

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

15TH MARCH 2010

1. **'WOLVERHAMPTON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR PREVENTION' PROJECT, FUNDED BY SAFER WOLVERHAMPTON PARTNERSHIP**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Committee approve the acceptance of £133,670 following the successful submission of a bid for a 'Wolverhampton Anti-Social Behaviour Prevention Project'. The full amount bid for has been granted subject to approval by the Committee.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to inform the Committee of the successful submission of a bid for £133,670 to the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership and to approve acceptance of the funding.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 WMFS have worked closely with Safer Wolverhampton Partnership over a number of years. Partners, and in particular, the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, have been delighted with the impact, outcomes and added value resulting from sending young people on our FIRE courses. It is this positive working relationship which has resulted in the Service's bid for funding being successful. The partnership have also realised the benefit that can be gained from one-to-one mentoring in order to build upon the fantastic short term impact of FIRE courses to achieve longer term outcomes. After visiting Safeside, partners also immediately saw the value of ensuring that every year 5 pupil in Wolverhampton has the opportunity to experience this state of the art facility. The partnership believe that the project will have a positive impact and change lives for some of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable families in Wolverhampton whilst contributing to LAA indicators and outcomes.

3.2 Acceptance of this bid would enable the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) to:

- employ a Youth Development Officer for a year;
- to run 6 FIRE type courses over one year;
- to provide one-to-one mentoring for 90 young people over 2 years;
- to pay for a week long tour of 'Arson About' theatre for KS 3 pupils across 2 years; and
- to enable all year 5 pupils in Wolverhampton to visit Safeside over a period of 2 years.

3.3 Wolverhampton ranks 28th (out of 354) in the Government's Index of Multiple Deprivation (2007) and almost half of the city lies within the 20% most deprived in the country.

3.4 FIRE courses and mentoring will enable the following outcomes for 180 people (including young people and their families) improved:

- awareness of the consequences of anti-social and unsafe behaviour.
- team working skills enabling them to enjoy learning together.
- confidence and self-esteem.
- knowledge of home and road safety.
- life choices.

3.5 The 'Wolverhampton Anti Social Behaviour Prevention Project' will contribute to the following National Indicators within Wolverhampton's current LAA:

- NI 1 People from different backgrounds getting on well together.
- NI 16 Rate of serious acquisitive crime.
- NI 21 Perception of dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by police and local council.
- NI 110 Young people participation in positive activities.
- NI 117 16-18 year olds who are not in Education Employment or Training (NEET).

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report a full Equality Impact Assessment is required and has been carried out. The programme is meeting key equality needs around our prevention and education services for diverse communities within Wolverhampton.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The course of action recommended in this report does not raise issues which should be drawn to the attention of the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Acceptance of the bid would bring £133, 670 of income into the organisation.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Data from Wolverhampton City Council Policy Team

VIJ RANDENYIA
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER