

REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE ON 16 FEBRUARY 2010

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY WARDEN – ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY
COMMUNITY WARDENS IN MORAY**

BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The reason for this report is to highlight activities undertaken by the Community Wardens in Moray for the period 1 April 2009 until 31 December 2009 and the initiatives carried out to address priorities identified in the Community Safety Citizens Panel Survey.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to Safer Communities.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **The Communities Committee is asked to note the activities undertaken by Community Wardens in Moray.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Community Warden Service in Moray was introduced in June 2004 as part of an initiative from the then Scottish Executive to tackle Antisocial Behaviour, in line with the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004. Grampian Police employ the Community Wardens as this allowed the Wardens access to Police communications, intelligence systems and have daily contact with Community Beat Officers.
- 3.2 A major role of the Community Wardens in Moray is to tackle antisocial behaviour within their communities by developing community resilience and cohesion. Central to the role of the Wardens is the building of relationships with all members of the communities they serve. They achieve this by organising Antisocial Behaviour campaigns, linking into Local Neighbourhood Forums and Community Councils and helping to acquire funding for local facilities and initiatives
- 3.3 As reported to this committee in December, the results of the Citizens Panel very much mirrors that of the 2006 survey in respect that rubbish/litter and dog fouling are still the most common problems in Moray as identified by respondents.
- 3.4 Community Wardens in Moray have undertaken a large number of initiatives within their respective communities, mainly around litter and dog fouling offending. The Wardens carry out an education phase which involves publicity in the local press along with posters, leaflet drops and warnings delivered in

identified 'hot spot' areas. This is followed by an enforcement phase where fixed penalties are issued.

- 3.5 There are a number of examples of activities undertaken to address litter within communities. These include Community Litter Picks and "Bin it 2 Win It" initiative. A good example of this type of activity was undertaken by the Community Warden in Forres, who, in partnership with The Moray Council, Community Council, Grampian Police, Community Groups and volunteers launched the "Adopt a Street" campaign. This involved the purchase of 100 litter pickers, which were funded from a number of sources and they were then distributed along with protective tabards to identified volunteers who take ownership of their street or allocated area and keep it free of litter. 72 streets in Forres have been adopted into the scheme.
- 3.6 Dog Fouling is also tackled by Community Wardens organising dog shows within their local areas. During these activities, responsible dog ownership is promoted and the health hazards relating to dog faeces. Wardens also carry a supply of "Dog Poo" bags but they have also distributed them to shops within their communities to make them readily accessible. Local media campaigns were used to raise the awareness within communities.
- 3.7 Community Wardens are involved in many youth activities, attending all deployments of the "Street Football" pitch and being involved with the "Midnight Football" tournaments. In addition to these Wardens coach football, netball and other sporting activities at local schools.
- 3.8 Annually all Wardens are involved in the Roseisle Fun Day which involves each Warden nominating 6 young people from their respective communities. Young people who have behaviour issues and would benefit from socialising with other young people in a safe and healthy environment are invited to attend. The event is funded by Moray Firth Radio "Cash for Kids" and is always voted a success by those attending.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan

The Antisocial Behaviour service supports the Single Outcome Agreement, Outcome 9 - We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.

(b) Policy and Legal

The Moray Council has a statutory obligation in terms of the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 to tackle all forms of antisocial behaviour.

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

None

(d) Consultations

Sgt Adrian Moar, Partnership Development Officer, Grampian Police has been consulted and is in agreement with the contents of this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The Communities Committee is asked to note the activities undertaken by Community Wardens in Moray. The Committee should be aware that the majority of initiatives are implemented in response to priorities identified by communities and by the Community Safety Citizens Panel survey.

Author of Report: Andy Jamieson, Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator
Background Papers:
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