

Bryanston and Dorset Square 2008-10 Ward Budget Monitoring Report

Councillors Carolyn Keen, Audrey Lewis

Summary:

Ward Members identified six priorities for how to allocate their ward budget from April 2008 – March 2010.

A total of sixteen projects were funded over the 2 years to meet these priorities.

The key outputs/ achievements of each project funded have been highlighted under the priority headings in this document.

Ward Members were given £200,000 ward budget funding to allocate over the 2 year pilot programme.

£141,214.86 of this budget has been allocated, with the remaining budget (£58,785.14) being returned to the council's reserves.

Key Highlights of Projects Funded:

Priority 1: Providing activities for children and young people

- **Hotpots Outreach Project - Fourth Feathers**

Total ward budget funding: £10,017.19

- Two staff and one volunteer worked on the streets in the local area each Wednesday night targeting young people aged 8 to 14 yrs old signposting them to positive activities in the local area.
- Trips were made to York Hall and Hindleap Warren (residential).
- Programmes and workshops for young people included: non-contact boxing; archery; a community sports day; a gun and knife crime workshop and festive cards written by the young people and delivered to residents on the Blandford Estate.

- **Children's Art Competition**

Total ward budget funding: £1,520

- The St Marylebone Society held two children's art competitions during the summer holidays in 2008 and 2009.
- Forms were sent to all primary schools in Marylebone.
- The theme in 2008 was "Marylebone – look around and be inspired" and a presentation party was held in October at the Old Library.
- The 2009 theme was "the view from my window – looking in or looking out" and the entries were displayed at Marylebone Station.



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Priority 1: Providing activities for children and young people (cont.)

- **Drama Project - Fourth Feathers**

Total ward budget funding: £2,594.03

- This project started in December 2009 and on average 7 young people attended each session, which were used to devise and rehearse a play tackling the issues young people felt passionately about.
- A DVD is being produced of the rehearsals and of the play itself.

Priority 2: Improving and increasing access to open spaces

- **Re-development of Nutford Place**

Total ward budget funding: £25,000

- Members contributed the above funds to the larger project on Nutford Place which completed the following: new paving from the edge of the Nutford Place junction on Edgware Road and Forset Street; a raised pedestrian crossing at the junction of Nutford Place with Forset Street; the re-paving of damaged footway; the installation of two single unit benches, two 8m small Grey Wornum lamps with adjacent bins, two small pear trees and five cycle stands; the removal of street clutter; the installation of wall mounted road signage and the pedestrianisation of Nutford Place between Edgware Road and Forset Street.
- Works are expected to be completed by the end of May 2010.

- **Feasibility study on Great Cumberland Place**

Total ward budget funding: £5,000

- A feasibility study was commissioned into the possibility of opening up more of the area in Great Cumberland Place for use by residents and visitors.
- The study was completed in October 2009.

Priority 3: Reducing fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

- **The employment of two City Guardians**

Total ward budget funding: £55,938

- During 2008 two City Guardians were employed between October and December and patrolled between 4-8pm Monday to Thursday and 6-10pm on Fridays and Saturdays.
- In February 2009 Members funded a targeted sweep of the area concentrating on rough sleeping and street drinking and dangerous pavements and poor lighting.
- From August 2009 until March 2010 the City Guardians worked a 4-day week rota based on a 10 hour shift per day.



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Priority 3: Reducing fear of crime and anti-social behaviour (cont.)

- **Installation of new security gates and a door system at Crawford Buildings**

Total ward budget funding: £17,488

- Due to an issue with the location of the gate it has not been installed as yet. A new planning application has been submitted and it is hopeful approval will be given in June 2010.
- The new door entry system have been installed at Crawford Buildings.

Priority 4: Increasing community engagement

- **Community Open Day at Seymour Leisure Centre**

Total ward budget funding: £3,168.54

- An open day at the Leisure Centre was held on 14th February 2009.
- All facilities were free to local residents and on offer were taster sessions for children in a variety of activities.

- **New Residents Reception**

Total ward budget funding: £811.80

- A reception was held for new residents to the area on 30 June 2009, in Council House.
- Information stalls were available representing all Council departments and partners for residents to get information or speak to officers on a one to one basis.

- **Community Noticeboard**

Total ward budget funding: £802

- A noticeboard was installed outside Marylebone Library for community use. This was managed by a Library Assistant who ensured it was kept clean and up to date.

- **Art in Marylebone Exhibition**

Total ward budget funding: £7,000

- Members contributed funding to this art annual exhibition in both 2008 and 2009.

- **Mansion blocks project**

Total ward budget funding: £1,083.30

- A temporary member of staff was employed to conduct a research project into mansion blocks and blocks of flats in the Bryanston and Dorset Square ward.
- The research established the best points of contact for information to be disseminated to residents, in the blocks.



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Priority 4: Increasing community engagement (cont.)

- **ESOL classes**

Total ward budget funding: £0

- WAES had aimed to deliver one ESOL course, over 10 weeks, between January and March 2010.
- Unfortunately no local residents were interested in these classes and therefore they did not start.

- **Reminiscence project**

Total ward budget funding: £0

- WAES had aimed to deliver one session per week over a 10 week period between January and March 2010.
- Unfortunately no local residents were interested in these classes and therefore they did not start.

Priority 5: Reducing isolation

- **Mental Health drop-in project – St Paul’s Church**

Total ward budget funding: £10,000

- Drop-in sessions were held on Mondays between 2-5pm and on Wednesdays between 10am – 12pm.
- On average 20 people attended the sessions between May 2009 and February 2010.

Priority 6: Supporting older people

- **Seniors Online classes**

Total ward budget funding: £792

- WAES delivered only one computer course, which ran for 2hrs per week for 10 weeks, at Marylebone Library.
- 10 people attended the course with four continuing their learning by attending the stage two (intermediate) course.



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