

Area Board Project

1. What is the Initiative?

STREET SURVIVAL PACKS

2. Where is the initiative taking place?

Trowbridge Community Area area - there are also other projects planned across other community areas, namely Salisbury and Chippenham.

3. When will the initiative take place?

As soon as funding is granted and released WFRS can source the materials and items and make up the Street Survival Packs to be distributed by ALABARE Drop In centre in Duke Street, Trowbridge within 15 working days.(End of March)

4. What are the Community benefits/evidence of need/links to Community Plan/Community Issue?

Reduction in accidental fires caused by street homeless persons lighting candles or fires in void buildings;
Reduction in accidental fire deaths and or injuries caused to Street Homeless persons or other members of the community
Increased self confidence and capabilities of Street Homeless people, to enable them to survive the extremes of cold weather and street living, maintain personal dignity.

5. What is the desired outcome of this initiative?

Reduce the instances of accidental fires and the associated risks of fire related deaths and injuries amongst Street Homeless

6. Who will Project Manage this initiative?

Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Services - Group Manager Iain HUNTER

7. Costs/quotes/ match funding? (total cost £5k require 1 quote, total cost £5k-25k require 3 quotes)

25 x Street Survival packs @ £40 =£1,000.

- **Trowbridge CAB requested to fund £750**
- WFRS Trowbridge Commanders Budget to fund £250
- WFRS Partnerships & Community Safety Dept to provide 25 x smoke alarms @ £6.10 =£152.50

A break down of actual costs as paid by WFRS to suppliers in early 2010 is detailed in Appendix A. The cost per pack at that time was £40 however, prices will have fluctuated and increased and an updated quotation from suppliers will be requested and supplied to the CAM as soon as possible.

The packs comprise of the following items:

Rucksack; knife/fork/spoon set; plastic plate; sewing kit; bed roll; wind up lantern; poncho; sleeping bag; plastic mug; can opener; towel; emergency blanket; metal ashtray tin; toilet roll; wet wipes; toothbrush; socks; tooth paste; first aid kit; pack of razors; sanitary towels; vacuum flask

In kind funding:

WFRS staff will source and make up the packs ; approximately 10 hours @ £ 12.78 , total £127.80 and staff from ALABARE will store and distribute the packs

8. Additional information

Some two years ago the WFRS commenced a project to provide 'Street Survival Packs' to 'street homeless' people primarily in Trowbridge where we had experienced accidental and deliberate fires in void building where street homeless people were seeking shelter and trying to keep warm. There had also been a death of a homeless person who died of hypothermia.

The Street Survival packs were funded jointly by the then West Wiltshire District Council and our local commanders Community safety budget. The bags contained a sleeping bag, basic toiletries, knife/fork/spoon/plate/mug/can opener, wind up lantern, metal ashtray and a smoke alarm. The initial packs were distributed via ALABARE Christian Care Homes who ran services for street homeless in Trowbridge. Very quickly the packs were also being required in Chippenham (Distributed by DOORWAY) and in Salisbury (ALABARE). So far 90 packs have been issued across Salisbury, Trowbridge and Chippenham (30 in each area) and WFRS have no more and no budget to replace. Each pack cost approximately £40.

The packs have been requested by organisations who come into direct contact with Street Homeless such as the police and Probation Service.

Any packs funded by the Trowbridge CAB would only be distributed in the CAB area by ALABARE on behalf of WFRS

Discussions have already commenced between WFRS and management of ALABARE with a view that that organisation will take on the project in future years as being a charity will be able to access funding streams that the WFRS as a 'statutory body' would not be eligible to apply.