



## 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: **Next of KIN.**
2. Key issue that the project is addressing: Alcohol related violence, Youth Disorder, Vehicle Crime, Street Drinking, Criminal Damage, Burglary.

#### **Author contact details**

3. Name of application author: Constable 8654 John Erskine MBE.
4. Organisation submitting the application: Merseyside Police
5. Full postal address: Allerton Police Station, Rose Lane, Liverpool, L18 6JE
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7. Telephone number:0151 777 5125

#### **Secondary project contact details**

8. Name of secondary contact involved in the project: Inspector Robert Daly
9. Secondary contact email address: Robert Daly/Notes@Merseyside Police
10. Secondary contact telephone number:0151 777 5141

**Endorsing representative contact details**

11. Name of endorsing senior representative from lead organisation: Superintendent Peter Costello

12. Endorsing representative's email address: Peter.g.Costello/notes@Merseyside.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: Government Office North West

**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).**

**Operation Next of KIN to combat disorder and the fear of crime within the Childwall area of Liverpool South.**

**Scanning:**

Childwall is an affluent suburb of South Liverpool and hosts many thriving shops, Leisure facilities and a diverse population, ranging from active and retired professionals to a large student campus. The local population are, by enlarge, knowledgeable and vociferous in their views appertaining to Crime and disorder. An established Key individual Network (KIN) involving representatives from a cross section of the community identified increasing levels of Anti-Social Behaviour, crime and calls for service within the area as priorities.

**Analysis:**

Young people from outside areas, using an extensive public footpath network, met at attractive locations, consisting of fast food outlets, off licences, open spaces including parks and gardens. They consume vast amounts of alcohol in discreet locations. A consequence was a rise in anti-social behaviour, violence, damage and other crime. Dogs and weapons were brought into the area as a show of strength, establishing a street credibility of criminal/disorder ranking. Ringleaders were identified, followers were recruited leading to increasing evidence of crime and disorder, inclusive of racial attacks and intimidation. Youth diversion was a particular challenge. The affluence of the area did not attract regeneration income of any description and provided a real challenge to the partnership.

**Response:**

A multi agency approach was launched, including Students from a local University who introduced Hope 10 Project, which included a variety of courses for the young people and obtained £10000.00 funding. The partnership developed the 'Don't Walk Away initiative, an alcohol prevention scheme in conjunction with the Merseyside Ambulance Service. The 'Penny Lane Development' is a lottery funded initiative, £740.000.00 that has transformed the opportunities to deliver youth diversion. This did not preclude the delivery of direct policing. An anti-social behaviour section 30 order was introduced. A variety of Technology equipment was applied for in the form of Head cams and metal detector gloves, and audio Mosquito devices. Overgrowth was cut back in the hot spot areas. Youth Services were called upon to engage the local youths in tandem with the partnership initiatives.

**Assessment:**

The neighbourhood experienced a drop of 12% in anti-social behaviour, violence and calls for service. Increase of confidence and satisfaction was recorded. Intervention. An initiative through the Penny Lane development achieved a 76% reduction in recorded calls for service in the period 2007 compared to 2006.

**State number of words: 396**

**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:**

Childwall, an affluent residential area boasts a good number of shops in three different locations Childwall Triangle, the Five Ways and Bentham Drive. Over a 12-month period the Key Individual Network Group, consisting of a cross section of the community, prioritised growing concern of increased crime, youth disorder and environmental damage. Their concerns were supported by recorded crime and calls for service.

The area has Five public houses, the Half way House, the Five Ways, the Childwall Abbey Pub, The Turnpike Tavern and the Rocket, which is at the very end of the M62 into Liverpool. There is a loop line (ex railway line where Childwall Railway once Stood) it is now used for cycling and walking; the open spaces are the Childwall Field, Childwall Woods and Score Lane Park. The area has a University Complex consisting of 6,946 students, a Woodland area, Hollyoaks TV set and shops include two Restaurants, four off licences, three Chip Shops four News Agents and one Co-Op day and night store. The number of youths congregating during the evening and especially weekends were causing increasing concern through their behaviour. At times a gathering of up to 50 and 60 youths could be found in one location.

Their behaviour included, criminal damage, violence, serious sex offences and intimidation. There was clear evidence of extensive alcohol consumption, which was believed to be a major contributor to the disorder as described.

**Analysis:**

Childwall historically has supported a mature population this is borne out by data obtained through the local post office, in terms of a high level of pension payments made through that location. In addition census data indicates a social structure that is predominantly mature in nature consisting of a high percentage of retired people. The Childwall Neighbourhood team had conducted local surveys that suggested, that community concerns in respect of Youth Disorder and Anti-Social behaviour. Subsequent consultation, with the local KIN groups affirmed these beliefs and set a priority for the Neighbourhood Team to tackle.

The geography of the area is predominantly suburban with groups of retail outlets located on a mixture of arterial routes and suburban estates. There are three significant locations Bentham Drive, Taggart Avenue and Childwall 5 Way's. Bentham Drive is in close proximity to the loop line and as such is subject to reports of rowdy behaviour, criminal damage and violence. In many respects this location typifies the fears and concerns expressed by the KINs group and residents. As the evenings progress analysis indicates that such groups move on in a rotational manner between the three aforementioned locations. All three locations are similar in that there are a number of evening retail outlets open spaces at or near the shops with easy access to, and escape from, the location. Other common factors include lack of authority controlled CCTV, formal "Watch Schemes" or organised surveillance. All the shops have rear access via unregulated alleyways. It is in these alley ways were damage and alcohol consumption occurs.

Movement between locations is on foot, with little or no indication that public or private transport is being used. Vehicle stop check data did not intimate road travel by such groups. Post the initial gathering the groups would split into smaller factions then through mobile phone communication would meet up, at a pre arranged locations. Thus it was difficult to determine the routes taken by such groups, as they did not attract calls to the local emergency services until gathering into the larger groups.

The area's Schools have large catchments areas plus a University Campus, Hope University. This in effect artificially swells the youth population of the area. This "Additional" population, has it's own social network of communication meeting places and activities. It became clear, through police stop check data that a number of young people had travelled into the area, attracted by a number of fast food outlets, off licences, parks and open spaces. Many of the proprietors of such outlets had complained to Neighbourhood patrols through the KIN network, local media and direct to senior police managers and local councillors. Many of the gatherings had been pre arranged through Schools contact, using MSN messaging, mobile phones and word of mouth. The youths had established their own "Commuter Network", through use of the Liverpool Loop Line, an ex railway line where Childwall Railway once stood. It is now used as a track for cycling and walking. However the line provides, easy pedestrian access, from a number of outlying areas into Childwall. Shrubs and trees, which grow unattended, secrete the line and there is no formal, CCTV or, passive surveillance, thus people can use the line undetected.

The initial indication that persons had used this route was the sighting of large gatherings of youths. The youths were predominantly white males and females, between the ages of 12 – 17 years. A common factor was the

Schools that they attended. The schools were all located within the Childwall area. It was clear that gatherings were pre arranged, during school attendance, the youths would return home, change clothing and return to the area. The university Campus has a student population 6,946 which is made up of male and female students, the majority between the ages of 18 – 21 and a number of mature students. Many of the students frequent the local shopping area and leisure facilities, in doing so they find themselves subject to intimidation from the gathering youths to purchase alcohol on their behalf. This intimidation consist of, threats of violence and actual violence. Many of the students do not wish to pursue any formal complaints, but do make their concerns know to the local neighbourhood policing team.

Once purchased many of the youths secrete the alcohol in a cache under shrubbery in the local parks. Temporal analysis indicated this activity commenced during the early evening particularly at weekends. The Neighbourhood team carried out, in company with KIN network members and local councillors, an environmental visual audit of the area. From discarded debris it was ascertained that many of the youths consumed strong beers, inclusive of Cider, wine and spirits. A common factor was the availability at cheap prices in many local outlets plus the affluence of the youths through access to substantial amounts of pocket money. In addition there was little evidence of drug abuse but there was some indication of the use of cannabis by discarded reefers papers and packaging.

From reported and anecdotal information a picture of the Anti-Social activity was emerging. Criminal Damage was manifested in damage to motor vehicles inclusive of torn wing mirrors, dented panels and missiles, including eggs and stones being thrown. Additionally a number of residents reported extensive damage to wheelie bins and fencing. This damage consisted of wheel removal and arson attacks. In removing the wheels the youths were able to extract the axles thus providing them with an iron bar, type weapon. Graffiti started to appear in a number of locations, this comprised of "tagging" individual names on property, but there was no indication of gang like symbols or any affiliation to organised groups. A common gathering area was the local parks, in discrete areas the youths set fires and gathered round, in doing so they damaged a number of trees and shrubs. This was particularly costly to the local Council in terms of re planting and debris removal.



Environmental Audits – carried out KIN members – October 2007. Bin storage and fence damage.  
The victim of the damage to fencing was a 93 year old female

Acquisitive crime focused on vehicles. Many were broken into via doors or windows and property inclusive of radios, Satellite Navigation equipment and personal property was stolen. A particular difficulty in analysis, was the wide spread occurrence of vehicle crime. Whilst such crimes were geo coded, no specific pattern was emerging.

Violent crime, was mainly "in fighting" between the youths. However many resident suffered threats of intimidation inclusive of harassment and general abuse. The area hosts a strong Jewish faith community network inclusive of places of worship and social gathering. Groups of youths, on occasions, would make specific abusive remarks, which were anti Semitic in their nature. However it must be stressed that these were isolated incidents, which has been supported by reported Hate Crime Analysis. The presence of large groups of youths was itself intimidating to local residents. Confidence and satisfaction surveys continually reinforced a fear of such groups. In terms of repeat victimisation overall instances were low however two premises, a newsagent and restaurant, were subject to continued anti social behaviour inclusive of abuse to staff and customer intimidation. The premises were adjacent to the loop line which afforded easy access and escape for offenders.

A growing concern was evidence of sexual activity. One incident of an alleged rape, later the complaint withdrawn took place in Childwall Woods. The circumstances involved underage youths engaged in consensual sex. Subsequent informal conversations with many of the youths revealed a regular engagement in sexual activity, many occasions without pregnancy precautions or considerations for any aspect of sexual health. Many of the females considered they were practising 'safe sex' through engaging in oral rather than penetrative sex.

The Childwall area, as stated, is an affluent suburb and as such does not attract inward regeneration funding. This was considered to be a major blockage in providing facilities for youth intervention, diversion and deflection from crime and anti social behaviour.

The analysis clearly indicated that an appropriate response was beyond the scope of a single public agency, e.g. the police. The tangible evidence was clearly damage, litter and graffiti and in the short term could be met through increased patrols. However there was little in place to deflect offenders or provide alternatives to the developing street culture that many had opted to join. In doing so they were causing local fear but also making themselves vulnerable too.

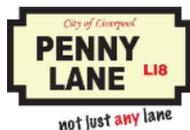
**Response:**

From the analysis 'Next of KIN' was born.

Our first consideration was a dynamic intervention package that was developed in conjunction with the Liverpool Hope University, and the local Council. A Summary of our analysis provided the foundation for a bid document to the local authority funding streams. £10,000 was obtained to open a youth project (HOPE 10) at the university complex, introducing, DJ skills, rapping and health care. Particular emphasis was place on sexual health care in response to our previous analysis. In addition the project had sit off point for youths to listen to music and chill out and a beauty care programme. The events were free of charge, however due to health and safety limitations an average of 60 young people per sessions were permitted on the premises, Hope University building, at one time. The marketing strategy for 'Hope 10' included the distribution of business cards to all the youths found in the area. The distribution was targeted to the youths specifically located in the aforementioned three predominant areas. The advantage of this project was that the youths were put into direct contact with many of the students whom they had previously intimidated in their efforts to obtain alcohol. In respect of this aspect we became a victim of our own success. As previously mentioned restrictions had to be applied as to how many young people could attend the sessions. The main consideration was the ratio of student staff to attendees.

Youth services were contacted to engage the young people and offer diversionary activities. This was offered in tandem with Hope 10. Schools in the area were visited and the "Don't Walk Away" alcohol misuse project, devised by the neighbourhood Sergeant in conjunction with Merseyside Regional Ambulance and the Ariel Trust. The Ariel trust is an organisation that promotes youth diversion through developing the communication and creativity skills of young people. This partnership venture was introduced to the local schools to educate the young people on alcohol and the effects of alcohol. When the ambulance services were called to any youth disorder incident their personnel took the opportunity to promote the scheme.

A significant asset was obtained through partnership with the 'Penny Lane Development Trust'. The trust had, after fifteen years, obtained a 99 year lease on playing fields that were earmarked for residential development by the local authority. The land is adjacent to changing rooms, a council office and assorted grounds man buildings. The partnership obtained a grant from the government's community assets programme of £740,000.00 to commence development. Existing property has been demolished and plans have been accepted for the development of a youth oriented centre. This is considered to be a major development in the work of 'next of kin' and the 'Penny lane Development Trust' given the aforementioned affluence of the area and previous resistance to regeneration investment.



Penny Lane  
Development Trust



The partnership showcased their response at the recent European Serious and Organised Crime Conference in Liverpool. Strong interest in the project was attracted from among others Latvia and Italy

## Anti Social Behaviour Sec 30 Area



The diversions did not preclude operational policing activity. A Section 30 Anti-Social Behaviour Act Dispersal order was applied for and the following enforcement plan was implemented in time to run from the Easter period, 2007, through to the summer in order to cover the holiday period.

The intention of the operation was to enforce the legislation that accompanies the establishment of the designated area, and to account for the action taken, in order to inform the local community and promote awareness of the increased police activity.

The purpose of this activity was to:

- . Identify and disperse youths congregating in the designated area
  - . Identify and detain offenders for breach of the designated area legislation
  - . Provide a visible presence and reassurance to local residents
- Signage was produced and fixed to lampposts within the designated area, advertising its existence, and outlining the police powers. All persons subject to this legislation, had their details verified and (where circumstances justify it) were searched. They were provided with a copy of a leaflet, which outlined the power and justification for the enforcement of the legislation. In addition they received the Hope 10 and the Ariel Trust marketing material.
  - Parents of all persons dealt with were written to in order to explain the circumstances of the police action, the consequences of their children failing to conform, and seeking their continued support. These letters were generated and sent from within the neighbourhood. Again the opportunity to promote Hope 10, The Penny Lane Development Trust and Don't Walk Away was included in this communication.
  - Officers were issued with CCTV head cams, to patrol the Section 30 area to identify known offenders and ringleaders. Metal detector gloves were issued to officers to conduct fast and effective searches, particularly in relation to wheelie bin axels, when dealing with large groups. Funding was obtained through the City Council and five pairs of gloves were obtained.
  - CCTV signs were placed in the area, notifying local criminals that the police were patrolling with head cams and
  - CCTV vehicles. Three audible Mosquito alarms were placed near the hot spot areas. The Mosquito alarms are frequency controlled within the acute hearing range of young persons. They were located in local shops to deter large gangs gathering.

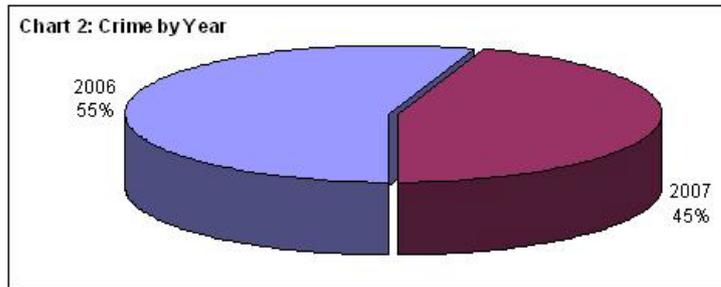
- Shrubs were cut back on, the five ways island, grass verges and in the open spaces, to help reduce concealment of weapons alcohol and the youths themselves.
- Ringleaders were identified as area Police targets and Anti Social Behaviour contracts were issued. Arrests, and CRASBO Orders were issued.
- The Fire Service was consulted and arson attacks on wheelie bins were recorded and mapped. Neighbourhood officers pinpointed the exact location of the arson attacks and gave crime prevention advice to local residents. The crime prevention message was delivered verbally and by letter drop, which quite simply asked the residents to take in their wheelie bins as soon as they were emptied and to look out for their neighbours as well. Again the opportunity to promote the partnership intervention was taken in the distribution of the Hope 10 and Don't Walk Away campaign.
- The Licensing Sergeant and Licensing champion were asked to conduct an underage drinking operation in the area with local trading standards officers utilising Police Cadet Volunteers for test purchasing. 15 police cadets were chosen to take part in the operation.
- A Special Constabulary Neighbourhood Support Team was established consisting of 12 officers, to patrol each evening in a marked police carrier, dealing solely with youth Anti-Social Behaviour.
- PCSO's were issued with head cams and mountain bikes to patrol the open spaces, in conjunction with the mounted section.
- The Crime Prevention Officer made a call on the local newsagents to give advice regarding crime prevention and CCTV installation/upgrades. A site survey was also carried out for the installation of the Audible Mosquito Alarm systems.
- The dog section assisted by patrolling and dealing with the dangerous dogs act, and drugs dogs were introduced to detect illegal substances on young people as they passed the patrols.

The open spaces were patrolled by the Mounted Section and City Watch Council Warden patrols. The road safe team patrolled the open spaces on quad bikes to assist and access the open spaces and to encounter nuisance vehicles. The local council reached an agreement to remove Graffiti within 24 hours and enforce local shopkeepers to clean up the area. The funding for the Mosquito Alarms and Hi Tech equipment was funded after meeting with the Joint Action Group, where all agencies came together to discuss the issues raised within the Childwall area. Letters were issued by the Liverpool City Council to ask local shops, to clean up the area and make it free from litter, making the area more attractive for the community and to make it more attractive to visitors.

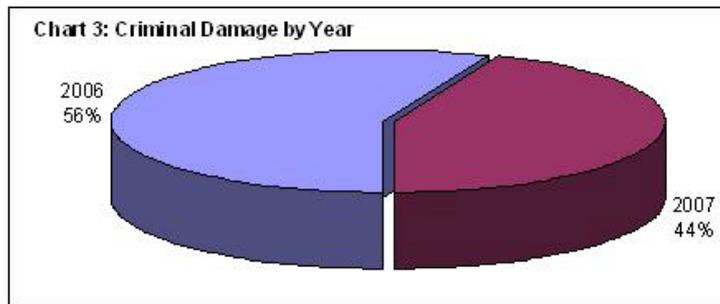


Environmental Audits with KIN Members – repairs to bin storage and fencing at rear of repeat victim premises





As can be seen from Chart 2, above, there were a combined total of 515 incidents reported during the periods 21 May to 21 November 2006 and 2007; 55 percent (284) of these incidents occurred in the 2006 period, amounting to 53 more incidents than reported in 2007.



As can be seen from Chart 3, above, there were a combined total of 181 incidents reported during the periods 21 May to 21 November 2006 and 2007; 56 percent (102) of these incidents occurred in the 2006 period, amounting to 23 more incidents than reported in 2007.

Having compared data from May to November 2006 with that from the same period in 2007, we have seen a significant decline in levels of ASB and all crime, and Criminal Damage reported in 2007 than 2006. Furthermore, over the same time period, there was a dramatic increase in the number Stop checks carried out within the Section 30 Zone.

## Conclusion

The below received letter is an examples of the response received by the partnership. It is self evident in content.

To the Policemen and women who helped me  
I am sorry for any trouble I have caused you  
and I am sorry for taking up police time, I  
know there are alot more serious things  
that you have to deal ~~with~~ with. But I am  
very grateful that you found me and took  
the time to help me. Without the  
help from you anything could have  
happened to me I could have been  
attacked or killed. So thank you for  
Saving me. I'm sorry I was so unhelpful  
and wasted police time. I have  
now realised how stupid and  
dangerous it is to drink and won't  
be doing it again in a hurry.  
Thank you for all your help

yours  
Sincerely

The female correspondent who has featured earlier in this Tilley entry when reporting to the partnership her potential involvement in sexual activity.

**State number of words used: 3377**

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

Being a local resident within Church Ward as well as Superintendent in charge of Operational Policing for the Ward I can personally vouch for the integrity and community impact of this initiative and application..

From a personal perspective I noticed a significant change for the better whilst visiting local shops whilst off-duty.

From a professional perspective, this initiative exemplifies the hallmarks of effective Neighbourhood Policing demonstrating true problem solving in partnership with local partners including the public. The result has been a lasting drop in calls for service, crime and disorder and a big improvement in feeling of local community safety.

I fully support this application.

Superintendent Peter Costello  
Liverpool South BCU  
Merseyside Police  
07793-858-735

**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.