

Business Case			
Activity/Project Proposal			
Activity/Project Title:	Barnet Neighbourhood Watch scheme (Barnet Boroughwatch)		
Proposed costs:	£25,000 Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator Salary 4 days a week for 52 weeks Administration Support £5000 per year. Total Cost £30,000		
Org/Team. Applying:	CommUNITY Barnet		
Project Lead:	Paul Hammond, Boroughwatch Coordinator	Ext:	07813339368
Proposed Project Start Date:	1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017 for 12 months		

ACTIVITY/PROJECT INFORMATION

Description:	<p>Barnet Neighbourhood Watch (BNW) is Barnet’s successful neighbourhood watch scheme and regarded as a national exemplar. BNW consists of a very active and respected Chairperson, 6 committee members and one paid employee. There are 951 BNW Coordinators with over 80,000 members, operating across the London’s largest borough. The scheme has contributed to reducing Barnet’s rates of burglary over the past 12 months; addressing the fear of crime and increasing trust and confidence in the Police. The BNW members are an active part of Barnet’s volunteer workforce and a useful source of community intelligence for the local Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and Barnet Council.</p> <p>This application proposes that CommUNITY Barnet would be appointed as the prime contractor, sub-contracting neighbourhood safety to Barnet Boroughwatch. The advantage of this arrangement is that CommUNITY Barnet is a member both of the Barnet Strategic Partnership and the Safer Communities Partnership Board and understands the strategic priorities of the local authority. In addition, CommUNITY Barnet is Barnet Council’s Strategic Development Partner and well placed to support the active citizenship work that BNW delivers. BNW will be sub-contracted by CommUNITY Barnet to deliver the neighbourhood watch service on behalf of Barnet Council. BNW operates from CommUNITY Barnet’s offices in Whetstone, however most of the operational delivery is out in the neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Historically, due to short term BNW activities have been driven by local intelligence and insight to respond tactically and responsively. By securing longer term funding we would like to take a more strategic approach to managing BNW by building in succession planning to review and refresh watches, support local neighbourhood coordinators and work with Barnet Council’s Emergency Resilience Team to coordinate locality responses.</p> <p>BNW worked with CommUNITY Barnet and the Federation of Residents’ Associations in Barnet (FORAB) in establishing the Safer Neighbourhood Board. The Chair of BNW is a member of the SNB and committed to promoting the MOPAC vision of community engagement enshrined in the SNB.</p> <p>Establishing neighbourhood wards is a priority in the West side of the borough which supports the priorities set out in the Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020, Barnet Council’s Corporate Plan and will support the SNB’s delivery of the MOPAC priorities for the Mayor of London.</p>
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For 2016-17 we will be focussing on establishing neighbourhood watches in the Hendon Village and Burnt Oak areas where there is a perception and fear that policing on a local level is in decline and the size of the local population is increasing through the regeneration programme. BNW is regarded by residents as a complimentary contribution to keeping themselves safe.

In addition to BNW improving confidence and reducing fear of crime, the BNW Coordinator and Chair will continue to act as trusted advocates supporting both victims of crime and witnesses in presenting their cases to local police. The BNW Coordinator has close links with the police and is therefore able to advocate successfully on their behalf, this improves the confidence of our members who know that BNW is a body that they can turn to if they need help with any official body or organisation. BNW reflects Barnet's successful, diverse and civically minded community.

We will also be expanding our neighbourhood 'WhatsApp' groups to ensure greater coordination and communication with each other. This will free up the Coordinators' time to be more strategic and provide an enhanced service in more deprived high crime areas. All new watches are advised to start a WhatsApp group. We trialled this approach in Brunswick Park Gardens, Bedford Gardens and Ramsden Road during 2015-16 and were delighted that all of the WhatsApp groups had reported NO CRIME happening since setting up the groups.

As part of its support to our volunteer coordinators, BNW provides two BNW signs free of charge as part of our corporate messaging and creating a sense of unity and partnership. We would like the signage to more inclusive of our partners such as the LLB, with attachments of the logo and suitable wording. A preliminary discussion has taken place with Councillor Longstaff (Chairman of the Safer Communities Partnership Board) who sees this as one of his personal priorities which we would like to continue as part of this funding proposal.

With this funding the BNW Coordinator will support the local coordinators to hold one formal meeting a year and broadcast a minimum number of Alertcomms messages as well as email. Between April - November 2015 BNW had broadcast 118 messages promoting crime prevention, personal safety and incidents information.

We will hold four large-scale public meetings attracting an anticipated audience of approximately 150/ 200 people. Topics discussed in the past have included the impact of burglary, the changing police numbers within the borough and neighbourhood policing.

BNW is now in Partnership with the MPS in their Met Trace property marking scheme advertising its benefits to members. Mettrace has also been responsible for increasing the number of new enquiries to BBW. 23 enquiries were received in November 2015. The Borough Commander Chief Supt Adrian Usher has paid tribute to our work "Our fantastic neighbourhood watch is the best I have seen anywhere in my service" quote [from his online profile](#).

The current funding will be used to pay for the NW Coordinators Salary for 4 days a week for 156 weeks from the 1st April 2016 to the 31st of March 2019. We would be happy to develop a higher level plan for 2017-18 and 2018-19 if required.

For illustrative purposes we have set out our proposed activities for 2016-17

- To develop another 24 new neighbourhood watches in the crime hotspots of Golders Green, East Barnet, Edgware and Childs Hill wards. Redeveloping priority areas and disadvantaged areas of the borough by supporting the priorities set out in the Safer Community Strategy 2015 – 2020 Strategy.
- Deliver a minimum of 100 communications through our web-based messaging system called

	<p>“Alertcomms”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver six burglary roadshows in key hotspot areas. • Publicise SNB and Police public meetings to promote closer ties with Police and Safer Neighbourhood Boards. • Design and distribute BNW signs. We would like to include the Safer Communities Partnership Board logo to reflect our partnership approach • Work closely with LBB Community Safety Team - to ensure that residents in BNW area feel confident that LBB and police are tackling crime and ASB in an effective manner. • Assist in the delivery of the “Community Safety” residents survey. • Promote the “Safer Homes Scheme” to residents if requested by Barnet Council
<p>How does the project fit with Barnet Council priorities?</p>	<p>BNW Scheme’s aims are in keeping with the priorities set out in the Safer Communities Strategy with an emphasis on reducing the level of crime and the fear of crime. By providing regular communication and crime prevention advice, we believe BNW reduces the fear of crime as well as empowering residents to take control of their own safety. We have played a significant role in promoting active crime prevention, delivered through a professionally run organisation. Barnet has seen a drop of 21% in burglary this last year. However we must remain vigilant and we will continue to promote this message to all our current and new members.</p> <p>The impact of neighbourhood watch schemes on reducing burglary is well documented both in police statistics and academic research.</p> <p>Furthermore, we believe our brokerage role with statutory partners including the police and the council has meant that we can reach parts of Barnet’s communities that other stakeholders cannot reach. By educating local residents of the benefits of crime prevention, proactive behaviour and creating networks is our tried and tested approach and we know it works well.</p> <p>In addition, we believe it promotes, neighbourliness, connectivity and community cohesion – a sense of Barnet. It remains a fact that the majority of burglars arrested in Barnet were as a result of direct calls from the public. BNW exists to educate all of its members in 999 and 101 protocols and empowering them to call police.</p> <p>Study of the most recent crime data has shown that two thirds of these were easily preventable by a basic increase in knowledge about crime prevention techniques. Each burglary costs the State an average of £1500. That is £126000 this week in Barnet alone, prevent two thirds and the saving is obvious. This is what we do, each watch has a lecture in Crime Prevention at its launch and is backed up by us delivery of advice and warnings. We have prepared an on-Line and accessible Crime prevention training tool for coordinators It can be view at www.barnetboroughwatch.co.uk or sent as required. All new watches and previous watches are being trained in it’s use. This is a massive task and will take 2 to 3 years to complete in it’s entirety.</p>
<p>Outputs (what are the measurable outputs):</p>	<p>Annual work programme:</p> <p>24 new groups to be created per year – in specified target areas 255 warning and information broadcasts to be made using Alertcomms system Joint Burglary Prevention Event with LBB as part of the Winter/ Summer Burglary Campaign Six anti-burglary roadshow to be held in the borough.</p> <p>To see a 21% drop in reported offences in BNW areas throughout the funding period as measured through the Strategic Needs Assessment.</p>
<p>Proposed</p>	<p>To be in place by 01/04/16. To run to end of financial year 19/19</p>

Project Timetable/ Plan:	BNW has built up a relationship with The Hadley Trust which could in the future assist with match funding for projects. We are currently in discussion with other funders including City Bridge Trust for some of our strategic projects that are under development.		
Applicant's name and address	Paul Hammond	DATE	December 2015
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY REVIEW		Decision	

Performance Monitor

Activity	Annual Target	Performance – April – June 2015	Performance – July – March 2016	Cumulative Total	+/- Target	Notes	Comments
Establish new neighbourhood watches in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golders Green • East Barnet • Edgware • Childs Hill • Burnt Oak • N3 • N11 • Hale • Mill Hill 	24	2 2 2 8 1 1 1 2 2		21			

Activity	Annual Target	Performance – April – June 2015	Performance – July – March 2016	Cumulative Total	+/- Target	Notes	Comments
Redeveloping priority areas and disadvantaged	Commentary					Outreach and reassurance work a feature of the neighbourhood watch teams operating within the crime hotspot areas and reflected in the establishment of new neighbourhood watches	
Deliver communications through Alertcomms”	255	40		40			
Deliver six burglary roadshows in key hotspot areas	4	2		2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM at Simpson Hall on 8 April 2015 – over 200 attendants • 14 May Burnt Oak Library 	
Activity	Annual Target	Performance – April – June 2015	Performance – July – March	Cumulative Total	+/- Target	Notes	Comments

			2016				
Publicise SNB and Police public meetings to promote closer ties with Police and Safer Neighbourhood Boards.	No target	2		2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sent out on: • 11/06/ 15 and 30/06/15 in relation to the BBC series 'The Met' 	
Design and distribute new BNW signs which reflect the Community Safety Partnership nature of BNW		No contact received from the Community Safety Team in relation to this				No contact with Community Safety team since meeting on 22 May. New signs have been commissioned and paid for independently from Council work. No LBB signage included	

Activity	Annual Target	Performance – April – June 2015	Performance – July – March 2016	Cumulative Total	+/- Target	Notes	Comments
Joint Burglary Prevention Event with LBB as part of the Winter/ Summer Burglary Campaign		No activity					
Work closely with LBB Community Safety Team - to ensure that residents in BBW area feel confident that LBB and police are tackling crime and ASB in an effective manner		No feedback received to date from LBB.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police have liaised re: Metrace and feedback from documentary series 'The Met' • BNW took 2 groups to 101 response centre – 8 and 22 May 2015 	

Activity	Annual Target	Performance – April – June 2015	Performance – July – March 2016	Cumulative Total	+/- Target	Notes	Comments
Promote the “Safer Homes Scheme” to residents if requested by Barnet Council		No activity				To date no request received from Barnet Council to promote ‘Safer Homes Scheme’	

