



# Home Office

## Crime Reduction & Community Safety Group

### Tilley Awards 2008 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 [tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk).

All entries must be received by noon on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008**. 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.

### Section A: Application basics

1. **Title of the project:** Morris Walk Estate

2. **Key issue that the project is addressing e.g. Alcohol related violence:** Young People behaving anti-socially

#### Author contact details

3. **Name of application author:** Gary Connors

4. **Organisation submitting application:** Community Safety & Integrated Enforcement, London Borough Greenwich

5. **Full postal address:** Community Safety Integrated Enforcement, Civic House, Grand Depot Road, SE18

6. **Email address:** gary.connors@greenwich.gov.uk

7. **Telephone number:** 020 8921 8340 / 07913 265230

#### Secondary project contact details

8. **Name of secondary contact involved in the project:** Sergeant Nick TITTLE

9. **Secondary contact email address:** Nick.Tittle@met.pnn.police.uk

10. **Secondary contact telephone number:** 07717 020311

#### Endorsing representative contact details

11. **Name of endorsing senior representative from lead organisation:** Superintendent Brian CHEREK

12. **Endorsing representative's email address:** brian.cherek@met.pnn.police.uk

**13. For all entries from England & Wales please state which Government Office or Welsh Assembly Government your organisation is covered by e.g. GO East Midlands: GO London**

**14. Please mark this box with an X 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):**

**Section B: Summary of application - In no more than 400 words use this space to provide a summary of your project under the stated headings (see guidance for more information).**

**Scanning:**

The problem of young people behaving anti-socially on the Morris Walk Estate, Woolwich, LONDON, SE18, emerged early in 2007 when members of the Woolwich Riverside Safer Neighbourhood Policing Panel, including community and agency representatives, found they were talking to each other about the same problem during their regular meetings. In determining how big, and how serious, the problem was:

- Police agreed to research calls for service and reported crime;
- London Fire Brigade fires started;
- London and Quadrant Housing [L&Q], anecdotal evidence of complaints from residents and ward councillors.

After hearing the problem described to them the Neighbourhood Panel decided it was a priority for action and a problem solving process was started with the aim of reducing anti-social behaviour on the estate.

**Analysis:**

The Panel, acting as a problem-solving group and thinking about what could be done, asked to know more about why young people were behaving anti-socially. Police Community Support Officers and L&Q Neighbourhood Development Officers asked the young people they met in public places and open spaces why this was happening. They reported that young people:

- Explained anti-social behaviour as a result of having nothing to do;
- Viewed a community centre providing activity for young people as outside their area and not somewhere to go;
- Distrusted authority figures, particularly the police, and adults in general.

**Response:**

The Neighbourhood Panel agreed police led enforcement activity would not solve the problem. They thought about what young people said they wanted to do, which, regardless of gender, was organised football in a local park they felt comfortable in. With the help of Charlton Athletic Community Trust a project was established. Some young people, and their parents, acquired accredited football coaching skills. During the summer the additional problem of motorcycles being ridden illegally in the Park threatened the continuation of the project. Young people were asked what could be done. As a result of what they said a motorcycle project with an established track record was bought in to deliver skills based training.

**Assessment:**

Whilst the high level aim of reducing anti-social behaviour on the estate has been not achieved, there is evidence of:

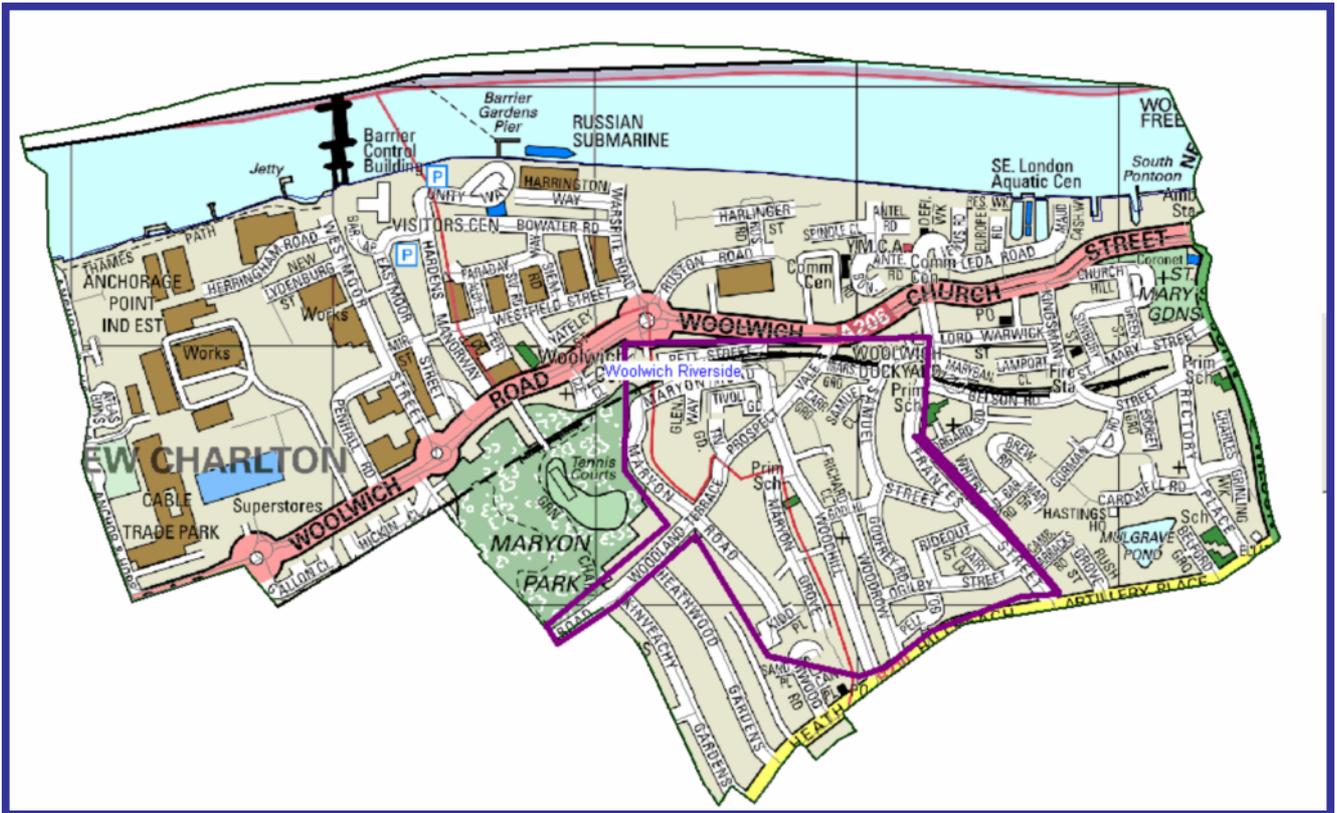
- Attitudinal change amongst those young people that took part, and their parents or carers;
- Increased trust between young people and adults, including police;
- Effective working between partners;
- Sustainability.

**State number of words: 391**

**Section C: Description of project - Describe the project in no more than 4,000 words. Please refer to the full guidance for more information on what the description should cover, in particular section 11.**

**Scanning**

Young people behaving anti-socially on the Morris Walk Estate, Woolwich, LONDON, SE18, emerged early in 2007 when members of the Woolwich Riverside Safer Neighbourhood Policing Panel, including community and partner representatives, found they were talking to each other about the same problem during their regular meetings.



Complaints received by local housing officers, London & Quadrant Housing [L&Q], and ward councillors, taken together with calls for service to police, indicated people living on the estate [marked in purple above] were reacting to a variety of acts of anti-social behaviour perpetrated by young people. These included:

- Targeting vulnerable victims in Tivoli Gardens, knocking on doors, shouting, throwing articles, climbing on roofs of blocks of flats, jumping from one block to another and throwing tiles to the ground;
- In Maryon Road, throwing things at windows and verbally abusing them as well as taking illegal drugs in stairwells and corridors;
- Rowdiness and nuisance in King Henry's Wharf;
- Harassment of students going to and from lessons in the Anchorage Point Industrial Estate;
- Intimidating groups of young people gathering outside local convenience shops in Kingsman Parade and Maryon Road, verbally abusing people passing.

In determining how big, and how serious, the problem was:

- Police agreed to research calls for service and reported crime;
- London Fire Brigade fires started;
- L&Q anecdotal evidence of complaints from residents and local ward councillors.

The research indicated anxiety about the behaviour of young people coincided with a hotspot for recorded offences, including violent crime and drug use. In March, a significant rise in residential burglary linked to chaotic drug users had prompted a pro-active policing operation using the tactic of high visibility patrolling during peak crime hours. Although reported burglaries were reduced by more than half, and people who did not live on the estate were deterred from visiting to use illegal drugs in the communal spaces, all the signals were combining to create a perception of lawlessness. At the same time L&Q assessed the estate as having low community cohesion with little capacity for concerted action.

After hearing the problem described to them the Neighbourhood Panel decided it was a priority for action and a problem solving process was started with the aim of reducing anti-social behaviour on the estate.

### **Analysis**

The Neighbourhood Panel, acting as a problem-solving group and thinking about what could be done, agreed police-led enforcement activity was a useful way of managing the problem in the short-term but also agreed high visibility policing could not be sustained over time and, anyway, was unlikely to bring people together. The Panel said they needed to know why young people were behaving anti-socially. L&Q agreed to ask their staff to talk to young people. They met them when they got off buses at the end of the school day and asked them what they did in the early evening. These conversations, together with those the Police Community Support Officers were having, revealed young people believed:

- Anti-social behaviour was the consequence of having nothing to do;
- Youth provision that did exist, specifically the Greenwich YMCA on the Woolwich Dockyard estate, was on the other side of a dual carriageway, A206 Woolwich Church Street, which they viewed as outside their territory and not somewhere they would go;
- Adults in general, and the police in particular, could not be trusted.

### **Response**

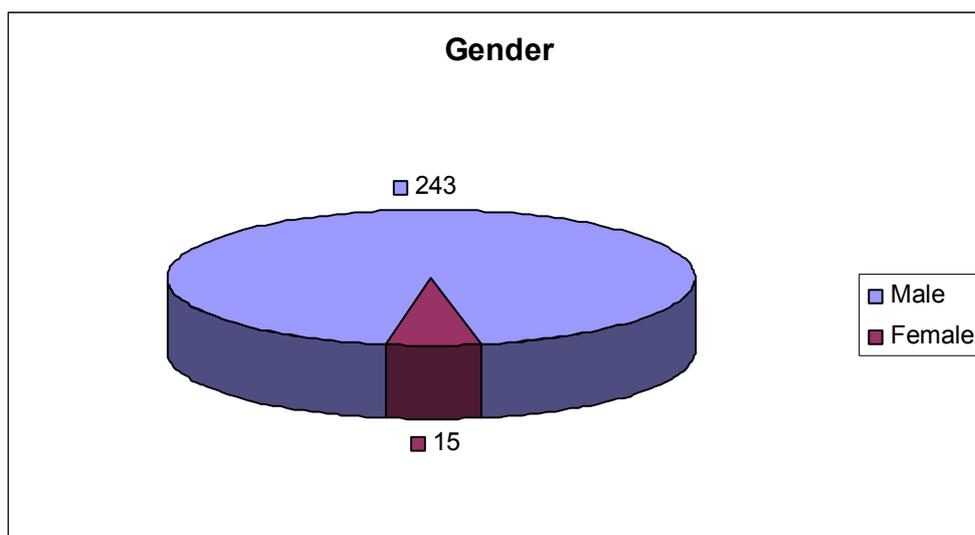
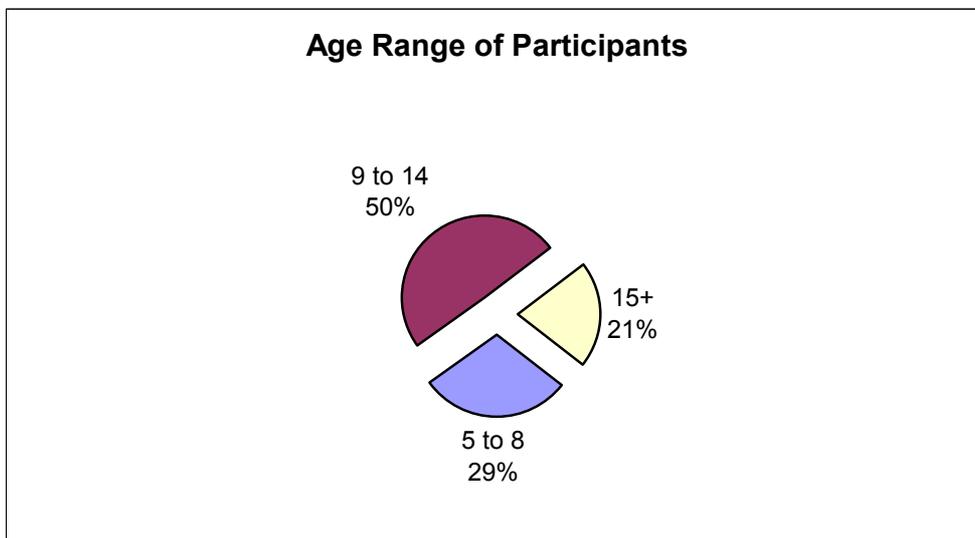
The young people, irrespective of gender, said organised football was their preferred activity. The Panel decided a community based football project appeared to offer the opportunity to affect change in the attitudes and behaviour of young people in the area.

### **The Maryon Park Football Project**



The Project set out from the beginning to work with the YMCA on the Dockyard Estate. The aim was to encourage young people to develop a positive view of the centre and what they did by building trust and confidence in the staff. The Football Project team was multi-disciplinary and multi-agency, led by L&Q, with staff drawn from Charlton Athletic Community Trust, the Woolwich Riverside Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team, the YMCA and London Borough of Greenwich Community Safety Team. Launched at the beginning of May 2007 and jointly funded by L&Q, YMCA and the Safer Greenwich Problem Solving Group who granted the project £10,000 to run to September. Targeting young people between 7 and 24 living in and around the Morris Walk Estate, the age range was agreed to ensure young people showing interest were not excluded. The project took place in the adjacent Maryon Park on

Tuesdays and Thursdays between 5.30pm and 7.30pm. The days of the week were chosen for practical reasons rather than standing out as worst for anti-social behaviour. These practicalities included not conflicting with a Kickz project run elsewhere in the Borough. By 4<sup>th</sup> September 258 young people had enrolled on the scheme. The overwhelming response prompted the sessions to be split into age ranges with an average of 70 young people on a typical night. The following charts show the majority of participants were male between the ages of 5 and 14. 20% were aged 15 and over.



A 5 a-side football tournament was organized at the end of August 2007. 48 young people took part in two competitions for 7-9 and 10-14 year olds. Designed as a development of the project, the competition challenged young people by engaging them in competitive exercise. A local ward councillor presented medals and trophies to reward good behaviour and continued attendance. The success of the project prompted the Safer Greenwich Problem Solving Group to grant an additional £8,000 to continue over the winter to March 2008, albeit at one session per week in the Meridian Sports Centre because portable floodlights had not provided adequate lighting in Maryon Park.

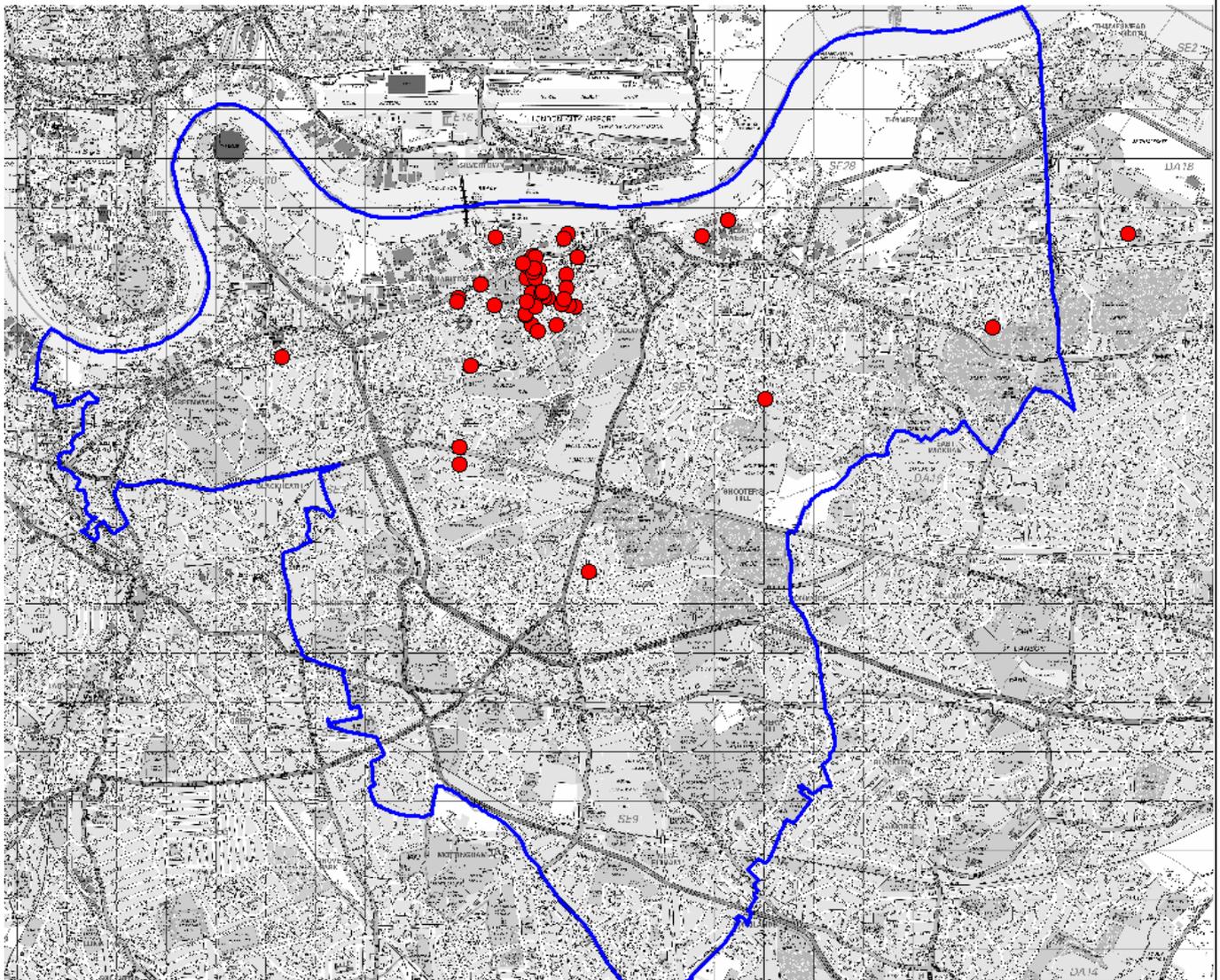
Sixteen young people enrolled with Charlton Athletic Football Club on a course to acquire FA Level One coaching certificates. They were joined by a Police Community Support Officer to foster their relationship with young people. Level One provided the participants with an introduction to football coaching, enabling young people over 16 to get onto the coaching ladder with little prior knowledge or experience. The course ran over three weekends and comprised a theory and practical element with a final assessment during which the young people were required to deliver a twenty session on a given topic. This was followed by an oral interview. Having gained this certificate

young people are eligible to progress to Level Two, a certificate recognised as enhancing employment opportunities.

### **Assessment**

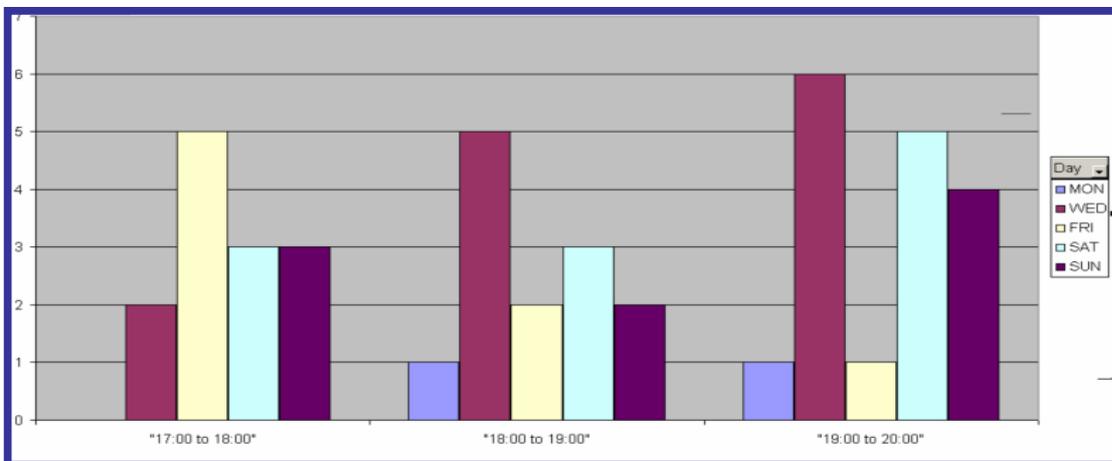
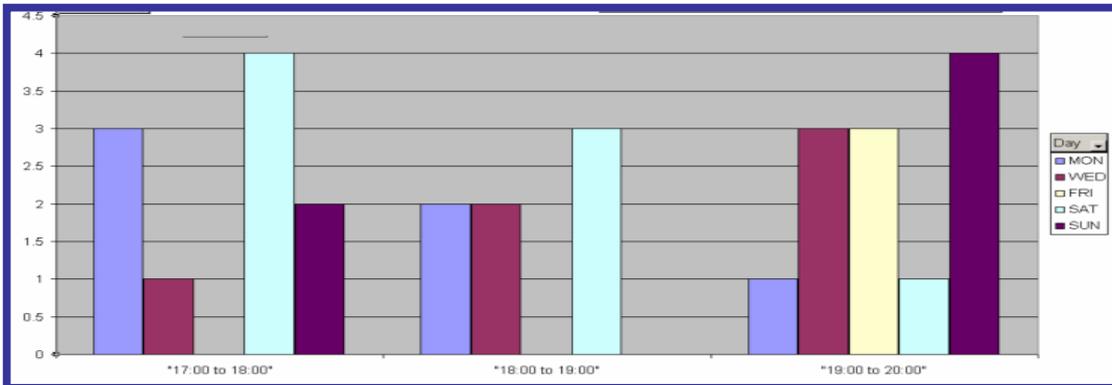
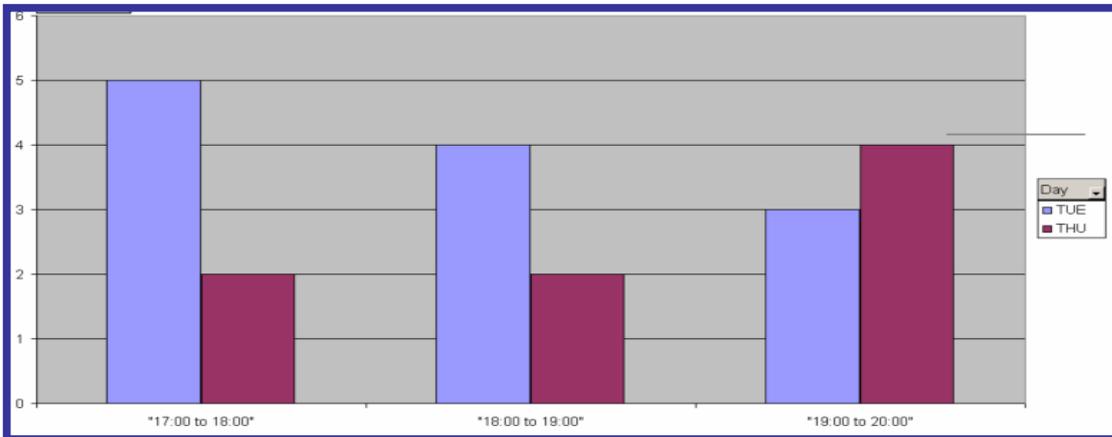
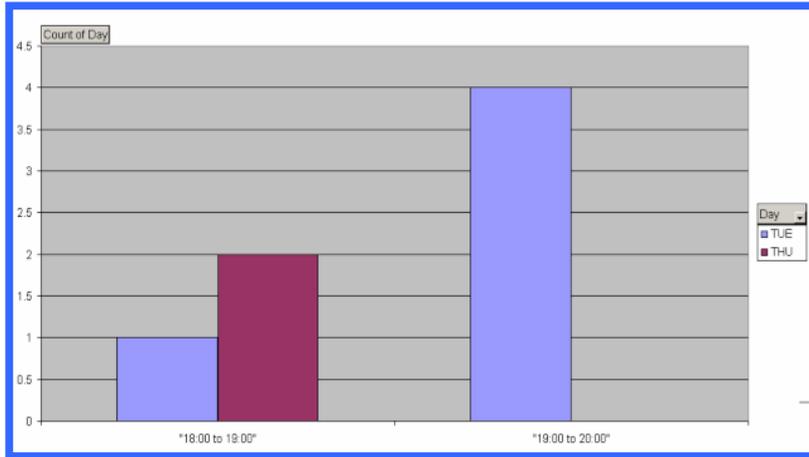
#### **Impact Evaluation: Quantitative Outcomes**

The high level aim of the project was to reduce anti-social behaviour by young people on the estate. Using the number of calls to police classified as Type 28, "Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour", as an overall measure the aim was not achieved. Assuming the data to be reliable, 152 calls to the identified area were received between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007, the year before the project started in May 2007. In the following year 217 were received. Understanding why requires testing the presumption the project was capable of diverting local young people from perpetrating anti-social behaviour locally.

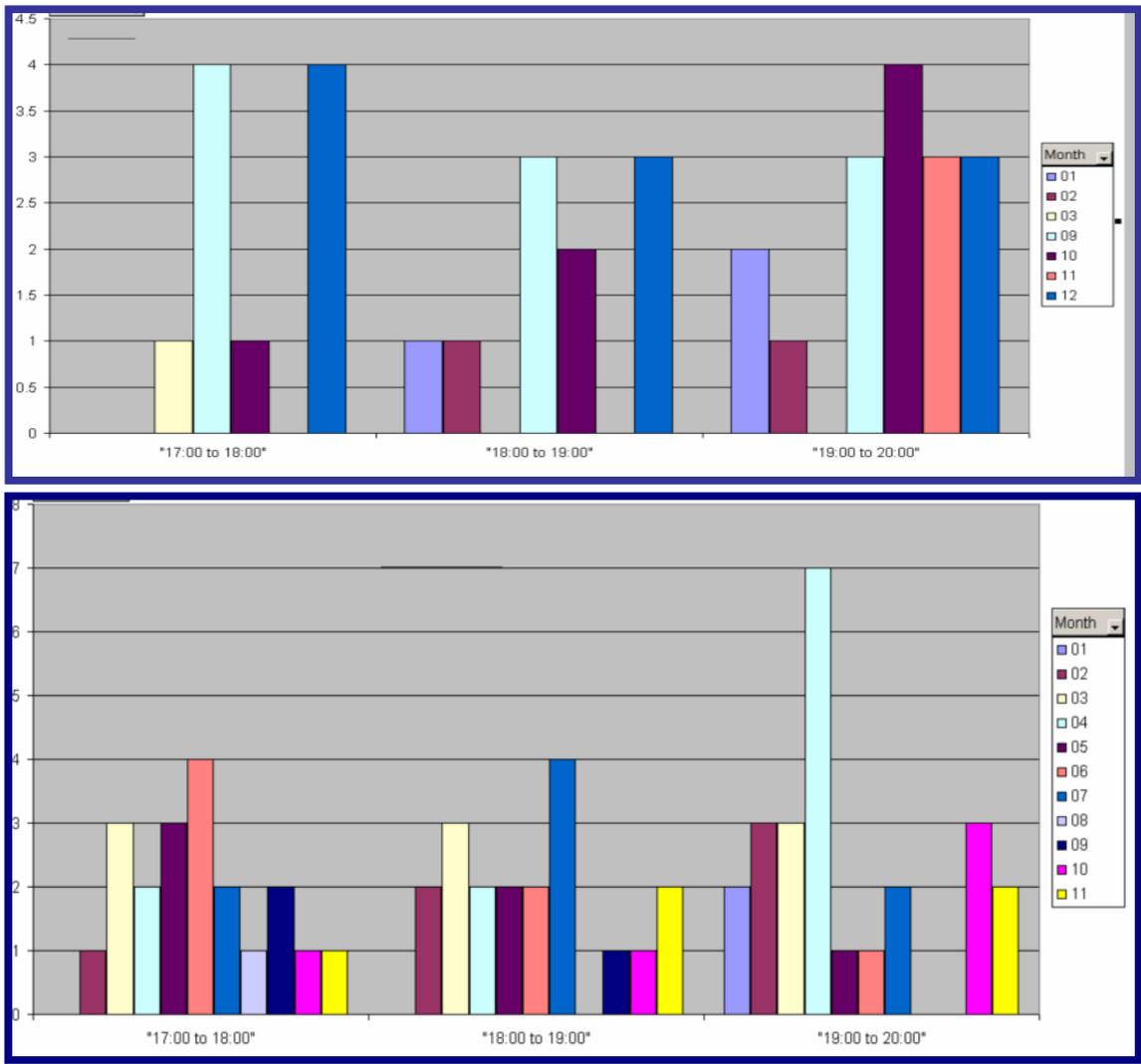


Mapping the addresses of the young people shows most lived in the target area. The few that did not were drawn to the project either by word of mouth in friendship groups or by the subsequent involvement of another local housing provider as a project partner.

The following charts compare calls for service to Police classified as "Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour". The first relates to the financial year 2006/7, the second 2007/8. They show more calls were made during the time, and on the days of the week, when the project ran, inferring it did not engage the perpetrators of anti-social behaviour. However, one explanation for the increase between 7pm and 8pm on Thursdays may be the move from Maryon Park to the Sports Centre where 56 young people attended compared to 258 in the park. The third and fourth charts indicate calls on other days of the week varied between the years but with no distinctive pattern.



Comparing the same data plotted against the months of the year shows a significant difference between the two years with an absence of calls between April and August 2006 [months 04 to 08] compared to 2007 when the project ran between May and August [months 05 to 08]



Whilst calls for service data indicates the project did not engage the perpetrators of anti-social behaviour the number of those crimes reported to police and most often committed by young people shows a 50% reduction on the days when the project was not running and none when it was.

	2006 – 2007	2007 - 2008
<b>Criminal damage under £5000</b>		
Tuesday and Thursday	0	0
Other days of the week	6	3
<b>Common Assault</b>		
Tuesday and Thursday	0	0
Other days of the week	4	2
<b>Robbery Person</b>		
Tuesday and Thursday	0	0
Other days of the week	4	0

As an additional measure of anti-social behaviour the number of fires the London Fire Brigade [LFB] attended in the area has been used to supplement the police derived data. This is, in part, recognition of the very low number of fires captured by police data and because LFB identified Greenwich has a Borough with a disproportionately high number of abandoned vehicle fires in comparison to other London Boroughs. In the early stages of the project comparison of the first four months of the financial years 2006/7 and 2007/8 indicated the neighbourhood experienced the largest reduction in the categories of "Abandoned Vehicle" and "Container" fires in the Borough. On the estate "Secondary Fires" dropped by nearly half. Looking at the year as a whole the number of fires decreased in the area, notably "Container/Bin fires" down by 36%. However, loose rubbish fires increased by 56%. Overall, fires fell by 13%, a greater reduction than the Borough average of 6%.

**Woolwich Riverside**

Vehicle	2006/7	2007/8
Owned	24	20
Abandoned vehicles	4	3
<b>Secondary Fires</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>94</b>
Container fires	60	38
Loose refuse	23	36
Open land	13	8
Derelect building	4	6
Road furniture	2	1
Other structure	0	2

**Morris Walk Estate [Maryon Road & Tivoli Gardens]**

	2006	2007
<b>Secondary Fires</b>	38	32

**Impact Evaluation: Qualitative Outcomes**

The quantitative measures of high-level change yield a mixed picture with an indication the project did not reduce anti-social behaviour by young people. There are a variety of qualitative measures of project's impact on the behaviour, and attitudes, of both young people and their parents or carers. The results of the parents survey clearly show a belief crime has gone down, they feel safer, their view of police has changed and what they like about the project is that it is a safe place.

**Parents Evaluation**

	Yes	No	Don't know
Should the project continue?	14		
Would you like to get involved in the project?	4	6	1
Should the project go back to Maryon Park?	12	1	
Has crime gone down?	10	2	1
Do you feel safer?	14	1	
Has your views changed of the Safer Neighbourhood Police?	8	5	
	<b>At home</b>	<b>Reading /writing</b>	<b>Playing outside</b>
What would your son/daughter be doing if not at the project?	8	3	3
	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Football</b>	<b>Safe place</b>
What do you like about the project?	1	4	8

Interestingly, three parents say their children would otherwise be playing outside compared to eleven at home or reading/writing. A parent interviewed in a DVD produced by the YMCA who said "I wouldn't let them play outside, it's not safe" echoes this view. It seems parents are less afraid of crime and feel safer because of the project. However, seven either would not, or do not know whether they would get involved compared to four who would, confirming the assessment of low cohesion and limited capacity for concerted action.

The results of the survey of young people is mixed with the number saying their views of police had not changed equal to those that had. Twelve say they would otherwise be playing outside compared to thirteen at home or reading/writing.

<b>Young Persons Evaluation</b>			
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Should the project go back to Maryon Park?	16	5	2
Has your views changed of the local police?	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	
	<b>Friend</b>	<b>School/ Police/ RSL</b>	<b>Park</b>
How did hear about the project?	11	10	2
	<b>Good</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Far</b>
What do you think of the Meridian Sports venue?	19	2	3
What do you think about the day / times of the project?	24	1	
	<b>Team Work</b>	<b>Sports</b>	<b>Football</b>
What have you learnt	9	3	9
	<b>At home</b>	<b>Reading/ writing</b>	<b>Playing outside</b>
What would you be doing if not at the project	12	1	12

Taken together with the responses of the parents this suggests they are not young people who would prompt residents to call police about rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour. However, this should be read together with a collection of anecdotal evidence:

- Police Officers and PCSOs from the Neighbourhood Policing Team attended every session to help with the project and patrol the area. They experienced a continually improving relationship with young people, after a period of initial suspicion, even with those young people known to them as perpetrators of anti-social behaviour;
- Young people approached officers in the street simply "for a chat", demonstrating courtesy and respect rather than running off as they had previously;
- Officers on patrol outside the park reported the estate to be "very quiet" with no signs of groups forming or behaving anti-socially;
- On one occasion, a young person, known to both police and partners, contacted the police about a suspicious person near his house and was instrumental in leading to an arrest, something he said he would not have done before;
- The project worked intensively with a 14 year old with problems with the police and other services. Since the project started they have been actively involved and not come to police attention;
- Three weeks into the project, a local young father came into the park on a mini motorbike. Challenged by a worker and following conversation he was encouraged to volunteer his time on both weekly sessions and signed up to Level One coaching;
- YMCA produced a DVD that includes the following quotes:

*"I'm happy."* 9 year old girl

*"A friend told me. It's really good because you can do stuff without your parents moaning at you."* 12 year old boy;

*"You're not seeing kids hanging around the streets outside shops."* Parent

*"I was being a nuisance so they said instead of shouting at us come and help, so I did."* Parent;

*"Residents are happy kids aren't kicking a ball against their wall or doing graffiti on their fences."* SNT Sergeant;

*"[The project] brings different agencies together."* Local Councillor.

## Process Evaluation

There are a similar variety of indications of the effectiveness, and efficiency, of the processes associated with the project. In particular the structure of partnership working and the development of trust and confidence in the professional relationships between members of the Neighbourhood Panel:

- The scale, and significance, of the problem was identified because people were sitting around the table talking to each other at the Neighbourhood Panel, rather than working in isolation;
- In August 2007 Charlton Athletic Community Trust chose to take a delegation from Derry to view the project in response to the request to view an estate-based evening programme;
- LFB is developing their Fire Fighter Challenge programme with young people from the project;
- The mother of a young person agreed to become a member of the Neighbourhood Panel;
- The project responded quickly to a subsequent problem of illegal riding of mini-motos and motorbikes in the Park. During the summer of 2007, the continuation of the project was threatened when three young people, and subsequently one parent, rode around the Park while the football was running. Staff spoke to some of the young people taking part in the football project and as a result of what they said a successful bid was made, again to the Safer Greenwich Problem Solving Group, for £11,000 to meet the costs of a motorbike maintenance course for fourteen young people from the estate. The course ran for one evening per week for ten weeks, aiming to involve and educate young people in the maintenance and repair of all forms of motorcycles, as well as teaching young people road safety, theory and hazard perception with the use of two onboard computers. Participants gained experience of working with tools, working as a team and gained a better understanding of the Rules and Regulations that all road users comply with. Each student spent 30 minutes per day learning theory and hazard perception using computers. The course provided a fully equipped mobile workshop and experienced mechanics one night per week for its ten-week duration. In the final week an offsite visit was arranged to take those participants who have attained 90% attendance for a day of 'banger racing', or similar motorised activity at an approved centre. Referral of young people to the project specified a mix of gender between the ages of 13 to 19 to comply with the provider's insurance policy. They had to live within the identified area, although two young people were referred from an adjacent neighbourhood who were also experiencing a problem with illegal riding. They had to be motivated and display a genuine interest in the project. They also had to be willing to commit to the entire course, as it was expensive. They needed consent from a parent or guardian and it should not interfere with their education. The resulting participants were a mix of young people who were starting to get into trouble with the Police and those who were known to have an interest in motorcycles. A set of course rules were issued and an initial 'do's and don't's' were given to each of them at the beginning of the course.

*"I can pass on thanks from Greenwich Families Project, who are working with one young person who was a beneficiary of your scheme with Orbit Training. The complex family issues this particular young man copes with on a daily basis means he is not well placed to develop skills most others take for granted. I was able on my visit to see him interacting with adults from varying social backgrounds including a Councillor and the Police Borough Commander. I do not believe this level of social interaction would have been possible for him in the months prior to the project. Self worth, confidence, real respect for the views of others, tolerance of views he did not agree with are some of the new skills learnt through stripping down and rebuilding motor cycles."*  
Sergeant Gavin GASKAIN

Resolution of problems arising during the project also indicate the level of partnership working achieved:

- The initial reluctance to allow organized football in Maryon Park because of concern about damage to the grass and fears about the number of young people attracted into Park was overcome by the personal reassurance given by the ward councillors. As a measure of change the explicit concerns of the Park Keeper in May 2007 have been replaced by the comment *"It's good to have you back in the park"* by April 2008;
- Another local housing provider, Southern Housing, joined the project after it started because young people from Woolwich Arsenal wanted to take part as a result of word of mouth in their friendship groups. Anxieties about travelling to another estate and reluctance to allow others onto their "patch" was resolved by members of the project staff talking through the young peoples concerns;
- The threat posed by staff changes in the police team was managed by comprehensively briefing the new officers and securing agreement for the Community Support Officers to remain;
- The need to maintain credibility with both the young people and their parents was achieved by the project team successfully bidding for money to continue to March 2008.

**Sustainability**

The Neighbourhood Panel consciously chose to implement the option of a community based football project rather than high visibility policing because they believed it provided the opportunity of a long-term, sustainable solution to the problem of young people behaving anti-socially. Assessment should acknowledge efforts to sustain it including:

- L&Q staff working with young people to develop a video project to complement the football;
- Also continuing to look for funding to enable young people to progress to Level Two coaching to create a pathway to employment, to staff the project in the future and reduce the current costs;
- YMCA working with identified young people to submit a funding application to the Youth Opportunities Fund;
- Members of the Neighbourhood Panel coming together to establish a Community Trust and explore the possibility of creating a sports hub in Maryon Park;
- Local authority staff assessing the feasibility of a Borough wide apprenticeship scheme based on the motorcycle project.

**Conclusion**

In summary, the Maryon Park Football Project did not reduce anti-social behaviour on the Morris Walk Estate, probably because it did not engage those young people over the age of 15 who were doing it. However, it did make the adults involved in the project feel safer and fear crime less. It prompted people to have trust and confidence in each other and work together effectively. There are indications of sustainability that may result in a reduction of anti-social behaviour in the years to come.

**State number of words used:** 3579

**Section D: Endorsement by Senior Representative - Please insert letter from endorsing representative, this will not count towards your word or 1MB size limit restrictions.**

For over a year now the Woolwich Riverside Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team have been working tirelessly with London and Quadrant Housing to address the problem of young people behaving anti-socially on the Morris Walk Estate. I commend their bravery in looking beyond the obvious response of simply managing the problem by officers patrolling in uniform. In setting out to create a sustainable, community led solution they have been actively supported by the members of the Woolwich Riverside Neighbourhood Panel who said they needed to properly understand the problem before doing something about it. The project has also benefited from the financial support of the Safer Greenwich Problem Solving Group that recognized the value of learning to be derived from this approach to a common, and recurring, problem.

Community based football is not a new idea but this project does show how Neighbourhood Policing is bringing people together and creating a common purpose based on the determination to do something about crime and disorder in their area. The evidence of impact may be mixed but there is no doubt that young people and adults, from agencies and the community, have been positively affected by being part of the project.

Brian CHEREK, Superintendent Partnership,  
Greenwich Borough Operational Command Unit, Metropolitan Police Service.

**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 e.g. civil or criminal proceedings pending in relation to your project?
7. Have you inserted your project name as a footer note on the application form? Go to View-Header and Footer to add it.
8. Have you saved you application form as a word document and entitled your message '**Tilley 08 entry (followed by project name in brackets)**' before emailing it?

Once you are satisfied that you have completed your application form in full please email it to [Tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk). One hard copy must also be posted to Alex Blackwell at Home Office, Effective Practice & Communication Team, 4th Floor, Fry Building (SE Quarter), 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF and be received by 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008.