committee, on 31 March 2004, on the staffing proposals.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of providing a Building Strong, Safe and Attractive Communities' Team, until March 2006, will be funded by specific Scottish Executive Grant (see para. 2.4).

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposals would support the Scottish Executive's guidelines under the Building Strong, Safe and Attractive initiative.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Committee is asked to :
- i) note the success in securing additional resources;
 - ii) otherwise note the contents of the report.

James Lavery
Director of Homes and Technical Services
February 2004

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Joseph Cassidy, Policy & Strategy Manager on 01563 576617.

Implementation Officer: Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes.