



AGENDA ITEM: 16

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

17 March 2008

Arson Reduction Team: School Target Hardening Overview

Report by Chris Enness, Deputy Chief Fire Officer

Purpose of Report

- 1.** To inform Members of the work undertaken by the North Wales Arson Reduction Team (ART) to assist schools in gaining funding from the Welsh Assembly Government to make their schools safer.

Background

- 2.** In October 2007 the Welsh Assembly Government made monies available to make schools "harder targets". Target hardening is anything that makes the school less likely to be a victim of crime e.g. fencing, CCTV. This was financed by an underspend on the retro-fitting of sprinklers in the schools programme for 2007/08 amounting to £420,000 across Wales.

The budget allocated for North Wales was £140,000. It was proposed by ART that this would be spread across all 6 North Wales counties determined by the level of reported incidents across schools within those counties. The maximum individual bid amount was set at £15,000.



The Process

- 3.** In line with the Wales Arson Reduction Strategy (WARS) schools most at risk were prioritised. The team used historical data from the Police Record Management System to rank schools in order of priority. Data was gathered from 1st September 2006 to 30th September 2007 detailing criminal damage, burglary, fire and anti social behaviour.

Consideration was also given to emerging issues and under-reporting of incidents by schools to enable recent problems to be included.

Completed bids

- 4.** The ART assisted the schools in compiling the bid forms and submitting them to WAG. The North Wales team devised a template to standardise all bids to facilitate the process. This process was recognised by WAG as good practice and disseminated to all ARTs.

The Outcome

- 5.** ART have been successful in facilitating over £220k (twice the target set) of school target hardening monies for schools across North Wales since October 2007, for seventeen schools.

Evaluation

- 6.** WAG has tasked the ART with the final evaluation of the completed projects. This will be completed by December 2008.

Recommendation

- 7.** That Members note the report.



Appendix 1

County	School	Project Details
Conwy	Bod Alaw Junior School	Fencing
Conwy	Emrys Ap Iwan	Fencing
Flintshire	John Summers High School	Fencing
Flintshire	Queensferry CP	Fencing
Flintshire	Gwynedd CP	CCTV
Flintshire	St Mary's School	Fencing
Flintshire	Flint High	Fencing
Flintshire	Croes Atti Primary	Fencing
Flintshire	Cornist Primary	Fencing
Denbighshire	Rhyl High School	CCTV
Denbighshire	Penmorfa School	CCTV
Gwynedd	Dyffryn Nantlle	Fencing
Wrexham	Hafod Y Wern	CCTV
Wrexham	Gwersyllt CP School	CCTV
Wrexham	Grango High	Fencing
Wrexham	Rhiwabon High School	CCTV
Wrexham	Rhiwabon High School	CCTV
Wrexham	Darland High	Fencing

School Target Hardening 2007/08			
County	Agreed School Target Hardening (STH)	Agreed Arson Small Grant (ASG)	Total
Conwy	£21,091.00	£0.00	£21k
Denbighshire	£31,590.85	£0.00	£32k
Flintshire	£27,950.00	£36,790.25	£65k
Wrexham	£77,903.71	£10,000.00	£88k
Gwynedd			
Mon	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total	>£175K	£47K	>£220K