



Horsham
District
Council

Neighbourhood Wardens

**Greg Charman – Community Safety
Manager**

Aim of the Service:

The aim of the Neighbourhood Warden Service is to enable the people of Horsham District to live safely and independently in their neighbourhoods allowing the community to develop and thrive.

The service provides a highly visible and reassuring patrol presence, which is responsive to the public and flexible enough to cope with changing demands; whilst working in partnership with other service agencies, businesses and the voluntary sector.

Background:

- Introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
 - 2001: Ashington first scheme nationally outside of a city environment and received government funding.
 - 2002: Steyning, Bramber and Upper Beeding (cluster) and received government funding.
 - 2016: Pulborough's interest grew from a SALC funding offer.
 - 2018: Billingshurst interviews next week
 - Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act / Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act and the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act have expanded the duties of Councils to deal with a range of local issues.
 - HDC Corporate Plan emphasises working with local communities to solve local issues.
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Key Issues:

- Crime is rising / Police numbers have reduced and role changes have resulted in no dedicated staff to serve specific areas.
 - Wardens are not a replacement for the Police but do offer a complementary service with a much broader remit and crucially ‘responsible guardians’.
 - Routine Activity Theory – suitable target / motivated offender / lack of guardian.
 - Ownership of issues including: reporting faults, welcoming visitors, acting as eyes and ears and supporting events.
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Example of a yearly action plan

- Engagement with residents, businesses, clubs etc.
 - Reassurance / provide high visibility patrols.
 - Attend community events and meetings.
 - Tackle anti social behaviour - drug and alcohol misuse.
 - Reduce environmental concerns.
 - Social inclusion-older vulnerable/young people.
 - Update Parish council.
 - Comply with PREVENT Agenda.
 - Community cohesion and resilience (Emergency Planning)
 - Community safety-road safety.
 - Information sharing agreements.
 - Record keeping for accountability.
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Year 1 statistics from Pulborough

- 9 link alarm referrals
 - 6 neighbour nuisance
 - 5 referrals to highways
 - 11 parking issues/safer school parking
 - 7 reports of fly tipping
 - 14 Anti social behaviour issues
 - 5 adult safeguarding referrals
 - 3 referrals to environmental health
 - 7 scam reassurance visits/advice.
 - 7 environmental calls to our cleansing team.
 - 5 current projects/several more planned for the future.
 - 149 telephone calls received from residents.
 - Walked 256 miles!
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Current Position:

- 2 year trial offer for 2 x FTE staff managed by HDC
 - Total cost for 2 x FTE's approx. £75k / annum.
 - HDC funding offer of £30k across the 2 year trial starting in 2018.
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Next steps & considerations:

- Agreement on funding situation.
 - Agreement of specific duties (urban & rural environments).
 - Agreement on range of enforcement powers.
 - Key stakeholders – supervision / steering group.
 - Recruiting the right staff.
 - Measuring success and promotion.
 - Governance and accountability.
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*“I think you are doing
a fantastic job within
the community”*

*“Thank you for being out
there at night time keeping
an eye on us all”*

Questions?
