Pwyllgor Rhanbarth y Gogledd

NWR 06-00(p2)

Dyddiad: Dydd Gwener 27 Hydref 2000

Amser: 10.00am hyd 12.25pm

Lleoliad: Athrofa Addysg Uwch Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru, Wrecsam

ADRODDIAD YN ÔL O'R CYFARFOD BLAENOROL - TROSEDD AC ANHREFN

- 1. Yn ei gyfarfod ar 14 Gorffennaf, cytunodd y Pwyllgor:
 - i anfon llythyr at Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai gan awgrymu y dylai'r Pwyllgor ystyried yr adnoddau a glustnodir ar gyfer partneriaethau trosedd ac anhrefn a thynnu sylw at y pwyntiau a godwyd yng nghyflwyniad Richard Brunstrom. (Ceir copi o'r llythyr a anfonwyd yn atodiad 1);
 - i anfon llythyron at yr Ysgrifennydd Cyllid, a chopi at Gadeiryddion y pwyllgorau pwnc ac Ysgrifenyddion y Cynulliad yn gofyn am wybodaeth yngln â'r holl ffynonellau ariannu ar gyfer materion yn ymwneud â throsedd ac anhrefn y gellid manteisio arnynt yn lleol. (Ceir copi o'r llythyr a anfonwyd yn atodiad 1);
 - i anfon y papur a ddarparwyd gan Chris Ruane AS yngln â "chytundeb ymddygiad derbyniol" Islington i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai;
 - y byddai aelodau'r Pwyllgor yn cynorthwyo i roi cyhoeddusrwydd i gyfarfodydd cyhoeddus Pwyllgor Llysoedd yr Ynadon.
- 2. Ysgrifennodd y Cadeirydd at y Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai a'r Ysgrifennydd Cyllid ar 1 Awst. Ceir copïau o'r llythyron yn Atodiadau 1 a 2.

Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai

3. Mae Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai wedi nodi cynnwys y llythyr. Bydd y Pwyllgor hefyd yn dymuno nodi y derbyniodd y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai gyflwyniad gan Gyfarwyddwr Gostwng Troseddau Cymru, David A'Herne, yn ei gyfarfod ar 18 Hydref.

Cronfa Ddata o Ffynonellau Ariannu ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â throsedd ac anhrefn

4. Atebodd yr Ysgrifennydd Cyllid lythyr y Cadeirydd ar 24 Awst (ceir copi o'r llythyr yn Atodiad 3). Cytunodd yr Ysgrifennydd ei bod yn bwysig cael cronfa ddata o ffynonellau ariannu ar gyfer y rheini sy'n gweithio ym maes gostwng troseddau, a dynododd y byddai hyn yn cael ei ddatblygu dros amser. Mae Uned Gostwng Troseddau'r Cynulliad yn barod yn cynnal cofnod papur o fentrau sy'n cynnwys elfen o ostwng troseddau, ac addawodd roi fersiwn wedi'i ddiweddaru i'r Pwyllgor ar gyfer ei gyfarfod ym mis Hydref. Amgaeir y papur hwn yn Atodiad 4. Mae copïau'n cael eu hanfon at bawb a fynychodd

cyfarfod y Pwyllgor Rhanbarth.

5. Ymatebodd Ysgrifennydd y Cynulliad dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai hefyd. Ceir copi o'r llythyr yn Atodiad 5.

Ysgrifenyddiaeth y Pwyllgorau

Hydref 2000

Atodiad 1

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

The National Assembly for Wales
Pwyllgor Rhanbarth y Gogledd
North Wales Regional Committee
Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Eich cyf / Your ref Ein cyf / Our ref

Dyddiad / Date 1 Awst 2000

Gwenda Thomas AC Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Bae Caerdydd

Annwyl Gwenda

Trosedd ac anrhefn

Yn ei gyfarfod ar y 14eg o fis Gorffennaf, trafododd Pwyllgor Rhanbarth Gogledd Cymru faterion trosedd ac anrhefn, a chyfrifoldebau'r Cynulliad o dan adran 5 Deddf Trosedd ac Anrhefn 1988.

Derbyniodd y Pwyllgor gyflwyniad gan Richard Brunstrom, Dirprwy Prif Gwnstabl Heddlu Gogledd Cymru. Cyflwynodd Mr Brunstrom arolwg o rôl a gweithgareddau partneriaethau lleol lleihau torcyfraith yng Ngogledd Cymru. Canolbwyntiodd hefyd ar rôl y Cynulliad, fel corff a ddynodwyd o dan adran 5 (2) (c) y Ddeddf, a'r tensiwn y gallai hyn ei greu rhwng y Cynulliad ac aelodau statudol eraill y partneriaethau, o bosibl.

Cododd Mr Brunstrom nifer o bwyntiau diddorol, a theimlodd rhai Aelodau y dylech ystyried ei wahodd i wneud cyflwyniad tebyg i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai.

Yn y drafodaeth ddilynol gydag aelodau'r cyhoedd ac eraill sydd â diddordeb yn y mater, mynegwyd pryder yngln â pha mor ddigonol yw'r adnoddau sydd ar gael i fentrau lleol sy'n mynd i'r afael â throsedd ac anrhefn. Yn arbennig, cytunwyd bod angen dod o hyd i'r pocedi niferus o gyllid perthnasol y gellid eu defnyddio.

Roedd Chris Ruane AS (Dyffryn Clwyd) yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod, a thynnodd sylw'r Pwyllgor at gynllun arbrofol gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Islington o'r enw "Acceptable Behaviour Contracts". Ymddengys bod gan y cynllun nifer o nodweddion diddorol, ac mae'r papur amgaeedig yn rhestru'r rhain mewn mwy o fanylder.

Os ydych yn teimlo y gallech ddatblygu unrhyw un o'r pwyntiau hyn ymhellach, byddwn yn ddiolchgar petaech yn gadael i mi wybod, fel y gallaf roi gwybod i'r Pwyllgor.

Yn gywir

Ann Jones Cadeirydd, Pwyllgor Rhanbarth Gogledd Cymru

Atodiad 2

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

The National Assembly for Wales

Edwina Hart AC Ysgrifennydd Cyllid Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Bae Caerdydd Pwyllgor Rhanbarth y Gogledd North Wales Regional Committee Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

> Eich cyf / Your ref Ein cyf / Our ref

Dyddiad / Date 1 Awst 2000

Annwyl Edwina

Trosedd ac anrhefn

Yn ei gyfarfod ar y 14 ^{eg} o fis Gorffennaf, trafododd Pwyllgor Rhanbarth Gogledd Cymru faterion trosedd ac anrhefn, a chyfrifoldebau'r Cynulliad o dan adran 5 Deddf Trosedd ac Anrhefn 1988.

Yn y drafodaeth ddilynol gydag aelodau'r cyhoedd ac eraill sydd â diddordeb yn y mater, mynegwyd pryder yngln â pha mor ddigonol yw'r adnoddau sydd ar gael i fentrau lleol sy'n mynd i'r afael â throsedd ac anrhefn. Yn benodol, cytunwyd bod angen dod o hyd i'r pocedi niferus o gyllid perthnasol y gellid eu defnyddio.

Cred Pwyllgor Rhanbarth Gogledd Cymru y byddai cryn werth mewn datblygu cronfa ddata o ffynonellau cyllid y gellid cael gafael arnynt ar lefel leol, er mwyn mynd i'r afael â throsedd ac anrhefn. Teimla'r Pwyllgor y byddai adnodd o'r fath, drwy enwi ffynonellau cyllid ar draws ystod eang o feysydd polisi, o gymorth sylweddol i'r rheini sy'n cymryd rhan mewn gweithredu strategaethau lleihau torcyfraith.

Amserlenwyd cyfarfod nesaf y Pwyllgor ar gyfer y 27 ^{ain} o fis Hydref, a byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech ymateb i argymhelliad y Pwyllgor mewn digon o bryd i mi adrodd i'r cyfarfod hwnnw.

Rwyf yn anfon copi o'r llythyr hwn at Gadeirydd pob pwyllgor pwnc ac at Ysgrifenyddion y Cynulliad.

Yn gywir

Ann Jones Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Rhanbarth Gogledd Cymru

Edwina Hart AM

Our ref: EH 00079-00

Ann Jones AM Chair North Wales Regional Committee National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay

24 August 2000

Dear Ann

Thank you for your letter of 1 August in which you follow up on certain points arising from the North Wales Regional Committee's meeting of 1 August which focused on crime and disorder.

In particular, you identify the need for a compendium of information about the funding sources which local crime and disorder reduction partnerships may access. This information is already available from the Assembly's Crime Reduction Unit which has drawn up a comprehensive list of Government funding initiatives and also Assembly initiatives which have a crime reduction bias. It is the Unit's intention to provide this in a more sophisticated form eventually, perhaps to match the electronic database you have in mind, but for the time being this remains the best source of information. I will ensure that an entirely up-to-date version of it is with you before the next committee meeting on 27 October.

The Crime Reduction Unit is in regular contact with the local partnerships and keep them fully appraised of each new funding round. Whilst we will always wish for more for Wales, it would appear that we are receiving an appropriate population share of the main England and Wales funding.

I am copying this letter to Gwenda Thomas and Peter Law.

Atodiad 4

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES INITIATIVES WITH CRIME REDUCTION ELEMENT

1. EDUCATION

The forthcoming **Crime and Public Protection Bill** will carry an amendment to the Education Act 1996 that will require parents to attend court to answer to charges relating to their child's non-attendance at school or face arrest.

Under the **GEST**, Grants for Education Training and Support Programme for 2000-01, £3 million has been allocated to enable Welsh LEAs and schools to tackle school attendance and behaviour issues.

Section 16 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 affords the **police the power to take truants** back to school or another place designated by the LEA. Cardiff LEA and South Wales Police made a Truancy Order under this section on 18 February 2000 to apply to Llanrumney and St Mellons. Between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm 69 school age children were stopped and asked about their absence from school.

(Also relevant - Intervention Work in Schools, On Track - see Crime Reduction Programme.)

2. SOCIAL INCLUSION

The People in Communities (PiC) programme is an innovative response to tackling social inclusion in deprived communities in Wales. It recognises the need to promote community participation in policies to regenerate deprived areas.

One of the policy aims of the programme is that everyone should have somewhere decent and safe to live.

In October 1998 eight communities in Wales were selected to participate in the programme. These were: Gurnos and Galon Uchaf; Merthyr Tydfil; Duffryn, Newport; Blaenymaes and Portmead, Wrexham; Rhiwgarn Estate, Trebanog, Rhondda Cynon Taff; Rhymney, Caerphilly and Deiniolen, Dinorwig; Clwt y Bont, Gwynedd and Southseea and Brynteg, Wrexham. In the first year a total of £750,000 funded development co-ordinators in these communities to help the residents draw up long-term action plans.

£1 million of PiC monies was committed to enable the eight existing projects to expand and develop their work. Applications were invited on a rolling basis from November (1999) to the end of March (20000). Rhymney, Caerphilly did not apply under this round of bids as they were unable to achieve additional funds through Capital Challenge.

In addition, £750,000 was made available during 1999-2000 to fund an additional 8 projects. These additional communities were announced on 16 June 2000 and are as follows: Rhyl West Central, Denbighshire; Butetown and Grangetown, Cardiff; Mount Libanus Estate, Penyrenglyn, Rhondda Cynon Taff; Bush and Park Estate, Pembrokeshire; Giants Grave, Briton Ferry, Neath-Port Talbot; Nantyglo, Blaenau Gwent; Caerau, Bridgend and; Abersychan, Torfaen.

Crime reduction remains one of the issues which may be prioritised.

Building on PiC "Communities First - Regenerating our most disadvantaged communities" was launched in May. This is a new concept in community regeneration in Wales. It is a non-prescriptive approach designed to meet the needs and priorities determined by communities. It will be targeted at the most deprived communities in Wales; it will involve long-term commitments for resources and funding and will promote real partnerships at local level for the delivery of action. It will help communities to take the lead and build capacity for sustainability.

Responses to the initial consultation document have now been analysed, along with feedback from the area-based discussion and focus groups which were held.

A second consultation document, to be issued in October 2000, will set out a more detailed policy and funding framework. The target for identifying communities is the turn of the year and the beginning of implementation is 1 April 2000.

Constructive comments on the crime reduction elements which may be included in the consultative process have been actively encouraged.

3. HOUSING

The Secured by Design initiative was developed by the Association of Chief Police Officers with the backing of the Home Office Crime Prevention Agency and was originally introduced in Wales in 1994. It is intended to encourage the building industry to adopt crime prevention measures in the design of developments to reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime, creating a safer and more secure environment.

Research has shown that application of the scheme has helped to reduce estate crime. A study by Gwent Police in 1999 found that houses within the scheme suffered 40 per cent fewer burglaries and vehicle-related crime and 25 per cent less criminal damage than houses without security features. The research also found that far less crime took place during the day.

The scheme was re-launched by the First Secretary on October 1999 as a national scheme aimed at designing out crime on new housing developments. The new scheme includes:-

- · more detailed requirements related to the overall layout and arrangement of the development (location of communal areas, safe routes, lighting, surveillance, parking and landscaping).
- · detailed requirements for physical security of dwellings (entrance doors, windows, security lighting and alarms).

In Wales all Assembly funded social housing schemes have to comply with the requirements of Secured By Design. To date in Wales approximately 15,000 homes have been built in compliance with the standards.

The requirements of Secured By Design are incorporated into the Design Quality Standards and Standard Contract Documentation produced by the Assembly for Housing Association developments. Close links have been developed between Assembly officials and the Police Architectural Liaison Officers based in the four Forces to ensure the smooth operation of the scheme and the rapid introduction of any improvements or amendments.

Due to commence in February 2001, the **New Home Energy Efficiency Scheme** for Wales is part of a two year programme, with a budget of £15.3m to provide energy efficiency measures in the homes of the fuel poor - the poorest sections of society, the elderly, disabled and those on qualifying benefits.

Included in the scheme is £500,000 from the Home Office Crime Reduction Programme (Treasury approval pending) in order to provide basic crime prevention measures, such as the provision of window and door locks, chains, bolts, etc, in the homes of pensioners in high crime areas, who also receive support under the energy efficiency elements of the scheme. The over 60's have the greatest fear of crime of any section of society.

Areas that will benefit from the measures include, for South Wales and Gwent police force areas, all counties with the exception of Monmouthshire and Torfaen and for North Wales and Dyfed-Powys the highest 50% electoral wards as ranked by the index of multiple deprivation.

The contract for the management of the scheme was recently awarded to EAGA Partnership managers of the current Assembly Home Energy Efficiency Scheme.

The **Sustainable Communities Programme** offers capital and revenue support to local authorities, registered social housing landlords and voluntary organisations for small projects in targeted areas that will help to secure the sustainability of communities. Projects which increase security and include crime prevention measures are eligible.

Whilst there are no other Assembly housing programmes specifically aimed at crime reduction, **a** substantial number of single people with support needs , particularly drug/alcohol misusers and those with mental illnesses, are encouraged not to offend or re-offend by the supported environment within which they live. There will thus be a number of grants that indirectly help prevent regression.

4. TRAINING/EMPLOYMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Youth Access Initiative became operational in April 1998, initially for a three year period. It aims to tackle the issue of youth disaffection/disengagement and it focuses on 14-17 year olds both in and out of school. It is delivered by Training and Enterprise Council (TEC)-led local partnerships which include

local authorities and the voluntary sector. The Assembly budget for the current year is £2.5m although TECs inject additional funding from their local initiatives funds.

The initiative arose as a response by the Welsh Office to research by TECs into "status zero" young people - i.e. 16-17 year olds that were not in education, training or employment. Because changes to the benefit rules meant that they could not register until they were 18 these young people had effectively "disappeared". The research indicated that up to 20% of this age group fell into this category. Current Assembly statistics indicate that the figure is around 11% or 12,000 young people. The size of this group has important implications for learning targets, workforce skills, crime, poverty, drug use and a range of other social problems.

The initiative was launched with two main aims: (a) To help people under school leaving age who have dropped out of mainstream education, or are in danger of doing so, to be reintegrated into mainstream education, or to progress to other effective forms of education or training which meets their needs; (b) To help young people above school leaving age who are not in education, training or jobs to progress to effective forms of education or training or jobs. Typically, locally developed joint action plans include two categories of activity: pre-16 projects such as providing alternative curriculums for young people at risk of disaffection; and post-16 activities such as outreach and mentoring.

The findings of two evaluation studies into the effectiveness of the Youth Access Initiative are clear: the initiative is supporting valuable work which should continue. Consideration is being given to combining the initiative with Children and Youth Partnership Fund which delivers a range of activities to combat crime, drugs, vandalism and truancy and is led by local authorities. Feedback to date from the consultation process is supportive of this move; which would take place from April 2001.

Many young people lose their way at an early age because they make ill-informed choices about educational options and career choices. This damages motivation and self-esteem and sows the seeds for disaffection and social exclusion. There is no doubt that if more people can be encouraged back into learning and the potential of all young people maximised - then there will need to be ready access to independent and impartial information and advice on learning and career opportunities. The **Youth Gateway Programme** is a key part of the Assembly's policy to address skills and social exclusion issues for young people. It provides a comprehensive assessment and support service to help, primarily, 16 to 19 year old young people who have left full-time compulsory education, decide on a career opportunity commensurate with their aims, aspirations and abilities (although assistance is available up to the age of 25). A key feature of the Gateway is the appointment of personal (advisors) advocates - these provide support to the young people throughout their time in the Gateway and during the transition to further training, education or employment. Additionally the Gateway provides assistance to young people in overcoming motivational problems, and also provides assistance with identifying and overcoming learning blockages prior to extended assessment, counselling, part-time training and work sampling.

The initiative is Wales-wide and began a as pilot in the first year from September 1999. There are many

organisations in public, private and voluntary sectors who have dealings with the potential Gateway client group, e.g. careers companies, Probation Service, youth organisations, local authority social services, health workers etc. Though collaboration is essential, for the Gateway to operate effectively there is a need for some form of control to be exercised over entry. Initially managed by TECs, the Gateway is now managed by TECs and Career Companies, with Career Companies taking the lead management and administration role in this the second year of operation (2000/2001). Gateway will become part of the Assembly's mainstream provision in April 2001.

A preliminary evaluation of Youth Gateway has taken place and a second evaluation will look at the longer-term aspects of the Gateway strategy and how it relates to other Assembly programmes.

The National Assembly has endorsed the proposal in the Education and Training Action Plan for the establishment of "Careers Wales" - an independent, national all-age guidance service. Careers Wales will have a central role in promoting learning and reducing the waste that results from poor choices. The new service will be required to work closely with local partners, including the probation service and prison support services, to re-integrate young people into education, training and employment. Much good work is already being done in this area through partnership arrangements with Young Offenders Institutions.

5. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The **Children and Youth Partnership Fund**, which was launched in December 1999, is aimed at developing ways of combating social exclusion and encouraging young people away from crime, drugs, vandalism and truancy. The Fund is delivered by local partnerships across Wales, which include all relevant local authority services, the health service and the voluntary sector. A total of £25 million is available between 1999 and 2003.

Another programme which will have an impact on children throughout Wales is **Sure Start**. Very young children should be given the best possible start in life and the scheme seeks to ensure that children from deprived areas do not begin their formal education at a disadvantage. Partnerships of local authorities and health services have drawn up plans with the specific aim of improving the health, ability to learn and social development of children aged three and under. Again, £25 million is available over 3 years.

(Also relevant: Crime and Disorder Act 1998 - Parenting Orders; Child Safety Orders; Child Curfew Orders - Crime Reduction Programme - On Track; Youth Inclusion.)

6. SUBSTANCE MISUSE

The National Assembly launched a refocused **Welsh substance misuse strategy** in May 2000. This new strategy '*Tackling Substance Misuse in Wales: A Partnership Approach*' will build on the good work that has already been done in Wales, but will maintain an emphasis on helping children and young

people to resist substance misuse so that they can achieve their full potential in society. Integration and co-ordination will be key features of the new strategy. The misuse of substances can propel individuals into damaging situations, including unhealthy lifestyles, marginality from education or labour market, homelessness and involvement in crime. At the same time, substance misuse is more prevalent in these situations because people do not have the opportunity to lead fulfilling lives. The new strategy will stress the importance of these connections, and of ensuring that action to tackle substance misuse assumes a key role in wider policy agendas such as social inclusion, economic development, public health and crime and disorder.

The Assembly is making £1.5 million per year available for a Drug and alcohol Treatment Fund. This initiative, which will contribute to the Treatment Aim of the new strategy, is helping to ensure that effective, timely treatment and care for substance misusers is available, particularly to those in the vulnerable groups. Rehabilitation and other treatment programmes for substance misusers have shown real gains in crime reduction.

The Home Office has made £20 million available over 3 years for the development of **Drug Arrest Referral** projects in England and Wales. The face-to-face arrest referral schemes are intended to impact on drug-related offending in England and Wales. They involve a mixture of on-site and on-call drug workers managed and supported by drug agencies. Police forces, which had successfully bid for funding, under this initiative were asked to draw up detailed action plans by the end of January 2000.

The Home Office CARATs (Counselling, Assessment, Referral, Advice and Throughcare) scheme is a multi-agency approach to tackling drug abuse in prisons and, for the first time, co-ordinates support for prisoners after release.

(Also relevant - Sections 61-64 of the Crime and Disorder Act - The Drug Treatment and Testing Order - a new community sentence aimed at breaking the link between drug use and crime.)

7. YOUTH OFFENDING

The Youth Justice Board was established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to monitor the youth justice system; to advise the Home Secretary on the operation of that system, on how the principal aim of that system of preventing offending might most effectively be pursued and an drawing up standards for the work of youth offending teams; and to identify and disseminate good practice.

Youth Offending Teams in England and Wales have been introduced by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and became formally operational in April 2000. The Teams deliver the full range of local youth justice services in a radically new way, by requiring close inter-agency co-operation between local authorities, police, probation and health authorities.

Each local authority, in consultation with its statutory partners, has to produce an annual youth justice plan setting out how services in their area are to be provided and funded. The Youth Justice Board

issued guidance on the key information it required in each youth justice plan. The second round of youth justice plans will need to be prepared by all youth offending teams towards the end of this year.

There have been three bidding rounds under the **Youth Justice Board Development Fund** for projects concerned with bail support and crime prevention. £35 million over a 3 year period was set aside for grants for bail support and supervision and other remand related initiatives during the first round of bail support grant bids. There were 8 successful Welsh bids - amounting to a total of £1.3 million grant support. A further opportunity was recently provided by the Youth Justice Board to those areas which did not (for whatever reason) receive a grant in the first round of bail support grant. A total of 5 bids were received from Welsh authorities amounting to £689,642.

In addition to this, a further phase of grants totalling £50 million over a 3 year period, was made available for youth justice services and intervention programmes designed to change offending behaviour. A total of 17 bids from Wales were successful, with the Board making available a total of £3.1 million in grant in Wales - 8.6% of total.

The Treasury has also agreed that £12 million remaining from the £35 million ring-fenced for bail support can be used for new small grant schemes under which all youth offending teams will be entitled to apply for grant on the basis of pence per head of population. The grants will be aimed at: i) purchasing information systems; ii) planning and development work for through-care programmes for young offences in secure facilities; and iii) mapping local resources for parenting programmes. Grant will be paid on the basis of pence per head of population in the 10 to 17 year old age range.

Cardiff, which is one of eight areas in England and Wales chosen to be Youth Justice Board Pathway (Exemplar) projects, has been awarded a total of £561,000. NACRO, as part of their work programme for the Assembly, will now be advising Cardiff on various aspects of service delivery to help ensure the City retains the high standards required for Pathway Status.

The Assembly has awarded a three year grant (£371,000) to NACRO (Cymru) towards the funding of a **Youth Offending Unit in Wales**. NACRO will provide consultancy services to local agencies in the development of their youth offending teams; encourage the development of four regional youth offending strategies in Wales and provide additional support to Cardiff as a Pathway Site.

The Youth justice Board has announced that it will be funding a new national programme, known as the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme, which will target the 2,500 offenders who it is estimated commit 25% of youth crimes. The 3 year programme, run by YOTs, will identify the hardcore offenders to be included and will ensure the delivery of an intensive and highly structured programme. The schemes will initially be focused in major conurbations where the greatest volume of hardcore offenders is concentrated. The Board will fund the programme for 3 years commencing in 2001.

(Also relevant - Crime Reduction Programme - On Track; Youth Inclusion.)

8. CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAMME

The Crime Reduction Programme, amounting to £400 million over 3 years for England and Wales, will invest in a range of initiatives offering significant and sustained impact on the crime rate. In 1999-2000 over £150 million was available across England and Wales for CCTV alone - the largest single amount ever set aside for this crime prevention tool. The Programme will support evidence based research projects which can be emulated elsewhere; it is open to local crime reduction partnerships, and other agencies such as local education authorities, to apply for the funding. Several elements of the Programme have already been introduced.

Targeted Policing

For known crime hotspots. Under Round 1 two Welsh projects were approved: £500,000 to Rhondda Cynon Taff to reduce crime and disorder problems associated with children's homes; £498,000 to Cardiff to reduce alcohol related street violence. A project to improve security at an industrial estate in Wrexham succeeded under the second round, with a grant of £188,000.

Reducing Burglary

One Welsh project was approved as a Strategic Development Scheme: £60,200 for a project in St Mellons. Two other projects, for North Wales and Bridgend, were awarded £33,300 and £12,200 respectively under Round 1. Round 2 is currently being run as a rolling programme.

Intervention work in schools

Five Welsh projects approved covering nine schools; funding of £1.06 million is supporting work to improve schools' management of pupil behaviour and reduce bullying, truancy and exclusions.

CCTV Challenge Fund

£153 million for England and Wales to be spent over 3 years, £3 million of which is for social housing schemes in Wales. First round bids approved to date have seen funding of over £3 million coming to Wales. Round 2 is currently being run as a rolling programme.

On Track - Multiple Intervention Programme

Another element of the Crime Reduction Programme, 'On Track' is a multiple intervention crime reduction programme targeted at children at risk of getting involved in crime. The programme is aimed at children aged 4-11 and will run for up to 7 years. Two Welsh projects have been approved - for Rhondda Cynon Taff and Bridgend - and will each receive funding in excess of £1 million over the life of the scheme.

Youth Inclusion

A £33 million Home Office, DETR, DfEE, Youth Justice Board Programme aimed at 40-50 young people on each of 200 of the worst estates in England and Wales over 3 years, with an eventual target of 400 in 5 years. It will build on the 'Youth Works' model which has already been piloted with some success in Leeds, Blackburn and Sunderland; the model establishes youth works projects and brings together regeneration, environmentalism and crime reduction. Wales will receive a proportionate share of Crime Reduction Programme and Youth Justice Board funding. The latter is already supporting a pilot project in Cardiff and two other local authorities are drawing up proposals for schemes for some of the worst estates in the most deprived wards in Wales - in Merthyr Tydfil and Wrexham.

Neighbourhood Wardens

Five projects for new or extended Neighbourhood Warden Schemes have been approved for Wales with grants totalling £287,947.

Violence Against Women

Bids were invited from multi-agency partnerships to develop and implement local strategies for reducing domestic violence, and rape and sexual assault. Two Welsh projects were successful - for Bridgend and Rhondda Cynon Taff - and will receive £32,500 in total.

Tackling Prostitution: What Works?

An amount of £500,000 has been made available to fund about 5 projects aimed at tackling crime and disorder associated with prostitution in England and Wales. The closing date for applications is 20 October.

Atodiad 5

Peter LAW AM

Our ref:PL 00886/00

Ann Jones AM
Assembly Member for the Vale of Clwyd
National Assembly Building
Pierhead Street
Cardiff Bay

Dear Ann

Thank you for your letter of 11 July, which I note that you have also sent to Edwina Hart AM.

As the Assembly Secretary for Local Government and Housing with responsibility for community regeneration, I am responding to both letters.

The Assembly is determined to combat poverty and social disadvantage and to bridge the gap between the most deprived communities in Wales and the more affluent ones. The consultation document 'Communities First' which issued in April, put forward a proposal to establish cross sectoral and multi agency methods of designing policy and local service delivery, involving the direct participation of the community in planning and developing the services delivered to that community. Local authorities will have a crucial role in this approach, being in a key position to encourage, support and help co-ordinate the development of community regeneration plans.

"Communities First" will sponsor the creation of partnerships which draw directly from the local authority, other statutory agents, the voluntary and private sectors and most importantly the communities themselves.

Responses to the initial consultation document are being analysed, along with feedback from the two developmental seminars, the area based discussion and community focus groups.

A second consultation document will issue late in August which will set out a more detailed policy and funding framework and I will ensure you receive a copy.

I hope this is helpful.