



**BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
FUND - UPDATE**

Board Meeting – 3 June 2004

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present to the Board for information, proposals to utilise the additional BNSF financial allocation from the Scottish Executive for 2004/05.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 East Ayrshire Council and its Community Planning partners received £6.75 million additional resources, to cover the period 2001 to 2004, to tackle deprivation and disadvantage within the pathfinder area of North-west Kilmarnock and Shortlees/Riccarton.
- 2.2 Elected Members were advised at the Council's Emergency Powers Committee of 14 January 2004 that the Scottish Executive had confirmed a further financial allocation of £2.25 million for 2004/05, to allow East Ayrshire to "build on and consolidate BNSF services and achievements to date".
- 2.3 The Emergency Powers Committee remitted Council officers, in consultation with the Council Leader and relevant Local Members, to prepare outline priority spending proposals for the additional 2004/05 allocation and, thereafter, submit the required 'Year 4' (Phase 2) Local Outcome Agreement (LOA) to the relevant Council Committee and Community Planning Partners for approval, prior to submission to the Scottish Executive.

3. FINANCIAL PROPOSALS

- 3.1 Discussions held with the Scottish Executive's Team Leader at the Executive's BNSF briefing session held on 28 January 2004 provided the opportunity for these additional resources to be utilised in 2004/05 and 2005/06, with a final end date for the overall BNSF programme confirmed as 31 March 2006.
- 3.2 Directors and community planning partners were, therefore, requested to submit their funding proposals for the continuation of existing projects into 2004/05 and 2005/06 by the end of February 2004.

4. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

- 4.1 On 24 March 2004, a community consultation open evening was held to review and assess the progress to date of existing BNSF projects, and inform

the content of the Phase 2 LOA. A workshop format allowed for focused discussion with local residents around the main themes of the programme.

- 4.2 The event was attended by over 50 local residents, all project Lead Officers, Provost Darnbrough, the elected member for Shortlees, and the Leader of the Council.

5. PHASE 2 LOA

- 5.1 The Phase 2 LOA was presented to the Scottish Executive in May 2004. The proposed programme will allow for the continued funding of the majority of the projects that were originally supported under the first round of the BNSF. A summary version of the Phase 2 LOA is attached at Appendix 1 for information.

- 5.2 It is hoped that the Scottish Executive will approve East Ayrshire's Phase 2 LOA at some point in June 2004.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Board notes the content of this report.

Gwen Barker
Community Planning and Partnership Manager
26 May 2004



Making a Better Neighbourhood

in
Shortlees/Riccarton
and North West Kilmarnock

The Local Outcome Agreement Phase 2

May 2004



INTRODUCTION

In 2001, East Ayrshire Council and its Community Planning Partners received £6.75 million additional resources through the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund (BNSF) to cover the period 2001 to 2004. This financial award funded a range of projects aimed at tackling deprivation and disadvantage within the pathfinder area of North West Kilmarnock, Shortlees and Riccarton.

In January 2004, the Scottish Executive confirmed a further financial allocation of £2.25 million for 2004/05, to allow East Ayrshire to build on and consolidate BNSF services and achievements to date.

From the analysis of the results of the Community Consultation Questionnaire, issued to all BNSF pathfinder residents in August 2003, it is apparent that the majority of projects enjoyed a high degree of community support and were effective in meeting both the outputs and outcomes attributable to them, which are detailed in East Ayrshire's Local Outcome Agreement (LOA) Phase 1.

It has been agreed by the Community Planning Partners, in consultation with the local community, that the projects selected for potential continuation are of the most benefit to the pathfinder community and represent value for money in terms of the impact that they have had in the past and will undoubtedly continue to have during Phase 2 of the BNSF programme, which will operate in East Ayrshire over the two financial years 2004/05 and 2005/06.

OUR VISION

The LOA Phase 2 will continue to build upon East Ayrshire's existing vision of communities, which will be:

Safe Communities

...where crime and the fear of crime, either at home or in the streets, is reduced

Attractive Communities

...where residents feel proud to stay

Active Communities

...where there are increased opportunities that raise the quality of life for all residents.

OUTCOMES

The programmes, developed in response to community consultation, will produce the following outcomes:

A Safe Community

- Reduced crime levels
- Increased detection rates
- Reduced fear of crime both inside and outside the home
- Improved road safety

An Attractive Community

- Improved estate management
- Improved upkeep of open and public spaces

An Active Community

- Increased involvement of young people within the community
- Increased child care places
- Improved awareness of lifestyle issues among residents
- Improved physical activity levels of older people
- Increased outdoor activity and recreational provision for children and young people
- Improved access to health provision (LOA 2002 outcome, scheduled to be achieved by March 2006*).

Baseline information, relative to each outcome, and set targets for change, that are challenging but achievable and build on the success of the Phase 1 BNSF Programme, can be found in the implementation tables relating to each project.

**The new Neighbourhood Centres in North West Kilmarnock and Shortlees are capital projects and are included within the LOA Phase 1. Both are currently in the planning stages and completion of the Centres will coincide with the conclusion of the overall BNSF programme in March 2006.*

PLANNED ACTION

The problems of poverty and deprivation within the pathfinder area are complex and long standing. Phase 1 funding has gone some way to address these issues and additional monies allocated for the LOA Phase 2 will have an even greater impact on the quality of life of pathfinder residents.

The vision and programme of projects for East Ayrshire's BNSF programme continue to be developed in response to community concerns and in consultation with pathfinder residents. As the programmes are implemented, we will routinely review their progress to determine whether there requires to be any realignment of the BNSF programme to deliver the targeted outcomes.

In March 2004, a community consultation open evening was held to review and assess the progress to date of existing BNSF projects and inform the content of the LOA Phase 2. The event was attended by all project Lead Officers and a workshop format allowed for focussed discussion with local residents around the main themes of the programme.

We are committed to ongoing community involvement and this will continue to be taken forward through citizens' panel meetings and open forums, thereby allowing us to ensure that the programme of projects continues to meet developing local, social and economic circumstances.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

East Ayrshire Council, as grant recipient, will have overall responsibility for ensuring the effective monitoring and evaluation of the programmes delivered via BNSF and for the rigorous review of associated budgets.

The BNSF Central Unit, comprising East Ayrshire Council employees working within the Community Planning and Partnership Unit and managed by the Community Planning and Partnership Manager, has overall responsibility for co-ordinating programme wide community consultation events, interim monitoring, the processing of finance and the drafting of BNSF related newsletters and questionnaires.

Regular performance reports will continue to be presented to appropriate Council Committees, the Community Planning Core Partners' Group and local communities, to ensure that performance targets are being met. The Council will have responsibility for scrutinising these reports and ensuring that all necessary actions are taken. The Council, in consultation with the Community Planning Core Partners' Group, will also require to re-configure services in response to local needs and targets, as appropriate.

To ensure the effective implementation of programmes, lead agencies and departments have been identified for each initiative. These nominated leads will have responsibility for local implementation, local spend, effective user involvement in project programmes and ensuring a multi-agency / disciplinary approach is adopted, leading to maximum benefit and impact of programme delivery.

A final evaluation will be undertaken, by independent consultants, for the Phase 1 BNSF programme in the latter stages of 2004. The evaluation will examine the impact of the BNSF programme locally and its performance in relation to the programme's overall aims of:

- improving services to people living in disadvantaged neighbourhoods
- advancing the Social Justice objectives of the Scottish Executive, and

- demonstrating how providing better services can help narrow the opportunity gap between the poorest and the better off in our society.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

We will carry out community consultation throughout the life of the BNSF programme, to make sure that if things are not working, there is an opportunity to change.

Local residents will be consulted as they are in the best position to know what needs to be improved upon within their communities. Community groups and voluntary organisations, which provide a range of services for their members and the public, will also be consulted, as will local staff working within the pathfinder area.

Residents have expressed views on how community planning partners can keep them involved and indicated their interest in the BNSF programme by registering to participate in Citizens' Panel Meetings.

Action	Timescale	Target Audience	Purpose
2 Surveys	Summer 2005 March 2006	Residents	To identify issues, priority actions and satisfaction levels.
Consultation Planning Event	March 2005	Target groups	To present an overview of the programme of projects, headline outcomes, implementation arrangements, review performance and identify issues, priority actions and satisfaction levels.
Citizens' Panels	As required	Residents	To identify issues, consider performance and implementation arrangements, and the realignment of the programmes as necessary.

THE WAY FORWARD

Our existing commitment to partnership working and community involvement will ensure the effective implementation of the programme of projects identified to receive funding via Phase 2 of the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund. To ensure maximum impact from programme activity, community planning partners will, wherever possible, reconfigure existing services and draw in external funding to enhance project delivery.

We will significantly improve the quality of life for residents within the pathfinder area by 2006, by ensuring that we are flexible and innovative in our approach to service delivery. Within the Community Planning process we will ensure that Better

Neighbourhood Services Funding provides a solid foundation on which to secure lasting change for our local communities.

Shortlees/Riccarton Youth Outreach

Project Detail

An outreach programme designed to identify and include young people with severe anti-social behaviour, and involve them in tailored/defined activities within a variety of settings, building on the existing project and developing good practice.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcome C2 Increased Involvement of Young People within the Community C4 Increased outdoor activity and recreational provision for children and young people.</p> <p>Complementary Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A3 Reduced Fear of Crime both inside and Outside the Home</p>	<p>Continued employment of Senior Practitioner. Continued employment of youth workers and administration staff. Delivery of outreach service. Delivery of a series of educational, citizenship and health programmes.</p>	<p>0 formal contact with young people per week as at March 2002.</p>

Shortlees Teenage Recreation Area

Project Detail

To provide informal and safe outdoor sport and recreation facilities within the pathfinder area, promoting physical activities.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcomes C2 Increased Involvement of Young People within the Community C4 Increased outdoor activity and recreational provision for children and young people.</p> <p>Complementary Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A3 Reduced Fear of Crime both inside and Outside the Home B3 Improved Upkeep of Open Spaces</p>	<p>Installation of Teenage Recreation Area in Shortlees</p>	<p>No current Teenage Recreation Area provision in Shortlees.</p>

Lifestyle Zones

Project Detail

The project will focus upon the promotion of positive lifestyles within the community with a particular emphasis on coronary heart disease risk factors. Two specific service approaches will be employed via a network of community based lifestyle clinics and a targeted programme for older people.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcomes</p> <p>C5 Increased numbers of older people involved in recreational activities and taking exercise leading to improved physical activity levels</p> <p>C6 Increased levels of physical activity, improved diet, reduction in smoking and alcohol / drugs amongst pathfinder residents</p>	<p>Lifestyle Referral Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased levels of physical activity, improved diet, reduction in smoking and alcohol / drugs. • 10 outreach lifestyle visits to BNSF areas per year. • 50% of participants receive dietary advice. • 3 Cookwell programmes completed per year. • Provision of alcohol, drug and smoking cessation advice to all participants upon request. <p>Older People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 weekly exercise classes per year for phase 4 cardiac rehabilitation. • 6 physical activity sessions and increased attendance by at least 10%. • Development of a range of opportunities for social interaction and community cohesion via specific activities. • 2 community health events implemented per year. • 4 training and awareness events implemented per year. 	<p>Attendance at classes and participation in activities in pathfinder area - 75 older people per week</p> <p>Attendance at lifestyle clinics in pathfinder area 2003/04 – 346</p>

Wraparound Early Years Care

Project Detail

The three nurseries in Shortlees and NW Kilmarnock will extend provision to a 52 week year. This will be offered to the most vulnerable families in the area and allow parents to access employment, further education or training. Home link workers will be an integral part of this service offering direct support to parents. This project is developed in response to consultation conducted under the auspices of the children's service plan. Dedicated funding will be directed to provide flexible children's carers for 8-12 year olds to prevent them being accommodated.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
Core Outcome C3 Increased Child Care Places for Children	30 FTE places in Cairns, Shortlees and Onthank Nurseries. 50 child day care places. 45 vulnerable families supported. 10 parents helped to take up employment / further education.	March 2002 –10 full time childcare places available.

North West Kilmarnock Neighbourhood Services Centre

Project Detail

A Neighbourhood Services Centre to improve access to services i.e. GP and Dental facilities, Family Centre, Day Care for Older People, Housing, Social Work, Information Point, Community Services and local policing.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
Core Outcome C1 Improved Access to Health Provision Complementary Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A3 Reduced Fear of Crime both inside and Outside the Home	Implement phase 1 and 2 of build programme. Incorporated within the Centre: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP and Dental Provision • Shared consulting accommodation • A physiotherapy treatment area for the Learning Disabilities Service Complete building and open to the public.	1 part-time GP based within North West Kilmarnock.

North West Youth Outreach

Project Detail

An outreach programme designed to identify and include young people with severe anti-social behaviour, and involve them in tailored/defined activities within a variety of settings, building on the existing project and developing good practice.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
Core Outcome C2 Increased Involvement of Young People within the Community C4 Increased outdoor activity and recreational provision for children and young people. Complementary Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A3 Reduced Fear of Crime both inside and Outside the Home	Employment of Senior Practitioner. Employment of youth workers and administration staff. Delivery of outreach service. Delivery of a series of educational, citizenship and health programmes.	0 formal contact with young people per week as at March 2002.

Void Housing Environmental Scheme

Project Detail

A regular programme of garden maintenance will be carried out to all Council owned housing voids. The programme will be extended to include vacant homes owned by RSL's within the area. Regular monthly meetings will be held between Homes and Cleansing to review progress and discuss operational issues. The additional open space grass cuts will be carried out over regular intervals from May to October.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
Core Outcomes B1 & B2 Improved Estate Management B3 & B4 Improved Upkeep of Open Spaces Complementary Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A3 Reduced Fear of Crime both Inside and Outside the Home	Continued employment of 4 full time Hit Squad operatives. Programme of garden maintenance carried out in all Council owned housing voids. Additional Open Space grass cuts - 4 in 2004/05 and 2 in 2005/06.	An increase in the number of grass cuts of open and public spaces from 18. A reduction in the number of housing voids by 10%.

Environmental Hit Squad

Project Detail

The team will provide a rapid response to environmental problems such as fly tipping, litter picking, graffiti removal, needle removal and responding to other environmental hazards. The squads will operate in accordance with the current Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council's Homes and Technical Services Department and Cleansing in order to review progress and discuss operational issues.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcomes B1 & B2 Improved Estate Management B3 & B4 Improved Upkeep of Open Spaces</p> <p>Complementary Outcome A3 Reduced Fear of Crime both Inside and Outside the Home</p>	<p>The provision of a rapid response to environmental hazards. Employment of 5 full time manual workers. 2 additional employees recruited to the Hit Squad from the Step Up scheme.</p>	<p>An increase in the number of people who say that they like their area because it is well kept from 15% to 25%, an increase of 10%.</p>

Road Safety Improvements

Project Detail

To carry out a range of road safety programmes within the pathfinder area relating to defined and expressed community need and in consultation with the Road Safety Officer.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A3 Reduced Fear of Crime Both Inside and Outside the Home A4 Improved Road Safety</p> <p>Complementary Outcome B1 Improved Estate Management</p>	<p>Traffic Calming measures in Shortlees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loreny Drive, Lainshaw Drive and Turnberry Drive <p>Traffic Calming measures in North West Kilmarnock:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Altonhill Avenue, Woodhill Avenue, Ardgour Road and Todhill Avenue. 	<p>An overall reduction in crime levels by 3.5%. 2% in 2002/03 5% in 2003/04</p> <p>Shortlees Area: 4 personal injuries in the 3 years up to December 2003. North West Area: 3 personal injuries in the 3 years up to December 2003.</p>

Road Safety Education

Project Detail

The aim of the project is to improve the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviour of road users in the pathfinder area, which in conjunction with engineering measures will help to reduce the numbers of accidents.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
Core Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A4 Improved Road Safety Complementary Outcome C2 Increased Involvement of Young People within the Community	Cycling Initiative – Promotion and training in use of bicycles. Road safety talks in schools. Development of travel plans. Development of a publicity pack on road safety issues. Employment of a Road Safety Training Officer.	An overall reduction in crime levels by 3.5%. 2% in 2002/03 5% in 2003/04 Shortlees Area: 4 personal injuries in the 3 years up to December 2003. North West Area: 3 personal injuries in the 3 years up to December 2003.

Shortlees Street Lighting

Installation of High Pressure Sodium Lighting together with associated lighting columns and cabling selected pathfinder areas.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
Core Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A2 Increased Crime Detection Rates A3 Reduced Fear of Crime Both Inside and Outside the Home A4 Improved Road Safety Complementary Outcome B1 Improved Estate Management	Installation of higher quality whiter street lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methvin Avenue to Craigie Road Area (50 new lighting columns, lanterns and 1800 metres of cabling). • Newlands Drive / Burnfoot Place and Muirend Road (35 new lighting columns, lanterns and 1300 metres of cabling). • Altonhill area (35 new lighting columns, lanterns and 1300 metres of cabling). 	An overall reduction in crime levels by 3.5%. 2% in 2002/03 5% in 2003/04 An overall increase in detection rates by 10%. An increase in the number of people who say they like their area because it is a safe area from 4% to 12%, an increase of 8%.

CCTV Cameras

Project Detail

The continued monitoring of CCTV cameras in the pathfinder area.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A2 Increased Crime Detection Rates A3 Reduced Fear of Crime Both Inside and Outside the Home</p> <p>Complementary Outcomes B1 Improved Estate Management B3 Improved Upkeep of Open Spaces</p>	<p>Continuation of the level of service provided by staff monitoring public space CCTV in the pathfinder area. Cameras are monitored between 9:00am and 3:00 am.</p>	<p>An overall reduction in crime levels by 3.5%. 2% in 2002/03 5% in 2003/04</p> <p>An overall increase in detection rates by 10%.</p> <p>An increase in the number of people who say they like their area because it is a safe area from 4% to 12%, an increase of 8%.</p>

Mobile Security Team

Project Detail

The team will provide a mobile security service for the council to inspect housing and other properties. The team will deal with vandalism issues as they arise, and by providing a known presence, provide a deterrent against further vandalism. The service will be provided from 1700hrs to 0900hrs weekdays and will revert to a 24hrs patrol on weekends and public holidays.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A2 Increased Crime Detection Rates A3 Reduced Fear of Crime Both Inside and Outside the Home</p> <p>Complementary Outcome B1 Improved Estate Management</p>	<p>The provision of a mobile security team. Routine patrols of vacant housing stock.</p>	<p>An overall reduction in crime levels by 3.5%. 2% in 2002/03 5% in 2003/04</p> <p>An overall increase in detection rates by 10%.</p> <p>An increase in the number of people who say they like their area because it is a safe area from 4% to 12%, an increase of 8%.</p>

Additional Police Resources

Project Detail

To continue to provide additional police resources. The project aims to tackle crime and disorder in a targeted manner to prevent or reduce crime and complaints of disorder and increase detection rates for crimes committed and disorder offences. The project also aims to make people feel safer in their communities by means of a visible police presence and thereby impacting on their fear of crime.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Core Outcomes A1 Reduced Crime Levels A2 Increased Crime Detection Rates A3 Reduced Fear of Crime Both Inside and Outside the Home A4 Improved Road Safety</p> <p>Additional Outcomes B1 Improved Estate Management B3 Improved Upkeep of Open Spaces</p>	<p>Implement a minimum of 30 action plans comprising joint initiatives with Strathclyde Police including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint patrols with core group personnel, traffic officers and dog branch officers. • Plain clothes patrols targeting crime, particularly housebreaking and vehicle crimes. • Plain clothes and CID operations to target drug misuse. • Uniform and plain clothes patrols to target disorder, vandalism and alcohol misuse. 	<p>An overall reduction in crime levels by 3.5%. 2% in 2002/03 5% in 2003/04</p> <p>An overall increase in detection rates by 10%.</p> <p>An increase in the number of people who say they like their area because it is a safe area from 4% to 12%, an increase of 8%.</p>

Central Unit

Project Detail

To ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of the BNSF programme and associated budgets. To develop the capacity of the local community within the pathfinder areas and to ensure effective participation in the implementation and monitoring of BNSF.

Outcomes	Outputs	Baseline
<p>Improved community involvement in planning services Effective monitoring and evaluation of programme activity</p>	<p>Undertake regular community consultation exercises. Monitor and evaluate existing projects within the BNSF Programme Undertake reporting to the Scottish Executive</p>	

BNSF Funding

Project	Lead Delivery agent	Phase 1 Planned Spend 2004/5 (Yr 1-3 funding) £	Phase 2 Planned Spend 2004/5 (Yr 4 funding) £	Phase 1 Planned Spend 2005/6 (Yr 1-3 funding) £	Phase 2 Planned Spend 2005/6 (Yr 4 funding) £	Date of when you anticipate this service / project will end in terms of BNSF Timescales
Theme: Safe Community						
Road Safety Improvements	East Ayrshire Council	0	59,000	0	57,000	March 06
Road Safety Education	East Ayrshire Council	0	30,000	0	0	March 05
Street Lighting	East Ayrshire Council	0	110,000	0	11,000	March 06
CCTV Cameras	East Ayrshire Council	0	30,000	0	30,000	March 06
Mobile Security Team	East Ayrshire Council	0	104,000	0	0	March 05
Additional Police Resource	Strathclyde Police	0	150,000	0	150,000	March 06
Theme: Attractive Community						
Void Housing Environmental Scheme	East Ayrshire Council	0	117,000	0	117,000	March 06
Environmental Hit Squad	East Ayrshire Council	0	202,000	0	250,000	March 06
Active Community						
Teenage recreation Area	East Ayrshire Council	0	15,000	0	0	March 05
Wraparound Early Years	East Ayrshire Council	0	451,000	0	0	March 06
Shortlees & Riccarton Youth Outreach	East Ayrshire Council	0	25,500	0	58,000	March 06
North West Youth Outreach	East Ayrshire Council	0	25,500	0	58,000	March 06
Lifestyle Zones	East Ayrshire Council	0	49,000	0	51,000	March 06
Central Unit/Monitoring and Evaluation						
Central Unit	East Ayrshire Council	0	50,000	0	50,000	March 06