



Crime Reduction & Community Safety Group

Tilley Awards 2007

Application form

Please ensure that you have read the guidance before completing this form. **By making an application to the awards, entrants are agreeing to abide by the conditions laid out in the guidance.** Please complete the following form in full, **within the stated word limit and ensuring the file size is no more than 1MB.** Failure to do so will result in your entry being rejected from the competition.

Completed application forms should **be e-mailed to tilleyawards07@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk**

All entries must be received by noon on **Friday 27th April 2007**. No entries will be accepted after this time/date. Any queries on the application process should be directed to Alex Blackwell on 0207 035 4811. Any queries regarding publicity of the awards should be directed to Chaz Akoshile on 0207 035 1589.

Section 1: Details of application

Title of the project: Horsley Youth Project

Name of force/agency/CDRP/**CSP**: Safer Guildford CDRP

Name of one contact person with position and/or rank (this should be one of the authors):
Sgt Tina Griffiths – Community Safety Team Sgt

Email address: griffiths1228@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Full postal address: Community Safety Team, Guildford Police Station, Margaret Road, Guildford, Surrey
GU14QS

Telephone number: 07967 987805

Fax number:

If known please state in which Government Office area you are located e.g. Government Office North West, Government Office London etc:

GOSE

Name of endorsing senior representatives(s):

Name of organisation, position and/or rank of endorsing senior representatives(s):

Full address of endorsing senior representatives(s):

Surrey Police HQ, Mount Browne, Sandy Lane, Guildford, Surrey

Please tick box to indicate that all organisations involved in the project have been notified of this entry (this is to prevent duplicate entries of the same project):

 Y

Section 2: Summary of application

In no more than 400 words please use this space to describe your project (see guidance for more information).

East Horsley is a residential area in West Surrey. The commercial centre of the village comprises of a parade of shops including 3 off-licences. The village also boasts a train station, which itself creates a channel for anti-social behaviour to occur. The station is un-staffed and young people use the train to travel without payment between neighbouring villages. It was believed that 50% of the disorder being experienced in East Horsley was attributable to young people travelling by train from the neighbouring villages. During 2005 local neighbourhood panel meetings voted youth disorder as a top priority for the policing team and its partners. In the first few months of 2005 there were 89 reports of anti-social behaviour ranging from intimidating groups of youths to criminal damage etc. A multi-agency meeting was set up and as a result of this a village BBQ was held inviting the young people to come and mix with agencies, parish councillors and youth workers, to voice their issues and to hear about the problems in the area. 25/30 young people attended the BBQ which started with a structured session around ASB and Section 30 dispersal orders and how they could be affected by them. There was lively discussion from the young people and the enforcement procedures were explained to them and the affect that this type of behaviour was having on the community. The young people voiced their concerns about the lack of things to do in the local area. Following the BBQ, in August, a two week period of heavy police enforcement and high visibility followed.

12 weeks prior to the BBQ there were 67 reported incidents of anti-social behaviour

12 weeks after BBQ there were only 16 reported incidents of anti-social behaviour. This has also been sustained since.

Issues raised:

Lack of facilities for young people in village – a youth forum has been formed and are looking at ways to improve current facilities and the village youth club opened a further night each week.

Negative perception by the adult villagers on the younger residents – a better relationship built between some of these groups due to the social BBQ aspect of the meeting.

Sustainable good relationship between the young people and local police – police are starting up monthly drop in sessions for the young people involving food and informal discussions about concerns and issues raised by the young people.

Section 3: Description of project

Describe the project in no more than 4000 words (see guidance for more information *in particular Section 7 - judging criteria*).

The Problem

East Horsley is predominately a residential area in West Surrey. The commercial centre of the village, although not large, comprises a parade of shops which includes banks, a Post Office, restaurants and 3 off-licences. Two of the off-licences are incorporated into shops.

The village also boasts a rail station, which itself creates a channel for anti-social behaviour to occur. The station is unstaffed and young people use the train to travel without payment between Bookham, Ashford and East Horsley. It is believed that 50% of the disorder can be attributed to young people who do not live in the area but travel to Horsley by train for "entertainment"

During the early 2005 local neighbourhood panel meetings voted youth disorder as a top priority to the local policing team.

Since the beginning of the year there had been 89 reports received by police of anti-social behaviour in the area, ranging from intimidating groups of youths to criminal damage. Many of these incidents have occurred in the proximity of the train station or the local shopping parade.

It was the general consensus and was mentioned at the multi agency problem solving group, CIAG that a Section 30 Dispersal Order could be used to deal with this problem and a meeting was arranged with partner agencies and local stakeholders to discuss how this should be best implemented.

LEGISLATION

Section 30 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 contains police powers to disperse groups of 2 or more for a period of 24hrs and if it is a young person under 16 who is unsupervised in public place after 9pm they can return them to their place of residence

However, these new powers will only be available where a written authorisation has been made by an officer of at least the rank of superintendent regarding a designated area. Prior to giving an authorisation, the officer must be satisfied that significant and persistent anti-social behaviour has occurred in the locality within his police area, and that intimidation, harassment, alarm or distress has been caused to members of the public, by the presence or behaviour of groups in that locality.

Powers granted by this authority are conferred on a constable or a community support officer.

It is for a specific area and cannot exceed 6 months.

With a valid written authority in place - if a constable (in uniform) has reasonable grounds for believing that the presence or behaviour of a group of two or more persons in any public place in the area specified has resulted, or is likely to result, in any members of the public being intimidated, harassed, alarmed or distressed - the constable can give directions to them to either disperse or to leave the area.

A direction cannot be given if those people are engaged in lawful industrial disputes or public processions.

Between the 9pm and 6am, if a constable or a community support officer finds young people (believed under 16), who are unsupervised in public places covered by this authorisation, they can return them to their place of residence

j) IMPORTANT: SECTION 30(6) CONFERS ON THE POLICE A WELCOME POWER TO USE POLICE RESOURCES TO TAKE A YOUNG PERSON HOME IF S/HE IS WILLING TO GO. However, force must not be used (R (W) v Commissioner of the Met Police and another 2005). Officers must resort to other strategies if the young person is unwilling to go voluntarily.

CONSULTATION/DISCUSSION

On 12th July 2005 a meeting was held to discuss the options available to deal with Anti Social Behaviour in the Horsley area.

The main problems seemed to be

- a lack of facilities for young people to hang out. There is a purpose built youth club in the village, which due to staffing constraints is only open Tuesdays and Thursdays for two different age groups. There were also no activities planned for the Summer Holidays again due to staffing issues. There also seemed to be some local resistance to the Youth Centre.
- Young people hanging around the train station
- Young people from out of the area travelling to Horsley to gather, as it is perceived as an area where they will not be disturbed. The majority of these young people were also not purchasing tickets

After some discussion it was decided that a forum was needed to give the young people of Horsley an opportunity to discuss and explain the problem in the area and the effect that a Section 30 would have on them. This would run in conjunction with high visibility patrols and proactive policing to underpin the message that anti social behaviour would not be tolerated.

INTERVENTION

As the result of the meeting it was decided that an invitation would be sent to all the local young people inviting them to a BBQ to be held at their youth club to discuss the problems of ASB. This was achieved by producing flyers, posters, a press release to advertise the event and most importantly personal invites from youth workers, parish council members and the local policing team.

Horsley BBQ

It was decided that this would be a relaxed session with a structured ½ hour session followed by a more social, unstructured chat and eat!

The outline of the evening was as follows:

- What is a section 30?
- What is an ASBO
- How could they affect you?

The young people were then split into groups with at least 1 adult joining each group and they were asked to think about the following questions

- What do you consider to be anti social behaviour?
- Is there anywhere in Horsley where you do not feel safe?
- What facilities for young people would you like to see in Horsley?

This session lasted approx 20 minutes with feedback from each group on the questions asked.

This evening was attended by the following agencies:

- Youth Offending Team
- Guildford Borough Council Area Housing Officer
- Local Youth Worker and volunteers
- Members of the Parish Council
- Local NSO – Police
- Local PCSO - Police
- ASB Officer – Police

The evening attracted approximately 25/30 young people who were probably representative of the majority of the young people who were linked to disorderly behaviour in the village. Local residents also attended.

There was lively discussion between the young people and the agencies and there were some positive discussions that came out of the group work, with the young people acknowledging that some of their behaviour was anti social and that it had an effect on the community. The young people were also given de-personalised examples of "real" complaints which had been received by Police in the previous months. These positive conversations continued after the session finished with hardly any young people eating and leaving straight away.

ENFORCEMENT

To coincide with the work at the BBQ it was decided to increase the policing in and around Horsley to reinforce the message that anti social behaviour was not acceptable.

A successful bid for additional staffing was approved and double-crewed police patrols were on hi-vis/proactive patrol in the evenings between Friday 19th and Monday 29th August 2005.

British Transport Police were also contacted for support in policing the railway and station to disrupt young people from fare dodging and who were coming to Horsley because they were less likely to be hassled due to it's rural location.

During this period two youths aged 18 and 19 were arrested for public order offences and one was also arrested for possession of cannabis. One young person was also arrested for criminal damage. These were all dealt with by way of a reprimand.

OUTCOME

A meeting was held on 8th September 2005 to discuss the BBQ and any concerns that had arisen since.

It was agreed that the BBQ had had a very good turn out (approx 25/30 young people) with it attracting probably the majority of the young people involved in ASB in the area. The youth worker fed back that the event was well received by the young people who continued to talk about it weeks after the event. Whilst there were fears that the message was light hearted and had not got across to the young people it was clear from the dramatic reduction in incidents that the delivery of the message was effective and provided a clear foundation to build on.

It was also felt that the police patrols had had a good impact. Clearly there had been a marked change in the relationships between the young people and police with both parties engaging in discussions when meeting on the streets rather than the negative "Them and Us" which had been experience in the past.

There had only been two reported incidents since the BBQ but there were concerns about the long term effects and whether the problem would revert back to the way it was in the future. It was agreed that major progress had been achieved but that ongoing work and engagement was need to sustain this positive relationship.

A decision was made to suspend any application for a Section 30 Dispersal area due to a large decrease in reported incidents.

At the meeting held on 10th November 2005 an analysis of reported acts of crime or ASB were as follows:

12 Weeks Prior to BBQ **67 reported incidents**

12 weeks after BBQ **16 reported incidents**

There has been a noticeable improvement in the village. There are positive relationships forming between the local officers and the young people who are now willing to engage in conversations that are not related to offending and seem to be much more approachable.

THE FUTURE

Since the beginning of this project the following concerns have been highlighted regarding youth disorder in Horsley

1 Lack of facilities for young people in the village

The voluntary youth workers have been tasked to work with the young people to compile a list of sensible proposals looking at youth provision and to form a youth forum. These proposals could then be taken to parish council, Surrey County Council etc for discussion. This way it empowers the young people and gives them membership of their environment. The youth club is still only open two nights a week, so options are to be discussed in relation to this.

2 The negative perception that some adults have of young people in the village – they feel they do not get any respect from the adults.

It is hoped that by including the young people at parish council/neighbourhood panel meetings they can get their message across in a non-confrontational way and also shows them as responsible young people. It is also hoped that it will forge positive relationships between themselves and the adults

3 Sustainability of the good relationship now obtained between the young people and the local Police

Following the success of the BBQ it has been decided that the local police will organise a drop in session/youth café once a month to continue building positive relationships. This will be an unstructured session unless the young people wish to discuss a particular issue that is affecting them. This will be managed in partnership with local youth club who will also be present at the sessions. The first drop in session has been organised for December. This will also hopefully help start to resolve the issues in point 1.

One Year On...July 2006

Youth Café

The Youth Café has now been up and running for 7 months and is available on the first Wednesday of every month. The young people of Horsley can turn up free of charge and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere where they can chat with friends, youth workers and the local police team and enjoy a game of pool, table football, surf the net or watch the TV. There is also pizza on offer which the young people can purchase for a small fee as this is subsidised by the local Police Team.

Each evening is supported by the local youth workers, Guildford Borough Council Housing Officer and members of the Local Policing Team. The Police Team is made up of the dedicated Neighbourhood Specialist Officer and Police Community Support Officers who are divided into two teams. One set work at the Youth Centre, dressed in casual clothing whose main role is to interact with the young people attending the Café. The second team patrol the local area in Hi Visibility Uniform offering re-assurance to the local community, especially around the shops and train station and where they come across groups of youths gathering try and encourage them to pop into to the café rather than hanging around the streets.

This type of Policing enables the local team to maintain a good working relationship with the young people of Horsley by offering them an alternative to hanging around and also gives the community a hi-visibility patrol, offering reassurance.

Lack of Youth Facilities

Through the work and trust that has been built up through the Youth Café the young people attending were asked what they would like to see provided in the way of other facilities in the village.

After some consultation and research the young people asked if half the tennis court play area could be converted into an all weather play area, possibly offering football and basketball. They also asked about a "Youth Shelter", this is a covered free standing structure where people could congregate as an alternative to the railway station or local shops.

At present the tennis area is a fenced tarmac area which has two tennis courts marked out on it. There has been discussion and it was decided that the option they would like to be considered is two halves the area with a solid centre board and netting so that tennis could be played on one side and football/basketball on the other.

These ideas have been taken back to Guildford Borough Council and a trip is being arranged by some of the group to look at similar facilities and bring back some ideas to the rest of the group. There is also the issue of funding both the all weather area and youth shelter and there is discussion and enthusiasm ongoing to decide how they will achieve this. Suggestions so far have been putting together proposals for funding bids which will be lead by the adults with input from the young people as well as activities such as car washes and football tournaments all with the purpose of raising funds towards the installation of the equipment.

The young people also recently invited the Mayor of Guildford to the Youth Café to discuss their ideas and plans with her.

Negative Perceptions

It is the group's intention that once a plan of action for the above facilities has been produced that an invitation to the wider community will be made in asking for support to help the Young People of Horsley achieve their objectives. The main aim is to get the group and the community integrating and working together which will hopefully dispel some of the fear and misconceptions that have been built up over the years.

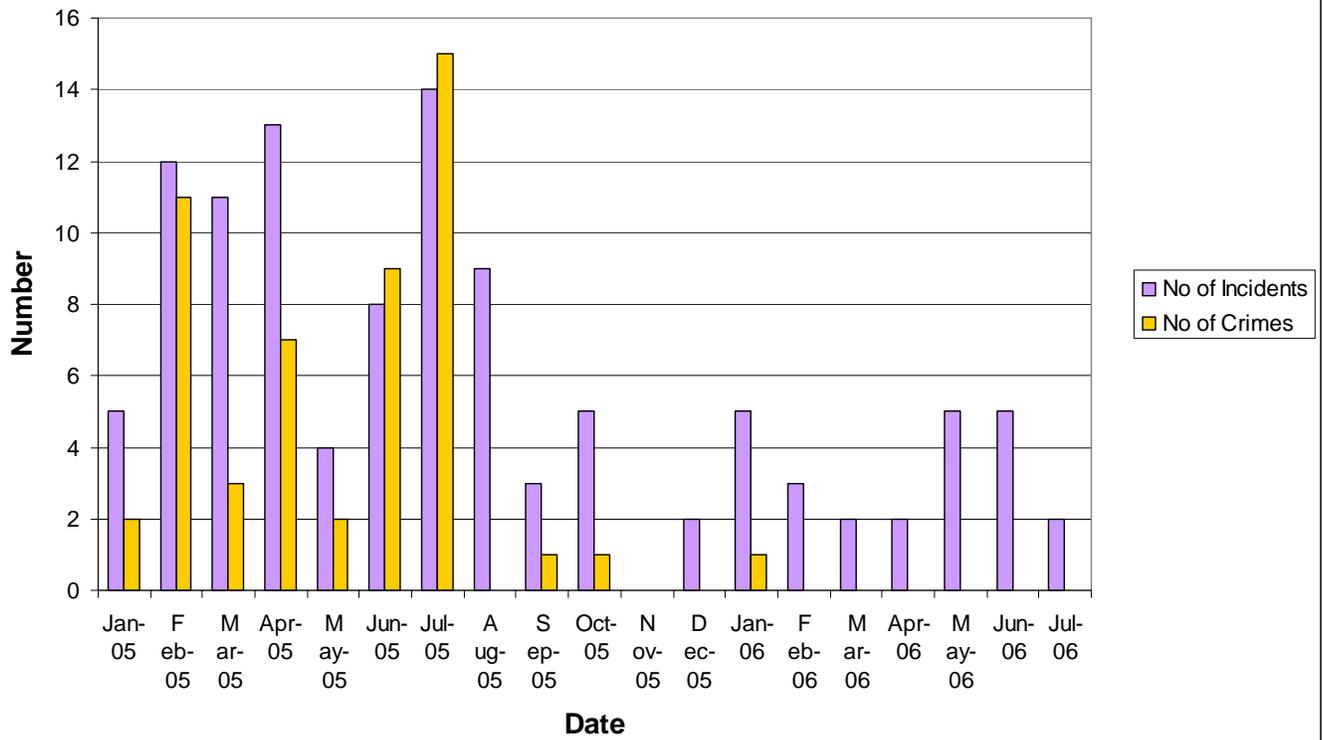
The group would also be asking the adult community if there were projects locally that the young people could help support and become involved in.

The aim is to enhance the relationship between the young people and the community which should make it easier for both sides to challenge behaviour and continue making positives steps towards the village's future.

Crime/Incidents

The main reason for all of this good work starting in Horsley was due to a dramatic raise in youth crime and disorder being reported to Police. As you can see from the graph on the next page there has now been a dramatic decline in these reports with no crime being reported since February 2006.

East Horsley Youth Disorder



Date	No of Incidents	No of Crimes
Jan-05	5	2
Feb-05	12	11
Mar-05	11	3
Apr-05	13	7
May-05	4	2
Jun-05	8	9
Jul-05	14	15
Aug-05	9	0
Sep-05	3	1
Oct-05	5	1
Nov-05	0	0
Dec-05	2	0
Jan-06	5	1
Feb-06	3	0
Mar-06	2	0
Apr-06	2	0
May-06	5	0
Jun-06	5	0
Jul-06	2	0

Outcome/Lessons Learnt

All too often decisions, especially those dealing with young people are made without consultation and enforcement is used to change behaviour. Whilst it is not suggested that enforcement has no place in dealing with anti social behaviour in our communities the benefit of this multi agency approach to dealing with this particular situation is very clear.

Horsley now has at least 25-30 young people who are managing themselves in their community and have the knowledge to inform their friends and peers about being responsible and have a vested interest in keeping disorder to a minimum. This approach has valued them as individuals and treated them with respect. In turn they have more confidence to relate to the local policing team and have an avenue to voice their concerns and ideas for the future.

Section 4: Endorsement by Senior Representative

Please insert letter from endorsing representative:

I fully support this application.



Mr Bob Quick QPM MBA
Chief Constable of Surrey

Checklist for Applicants:

1. Have you read the process and application form guidance?
2. Have you completed all four sections of the application form in full including the endorsement from a senior representative?
3. Have you checked that your entry addresses all aspects of the judging criteria?
4. Have you advised all partner agencies that you are submitting an entry for your project?
5. Have you adhered to the formatting requirements within the guidance?
6. Have you checked whether there are any reasons why your project should **not** be publicised to other police forces, partner agencies and the general public?
7. Have you saved you application form as a PDF attachment and entitled your message 'Entry for Tilley Awards 2007' before emailing it?

Once you are satisfied that you have completed your application form in full please **email it to Tilleyawards07@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk**. Two hard copies must also be posted to Alex Blackwell at Home Office, Effective Practice, Support & Communications Team, 6th Floor, Peel Building (SE Quarter), 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.