

OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

COMMUNITY GANG MONITORING REPORT - 2010/11 20 JUNE 2011

KEY ISSUE AND SUMMARY

In June 2010 Members approved the use of the £100,000 Local Revenue Allocation to fund an additional Community Gang for a period of approximately eight months. This report provides an overview of the valuable work completed.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to NOTE the information in the report:

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In June 2010, the Local Committee (Elmbridge) approved the use of the £100,000 Local Revenue Allocation to fund an additional community gang for a period of approximately eight months.
- 1.2 The gang's task was to address directly minor Highway works in divisional areas, which could not be allocated to standard Highway Safety gangs.
- 1.3 The gang consisted of a two-man crew and vehicle equipped with standard hand tools and materials.

2 ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The Gang commenced work in Elmbridge in August 2010.
- 2.2 In order to ensure each division within Elmbridge was able to benefit, each of Elmbridge's three Community Highway Officers co-coordinated input into the gangs work programme.
- 2.3 Instruction for work was taken from concerns raised by divisional members and residents. A detailed summary of completed work can be found in Appendix 1.
- 2.4 The flexibility and ability to respond to a wide range of issues at short notice has provided Elmbridge with a much-appreciated resource, valued by officers and residents.
- 2.5 The work undertaken by the gang has been widely varied. The list below is included as an example, full details can be found in Appendices attached.
 - Ditch clearing to prevent flooding
 - Dropped Kerbs to improve accessibility for pedestrians
 - Repairs on lateral connections from gullies to main surface water drainage systems
 - Cutting back overgrown vegetation
 - Epicormic Growth Control
 - Repair of carriageway defects which do not meet Highway Safety Inspection criteria for intervention
 - Adjustments to carriageway and footway levels to prevent standing water
 - Hand salting of footway during snow event 2010

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The community gang proved to be a valuable resource, able to attend sites at short notice and provide a flexible responsive service to residents. 3.2 Although community gangs are no longer available, the capacity to perform similar tasks exists within the new Highway contract. Work can be funded through County budgets, local committee budgets and members community pride funds.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to Note the report

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Background Papers: None