

Proposal for the future of neighbourhood working in the city

Introduction and background

I am sure that you will be aware the Government has reduced its grant to Local Authorities over the last 3 years. In order to respond to this Coventry City Council has been working to reduce its spending. On 26th February 2013, Council approved the Budget Report which contained a range of information on spending and savings options.

The Council must save £63million over the next three years from a net budget of £268million. This savings target has been shared across Directorates with Community Services receiving a savings target of £3m for 2013/14, £8m 2014/15 and £15m for 2015/16. Community Services also has to make contributions to other reviews and respond to on-going budget pressures resulting in a total savings requirement over three years of £22.5million.

On 9th July 2013, Cabinet agreed to support a public consultation on the outcome of the Neighbourhood Working Review. The proposal is:

- To cease the Neighbourhood Wardens Service
- To cease the Health Development Officers
- To cease the Public Health Nutritionists
- To create a Community Development Service to include 12 Community Development Officers, 2 Community Development Managers and a Business Support Officer
- To create 10 additional Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers and 2 Neighbourhood Enforcement Managers within the existing Neighbourhood Enforcement Team
- To create 3 Community Safety Caseworkers within the Community Safety Team

This specific proposal will reduce Council spending in this area from £1,810,000 to £990,000 thus saving £820,000.

If you would like to read the [current duties of the Neighbourhood Warden Service and the Public Health Nutrition Team](#), please follow this link.

We would like to seek your views on these proposals and invite you to complete this survey. Please only complete the survey once per household. This survey is confidential and no personal data will be published. Analysis of the survey will be carried out throughout the consultation, and afterwards ensuring all responses and information is taken into account. The analysis will be taken into account before making the decision to implement any final proposal and make any changes required to the eventual preferred proposal post-consultation.

A copy of the findings from the consultation will be available in September 2013 on the Council's website at <http://www.coventry.gov.uk/neighbourhoodworking>

If you would like to speak to someone about this survey please contact:

Marc Greenwood
024 7683 2122
marc.greenwood@coventry.gov.uk

or

Craig Hickin
024 7683 2585

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craig.hickin@coventry.gov.uk

The consultation closes on **26th August 2013**

Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this survey.

This survey is being carried out by Coventry City Council, in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. The data controller is Coventry City Council. The information collected in this survey will be used by Coventry City Council for the purposes of informing the decision to implement Neighbourhood Working. We will share the results of the survey with the general public and Coventry City Council and will be used to help us improve our services to you and to ensure they are provided in a fair and balanced way. All information produced will be anonymised. Information will be stored on servers in the United States of America and SurveyMonkey gives an undertaking never to disclose the survey questions or your response to others without permission.

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1. In what capacity are you completing this survey?

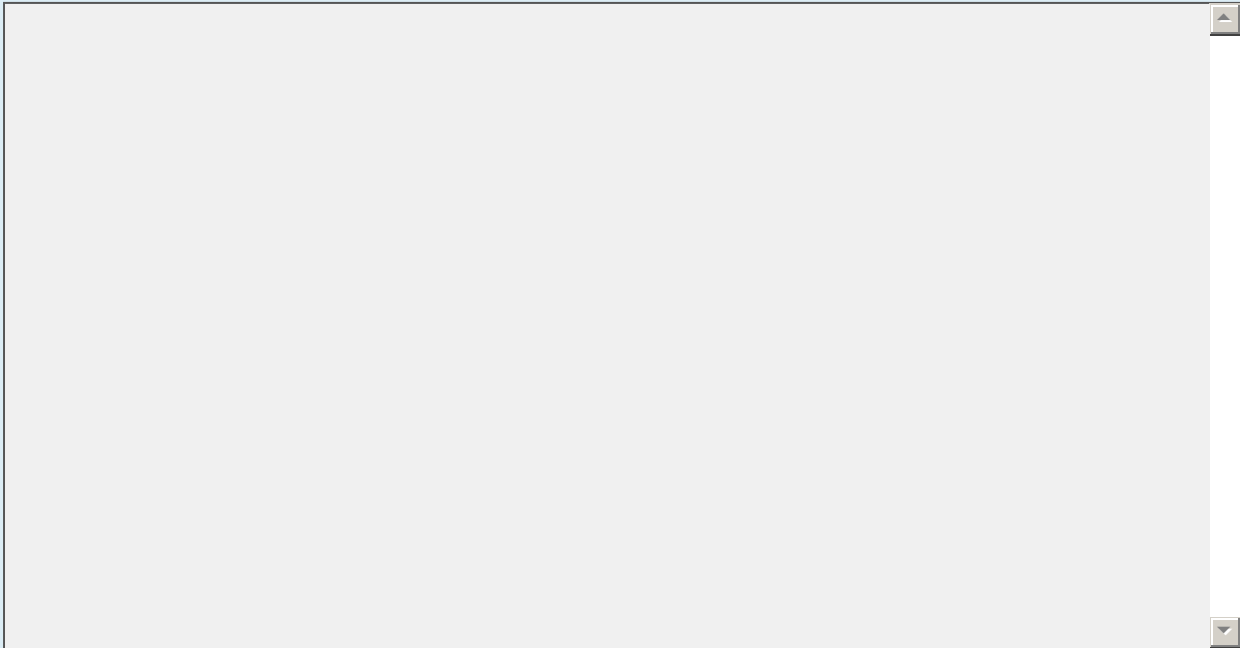
- Resident
- Trade Union Representative
- Ward Councillor
- Partner organisation
- Voluntary Sector Organisation representative
- Coventry City Council employee (Please provide team)

This consultation document is seeking your views on the proposal for the future of neighbourhood working in the City. In particular it focuses on:

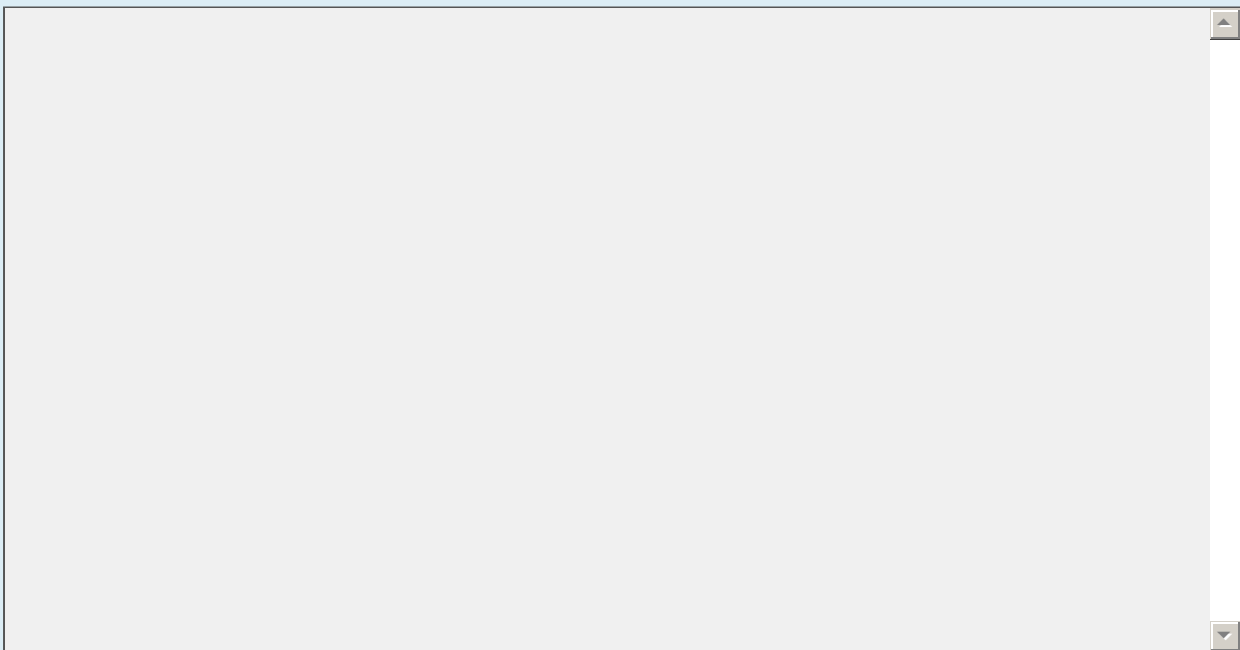
- The Neighbourhood Wardens Service, the Health Development Officers and Public Health Nutritionists, part of the Health Development Service, and the impact of the deletion of these services.
- The creation of a Community Development Service, designed to empower local people to take greater responsibility for their local community and environment.
- To enhance the Neighbourhood Enforcement Service designed to act on a City wide basis, working with local communities to tackle environmental issues.
- The creation of 3 Community Safety Caseworker Posts to co-ordinate responses to low level community safety issues in neighbourhoods, working with the Police, other agencies and local people.

Existing Neighbourhood Working

2. How will the cessation of the Neighbourhood Wardens service affect you?



3. How will the proposed cessation of the Health Development Officers and Public Health Nutritionists affect you?

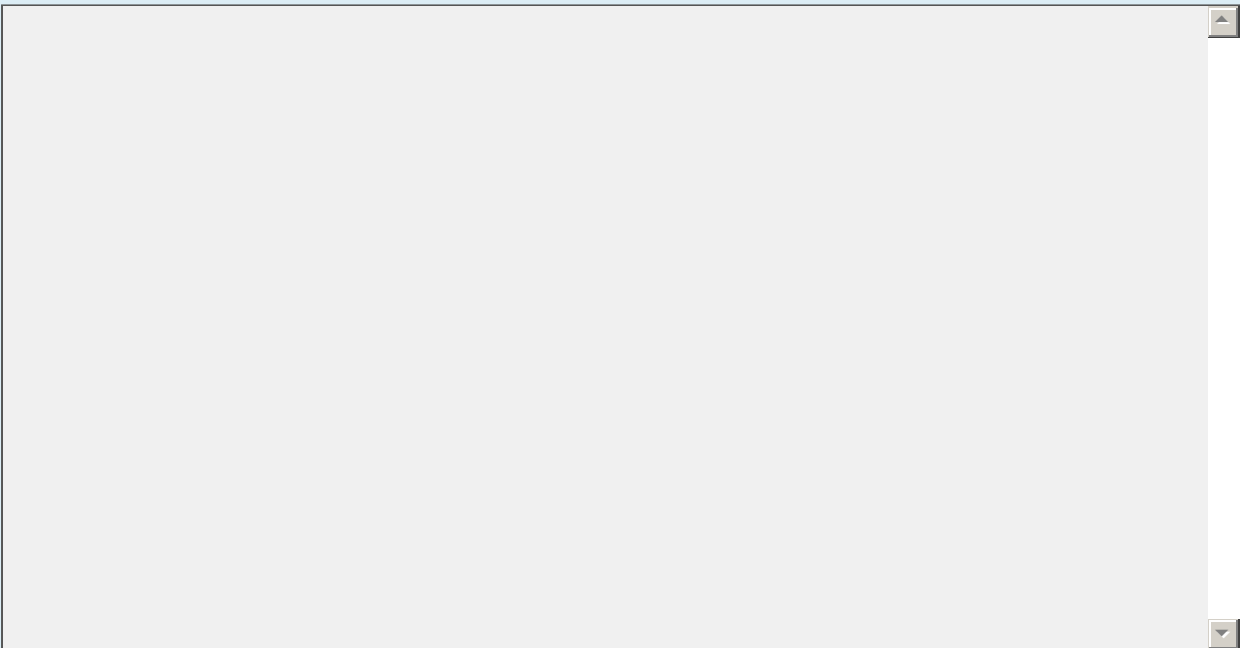


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4. Do you have any comments on the proposal?



5. What direct or indirect impacts on your health, mental health or wellbeing will this proposal have?



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The Proposals

How the Local Authority works with communities is important, particularly in challenging economic times. We are faced with having to make significant savings as a result of the reduction in the grant that we receive from central Government. This specific proposal will reduce Council spending in this area from £1,810,000 to £990,000 thus saving £820,000.

Creation of a Community Development Service

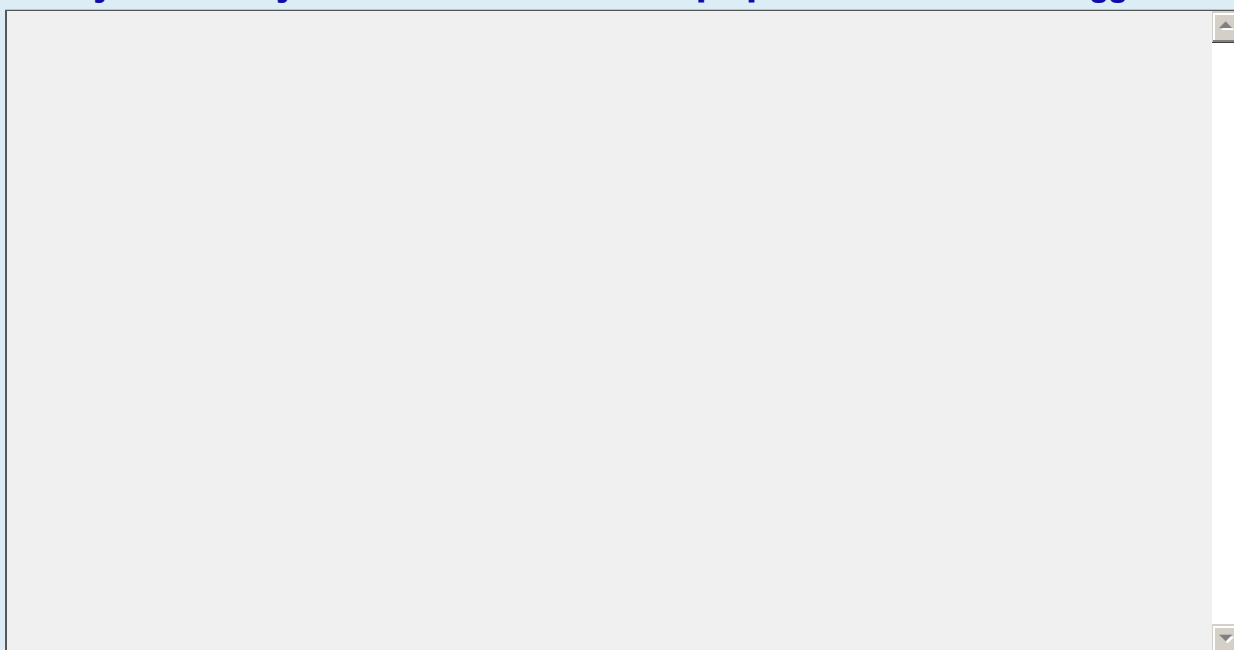
It is acknowledged that the removal of specific neighbourhood services will lead to the reduction in capacity to deal with environmental and community safety issues. Therefore, to minimise the impact of this, the proposal seeks to bolster the capacity of existing services and to create the Community Development Service to support and empower local people to be more active in their local areas. This will be through the creation of 12 Community Development Officers and 2 Community Development Managers.

This service will embrace the City's ambition to be a healthy city; and will be using the experience of other areas across the country. The team's focus will be a community empowerment and development approach, enabling individuals and groups to build local capacity and get more involved and have greater influence and control over what happens in their lives and the area in which they live. There is evidence to show that this has a positive effect on people's quality of life and general wellbeing. More detail on this proposal and the others below can be found in the Cabinet report on the Council's web site.

6. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal?

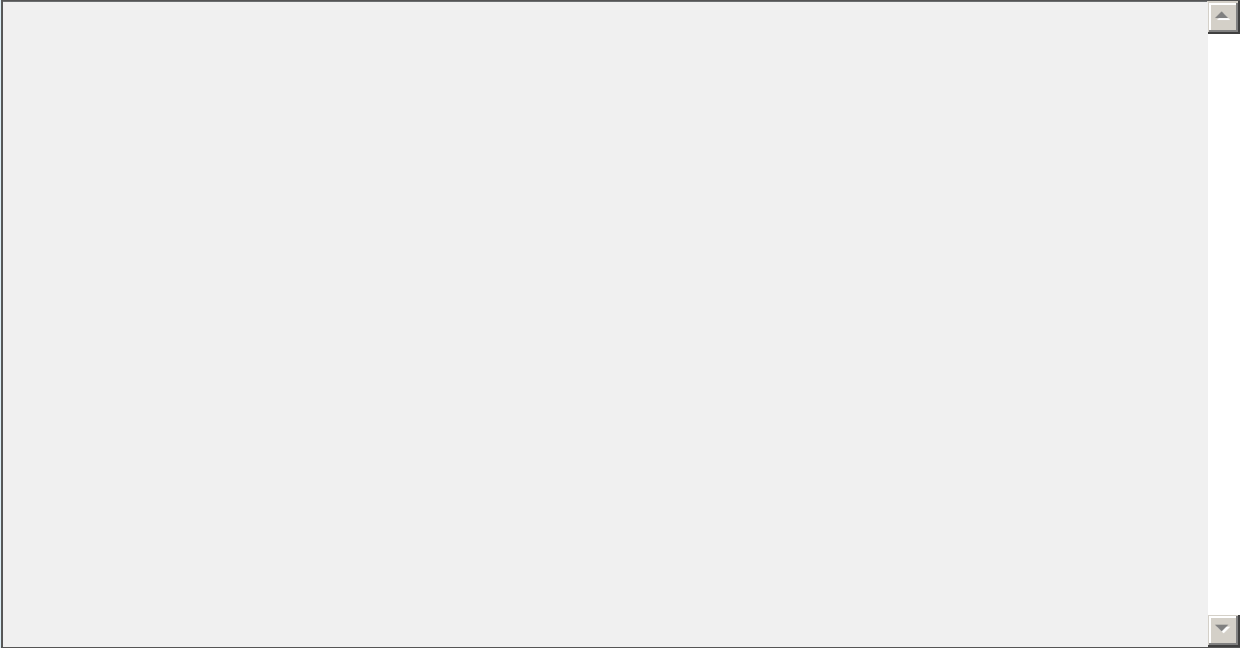
- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

7. Do you have any comments on the current proposal or alternative suggestions?

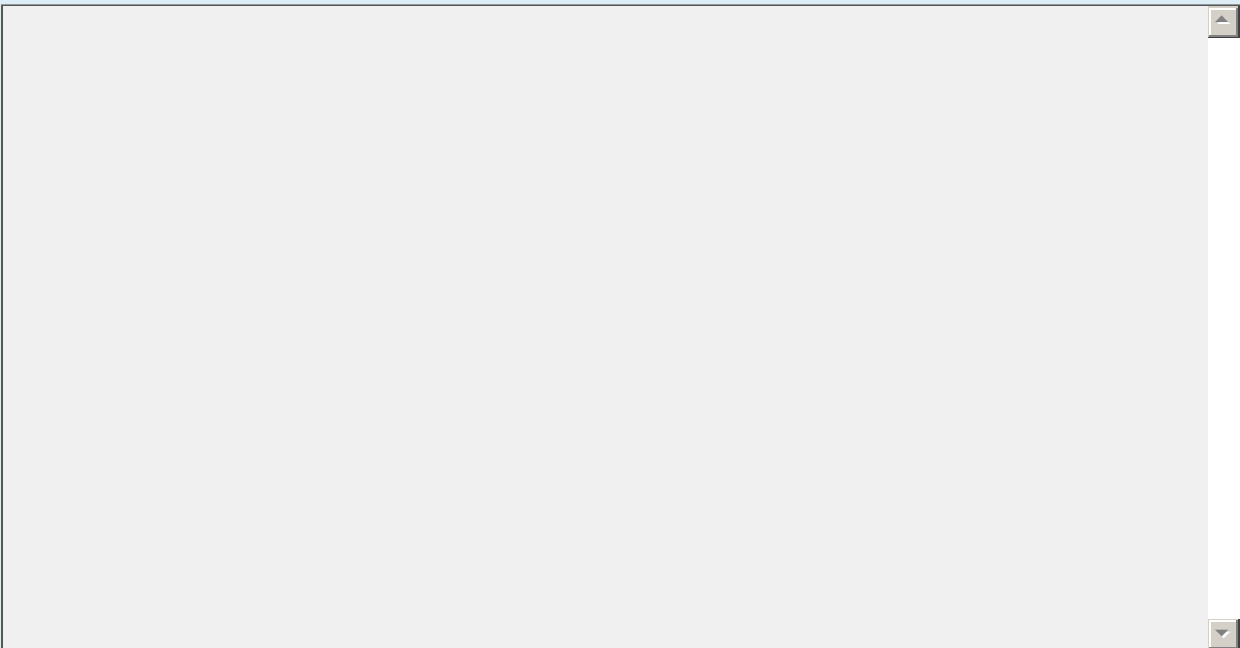


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8. How is the proposed change going to affect you?

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9. What impact do you think the proposal could have for different groups of people (please consider age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, ethnicity, religion and belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation)?

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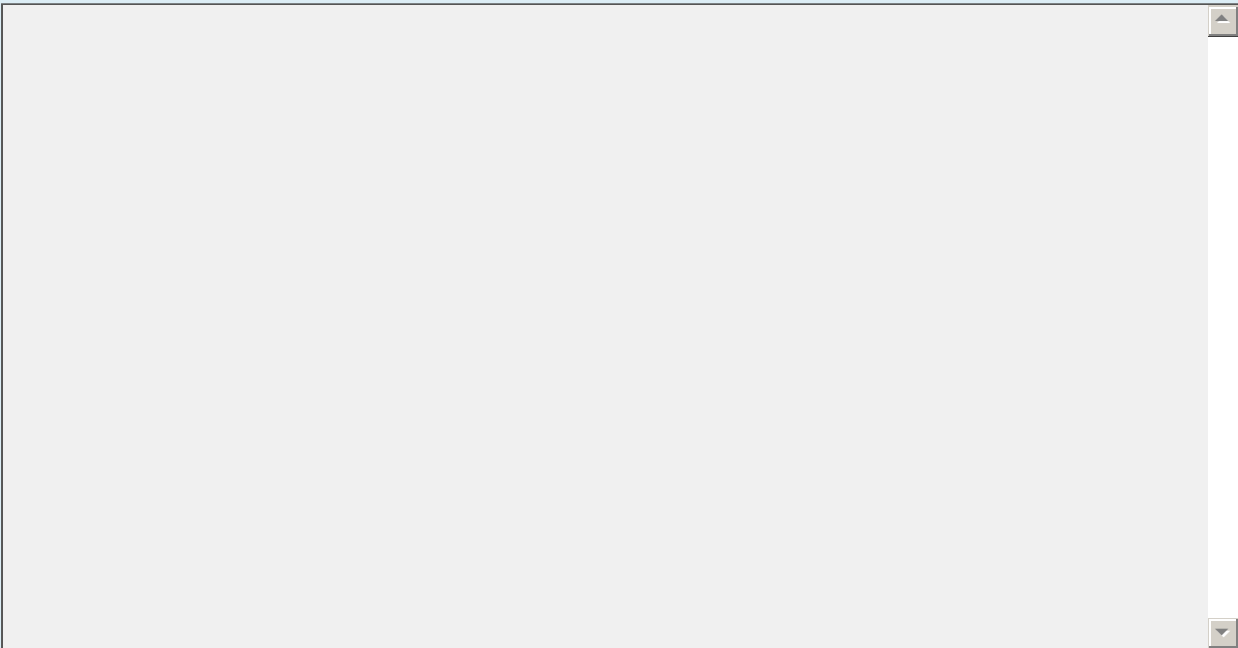
Creation of Additional Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers

Neighbourhood Wardens are based in specific priority neighbourhoods and operate Monday to Friday. It is recognised that the proposed deletion of these services will result in a reduction in capacity in dealing with environmental issues. It is proposed to expand the existing Neighbourhood Enforcement Service from a team of 8 officers to 20. This team will have a city wide remit and will work seven days per week. Officers within this team will be tasked with work in areas where reports from the community and partner agencies indicate there are issues.

10. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

11. Do you have any comments on the current proposal or alternative suggestions?

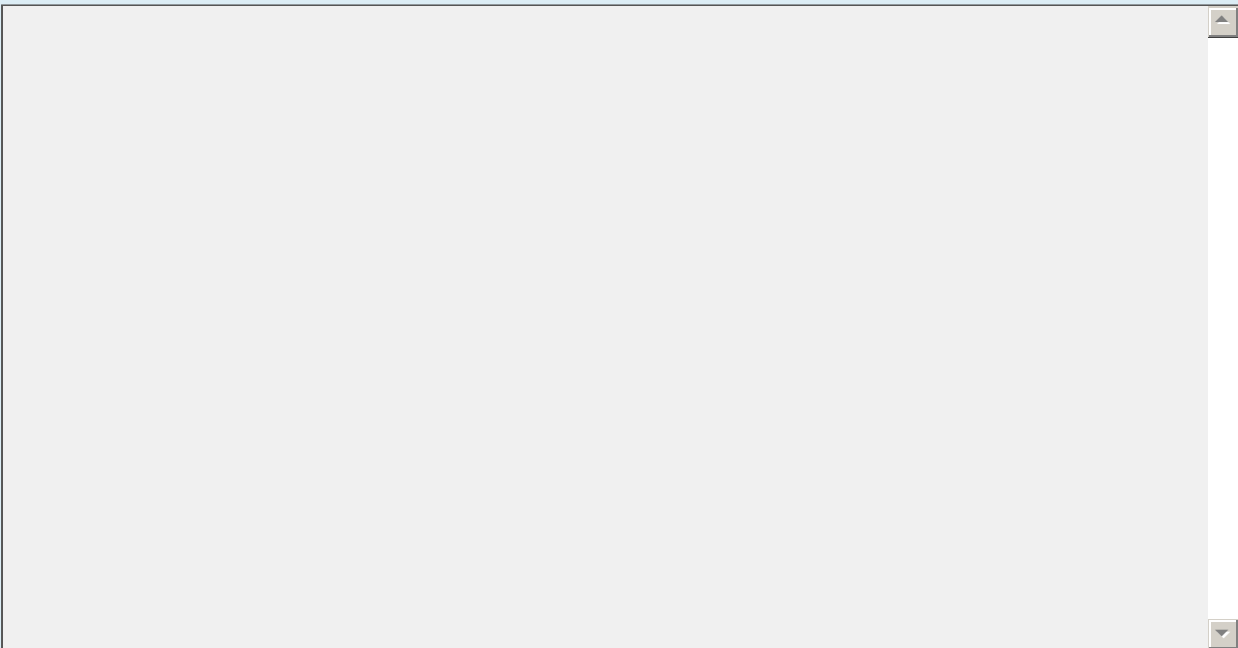
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12. How is the proposed change going to affect you?



13. What impact do you think the proposal could have for different groups of people (please consider age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, ethnicity, religion and belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation)?



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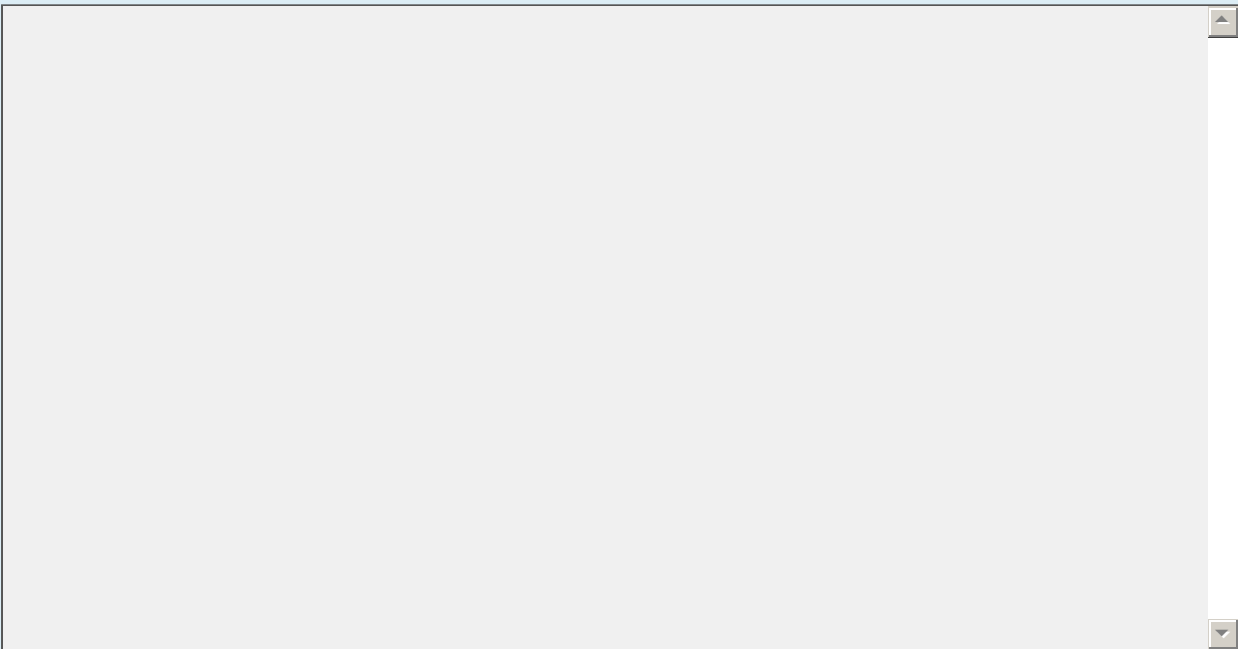
Creation of Community Safety Caseworkers focussing on Neighbourhood Issues

Again, there is recognition that there will be a reduction in neighbourhood services dealing with low level community safety issues. These 3 posts will work within the existing Community Safety Team and will be focused on working with local communities in delivering and implementing solutions in tackling local community safety issues before they escalate. In a similar way to the Neighbourhood Enforcement Service, they will manage individual cases and provide a single point of contact for the local community and partner agencies.

14. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal?

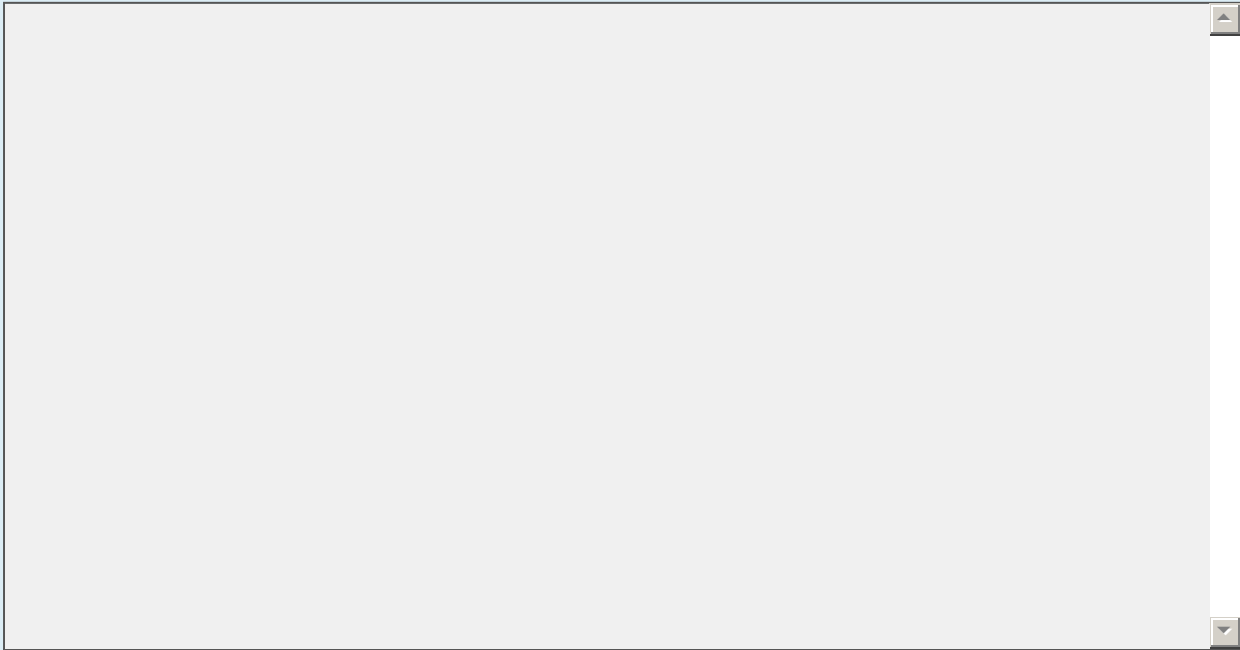
- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

15. Do you have any comments on the current proposal or alternative suggestions?

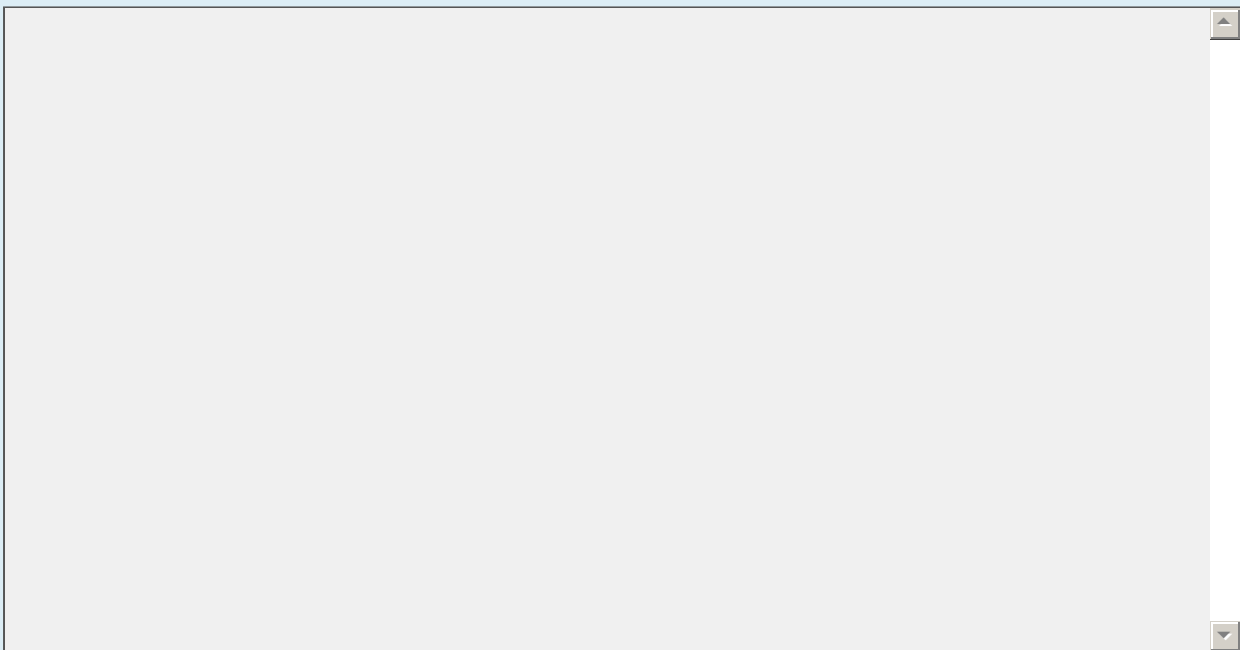


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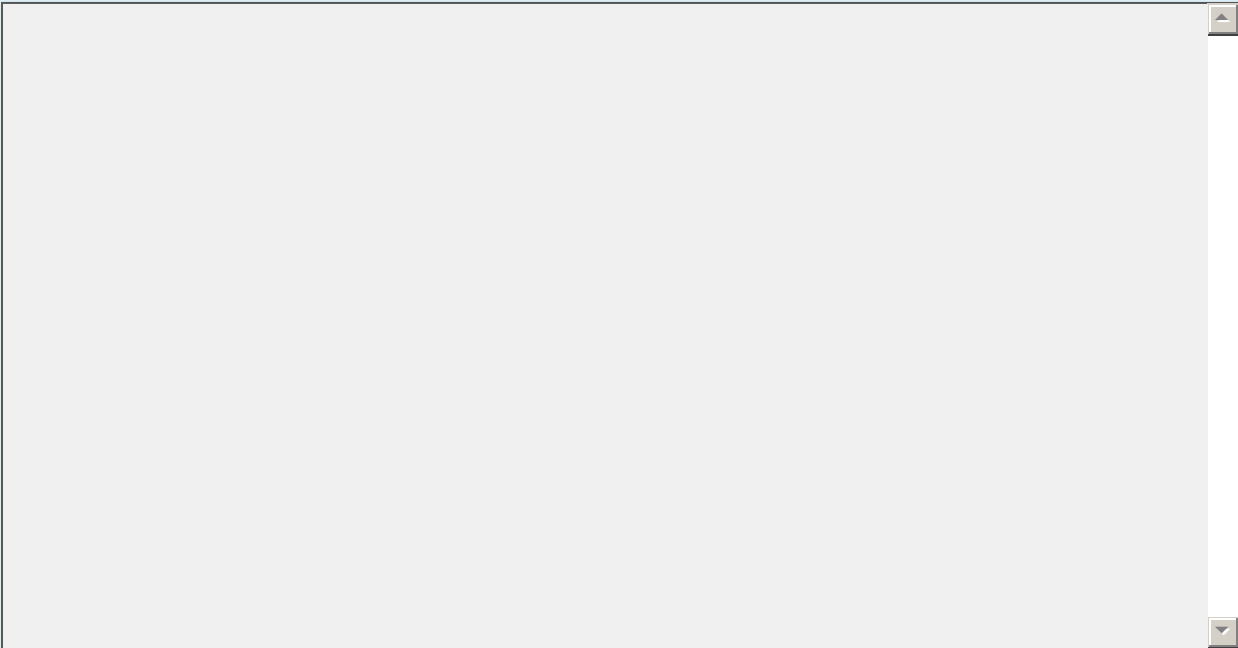
16. How is the proposed change going to affect you?

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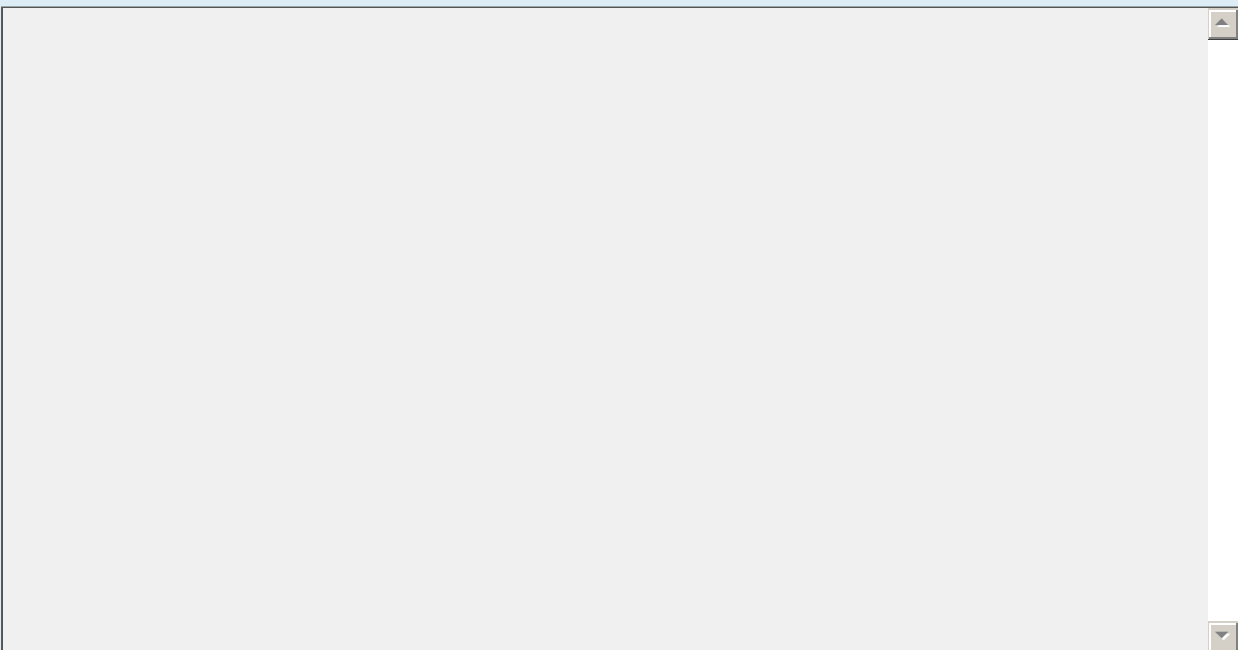
17. What impact do you think the proposal could have for different groups of people (please consider age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, ethnicity, religion and belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation)?

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18. What direct or indirect impacts on your health, mental health or wellbeing will this proposal have?

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19. Do you have any suggestions for the focus of the activities or type of support the new service should concentrate on?

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Please provide some information about yourself so that we can monitor which groups of people are taking part in the consultation. Please be advised that the information you provide will be stored on servers in the United States of America and SurveyMonkey gives an undertaking never to disclose the survey questions or your response to others without permission. All data will be held securely. You are under no obligation to complete this section of the survey if you do not wish to.

20. Which ward do you live in?

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Bablake | <input type="radio"/> Radford |
| <input type="radio"/> Binley and Willenhall | <input type="radio"/> Sherbourne |
| <input type="radio"/> Cheylesmore | <input type="radio"/> St. Michaels |
| <input type="radio"/> Earlsdon | <input type="radio"/> Upper Stoke |
| <input type="radio"/> Foleshill | <input type="radio"/> Wainbody |
| <input type="radio"/> Henley | <input type="radio"/> Westwood |
| <input type="radio"/> Holbrooks | <input type="radio"/> Whoberley |
| <input type="radio"/> Longford | <input type="radio"/> Woodlands |
| <input type="radio"/> Lower Stoke | <input type="radio"/> Wyken |

If you are not sure, please provide your postcode:

21. How old are you?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Under 16 | <input type="radio"/> 55 - 64 |
| <input type="radio"/> 16 - 24 | <input type="radio"/> 65 - 74 |
| <input type="radio"/> 25 - 34 | <input type="radio"/> 75 - 84 |
| <input type="radio"/> 35 - 44 | <input type="radio"/> 85+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 45 - 54 | |

22. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

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23. What is your ethnic background?

- White - British (includes English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish)
- White - Irish
- White - Gypsy/Irish Traveller
- White - Other
- Mixed - White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed - White and Black African
- Mixed - White and Asian
- Mixed - Other
- Asian/ Asian British - Indian
- Asian/ Asian British - Pakistani
- Asian/ Asian British - Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Asian/ Asian British - Other
- Black/ Black British - African
- Black/ Black British - Caribbean
- Black/Black British - Other
- Arab
- Any other ethnic group

If you selected other for any of the above ethnic groups, please provide details below:

24. Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person?

- Yes
- No

25. Are you or have you recently been pregnant?

- Pregnant
- Had a baby in the past six months
- Breastfeeding

Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.