



Home Office

Crime Reduction & Community Safety Group

Tilley Awards 2008 Application form

Please ensure that you have read the guidance before completing this form. **By making an application to the awards, entrants are agreeing to abide by the conditions laid out in the guidance.** Please complete the following form in full, within the stated word limit and ensuring the file size is no more than 1MB. Failure to do so will result in your entry being rejected from the competition.

Completed application forms should be e-mailed to tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

All entries must be received by noon on **Friday 25th April 2008**. No entries will be accepted after this time/date. Any queries on the application process should be directed to Alex Blackwell on 0207 035 4811.

Section A: Application basics

1. Title of the project: Beltwood Estate Dangerous and Nuisance Animals.
2. Key issue that the project is addressing; Animal Related Anti-Social Behaviour.

Author contact details

3. Name of application author: PC Mark Deacon 856MD Co-author
4. Organisation submitting the application: Metropolitan Police College Ward Safer Neighbourhoods Team (Southwark)
5. Full postal address: East Dulwich Police Station 173-183 Lordship Lane London SE22 8HA
6. Email address: mark.deacon@met.police.uk
7. Telephone number: 0208 721 2442

Secondary project contact details

8. Name of secondary contact involved in the project: Joan Leary (Southwark Council) Co-author.
9. Secondary contact email address: joan.leary@southwark.gov.uk
10. Secondary contact telephone number: 07903 652962

Endorsing representative contact details

11. Name of endorsing senior representative from lead organisation: Chief Superintendent Malcolm Tillyer

12. Endorsing representative's email address: malcolm.tillyer@met.police.uk

13. For all entries from England & Wales please state which Government Office or Welsh Assembly Government your organisation is covered by e.g. GO East Midlands: London.

14. Please mark this box with an X to indicate that all organisations involved in the project have been notified of this entry (this is to prevent duplicate entries of the same project):



Section B: Summary of application - *In no more than 400 words use this space to provide a summary of your project under the stated headings (see guidance for more information).*

Scanning:

In November 2006, College Ward Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) began a problem solving process to address escalating animal nuisance in the Sydenham Hill area after forty-eight animal related complaints had been received by the police within a two month period. Including noise nuisance, serious dog bites, straying dogs causing traffic collisions and disruption to local rail services.

Analysis:

The initial problem solving approach was to scan police indices. This allowed us to group incidents into clusters. We found related and recurring incidents of straying animals causing alarm and injury. It was clear that this was a long-term problem, which would require a partnership approach. Our quantitative and qualitative data from ward panel meetings, indicated that the epicentre was The Beltwood House Estate, which is a fifty-room mansion on a 3.5-acre site containing mews cottages and a lodge house.

A multi-agency partnership was created, which adopted a problem solving approach utilising the SARA model of scanning analysis response and assessment. We identified two objectives;

- To end instances of animals escaping or causing a nuisance by July 2007.
- To eradicate the fear of animal nuisance which was negatively affecting residents' quality of life.

Response:

- Engagement with the perpetrator with a preventative and advisory approach, to modify behaviour.
- Dog Control Orders were granted by the court on two Alsatians, the orders required leashing, muzzling, chipping and improved perimeters to the estate. Breaches were prosecuted, convictions were obtained and these dogs were destroyed.
- A dog was seized under the Dangerous Dogs Act and a destruction order obtained.
- Employees were convicted for allowing a dog to be dangerously out of control.
- Service and prosecution of Environmental Protection Act Notices in relation to noise.
- An interim ASBO obtained prohibiting the owner from keeping animals there or causing nuisance
- The entire estate was seized along with all animals (BBC and ITV filmed the eviction).
- A lifetime ASBO was granted preventing the owner from keeping animals throughout England and Wales.

Assessment:

The success of this project has seen a 100% drop in calls to police and other agencies since July 2007. A recent survey of residents indicates the local community are satisfied that effective action has been taken to eradicate the problem. It was recognised that the partnership working and enforcement led by College SNT resolved this case of entrenched anti-social behaviour.

State number of words: 395.

Section C: Description of project - Describe the project in no more than 4,000 words. Please refer to the full guidance for more information on what the description should cover, in particular section 12.

Scanning:

In the autumn of 2006 College Ward Safer Neighbourhood Team and Southwark Council received 48 complaints from local residents and members of the public relating to animal nuisance in the Sydenham Hill area. Initial enquiries indicated that the problems emanated from the Beltwood House Estate.

This is a grade two-listed mansion with fifty rooms, set in 3.5 acres of grounds. To the south of the estate is Sydenham Hill, which is a busy commuter route for vehicles and pedestrians on their way to the railway station. To the north of the estate is Crescent Wood Road, which has a mixture of residential properties. To the west, the estate also adjoins the Dulwich Wood House public house.

Map and aerial photo showing Beltwood Estate outlined in BLUE. Showing Public House, Stations and Woods.



A scanning exercise revealed the objectives centred on resolving the following issues:

1. Straying animals.
2. Dogs biting members of the public.
3. Packs of dogs terrorising members of the public.
4. Animals escaping and causing danger to road users (ie vehicles swerving to avoid impact).
5. Animals fouling and causing damage to resident's gardens.
6. Severe noise nuisance caused by distressed dogs barking continuously day and night.
7. Animals straying onto railway lines, causing travel disruption and alarm to passengers.
8. The local public house received complaints from customers resulting in loss of business.

These issues were presented to the College SNT ward panel in November 2006 and the panel set the following priority;

Achieve a reduction in the instances of animals from Beltwood House, escaping or causing a nuisance to the public to zero by July 2007. To eradicate the fear of animal nuisance which is negatively affecting local residents quality of life.

Analysis:

College Ward SNT discovered that the owner/occupier of Beltwood House, kept approximately 25 dogs and two horses at the property. Dogs were left un-supervised and routinely allowed to roam the grounds of Beltwood House. The owner / occupier failed to maintain the fences of the estate, resulting in numerous incidents of animals escaping and causing havoc.

Between October and November 2006 there were nineteen calls to the police regarding dogs straying in the area of Beltwood House. Dogs were regularly seen roaming in packs and behaving aggressively. Indices show that prior to this, there were no related reports made to police.

Intelligence showed that there were many other occasions when straying dogs had gone unreported, due to helpful members of the public returning dogs to Beltwood House themselves or passing them on to other agencies such as council dog wardens or Battersea Dogs and Cats Home.

Southwark council logged numerous noise nuisance complaints regarding Beltwood House and calls have been made to the Southwark Anti-Social Behaviour Unit hotline.

The following is a sample of related calls made to police;

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1) 2 nd October 2006. | 2 stray puppies found. |
| 2) 5 th October 2006. | 6 dogs on the loose. Dog bite victim hospitalised. |
| 3) 5 th October 2006. | 2 dog bite victims taken to GP surgery. |
| 4) 9 th October 2006. | Pack of dogs sighted. |
| 5) 9 th October 2006. | 7 dogs and a horse loose on busy road. |
| 6) Mid October 2006. | Male bitten by Alsatian. |
| 7) 17 th October 2006. | Toddler pushed over by 2 escaped dogs. |
| 8) 19 th October 2006. | RTA involving stray dog. |
| 9) 22 nd October 2006. | A number of vicious Alsatians seen loose in Sydenham Hill. |
| 10) 22 nd October 2006. | 4 dogs on loose, chased a passer by. |
| 11) 26 th October 2006. | 10 dogs of various breeds running loose on Sydenham Hill. |
| 12) 31 st October 2006. | Aggressive Alsatian unleashed in area. Nearly attacked young girl. |
| 13) 02 nd November 2006. | Dogs in separate incidents bit 2 males. |
| 14) 03 rd November 2006. | Black Alsatian running loose at location. |
| 15) 03 rd November 2006. | 5 alarming dogs on the loose. |
| 16) 03 rd November 2006. | 4 distressed dogs running in and out of traffic, causing vehicles to swerve. |
| 17) 03 rd November 2006. | Several dogs in Sydenham Hill attacked a female. Sustained severe wounds. |
| 18) 12 th November 2006. | 6 distressed dogs found in car. Dogs barking wildly. Car covered in faeces. |
| 19) 12 th November 2006. | Woman chased by 5 dogs which included aggressive Alsatians. |

The above incidents had not been linked together until the Safer Neighbourhood Team carried an analysis. Due the nature of response policing, each incident had been dealt with in isolation. As a result, the underlying problem had not been identified and continued to place a drain on police and other agency resources. A comparison with reliable data from the same period in the previous year, revealed few animal related problems were occurring in the area. This was clearly an emerging problem.

Table Showing Noise Nuisance Log of Southwark Council Environmental Health Department.

The table shows few complaints of animal noise prior to March 2006. In September 2006 a sharp increase is recorded with a peak in October and November 2006.

Beltwood Estate Dangerous and Nuisance Animals.

APP Number	Date	Time received	Officer	Complaint/Action
128258	17/08/02	22:02	BJG	Loud amplified music from Marquee
154780	02/02/04	03:27	PGM	Barking dog(s)
158382	20/05/04	09:34	GXR	Barking dog(s)
0 29915	06/01/05	11:07	LMV	Occasional Entertainment Licence Application
0 34570	13/04/05	14:01	DZL	Annual Entertainment Licence Application
0 41091	17/07/05	01:14	BCY	Loud amplified music
0 41119	17/07/05	08:29	DZL	Loud amplified music
0 41113	17/07/05	05:24	RWW	Loud amplified music
	17/07/05			Abatement Notice - Domestic
	18/072005			S.16 LG (MP)A 1976 served by hand
	21/07/07			Abatement Notice - Commercial S.80 EPA 90 served by hand
0 42215	29/07/05	11:43	BJL	Cllr enquiry re: Private parties
0 44959	28/08/05	22:10	RWW	Loud amplified music
0 44962	28/08/05	22:31	RWW	Live band
0 44969	28/08/05	23:19	RWW	Loud amplified music
0 55422	12/03/06	17:48	AXS	Barking dog(s)
0 66814	31/08/06	22:50	LMV	Barking dog(s)
0 66819	01/09/06	00:51	AWR	Barking dog(s)
0 67745	15/09/06	16:40	HKC	Commercial Odour
0 67832	17/09/06	20:21	IAJ	Barking dog(s)
0 67831	17/09/06	20:15	MJO	Barking dog(s)
0 67964	19/09/06	23:14	AXO	Barking dog(s)
0 68037	20/09/06	21:47	AXS	Barking dog(s)
0 68038	20/09/06	22:20	DZL	Barking dog(s)
0 68090	21/09/06	21:49	MJO	Barking dog(s)
0 68114	22/09/06	11:32	BJL	Barking dog(s)
0 68382	26/09/06	19:37	MLA	Barking dog(s)
0 70560	16/10/06	13:55	HKC	Barking dog(s)
0 70554	16/10/06	12:40	HKK	Barking dog(s)
0 70586	16/10/06	22:50	SXE	Barking dog(s)
0 70578	16/10/06	18:16	TMC	Barking dog(s)
	17/10/06			Abatement Notice - Domestic S.80 (Barking dogs) EPA 90
0 73700	12/12/06	14:14	HKK	Barking dog(s)
0 78301	25/03/07	16:21	LMV	Barking dog(s)
Tracey Lee Their				
Beltwood Mansions				
41 Sydenham Hill				
London				
SE26 6TH				

List of formal allegations made to police in the same period: -

- 1) CRIS 3038727/06 31/10/2006. Female sustained 2 small bruises and a small scratch to lower forearm where the dog bit. Attacked by a black Alsatian.
- 2) CRIS 3038911/06 02/11/2006. Male sustained cuts to right arm during dog attack. Further male sustained scratches to right arm during a dog attack. Attacked by a black tanned Alsatian.
- 3) CRIS 3035189/06 05/10/2006. Male sustained small puncture wound to the right forearm from an Alsatian.
- 4) CRIS 3229289/06 04/10/2006. Male sustained minor injury to right hand. Attacked by a longhaired German shepherd.
- 5) CRIS 3039009/06 03/11/2006. Female sustained puncture wounds.

The victims of dog attacks have been left injured and traumatised. Several of whom, received disfiguring injuries. For example, a female commuter walking to Sydenham Hill railway station encountered several dogs, which had escaped through a hole in the fence of Beltwood House and attacked her. An Alsatian bit her forearm and dragged her into the main road causing traffic to swerve to avoid hitting her.

Beltwood Estate Dangerous and Nuisance Animals.

Interrogation of police and other council indices clearly identified the source of the animal problems as Beltwood House. It was clear that the owner / occupier did not take effective control of her animals. Her failure to erect and maintain secure perimeter fencing caused animals to escape. Consultation with local residents revealed widespread complaints of noise nuisance from incessant dog barking and severe animal welfare concerns due to neglect. Using the problem analysis triangle (PAT), it became clear that there were two areas to be addressed. Firstly, the location would continue to be a problem until the boundary of the estate was secure. It was decided that our response would be to take steps to prevent animals escaping. Secondly, the behaviour of the offender would need to be addressed. This took the form of a mixture of (at first) advisory engagement and if necessary, legal interventions. Thirdly, many different types of victim had been identified. There were residents, passing pedestrians, local business, rail and road commuters. The incidents were spread over a large geographical area. It therefore was not feasible to remove the victims from the situation.

Battersea Dogs Home recorded 34 incidents of stray dogs from Beltwood being brought in by council dog wardens or the police. 28 of these incidents had taken place after 9th May 2006. The cost of housing and providing medical treatment for the Beltwood dogs cost this registered charity in excess of £54,000.

The RSPCA have provided evidence of numerous calls from members of the public expressing concern over animal neglect at Beltwood.

The owner / occupier of Beltwood has failed to comply with reasonable requirements to control her animals which have caused noise nuisance to neighbours, intimidation and physical harm to members of the public.

College Ward SNT adopted a pro-active approach to engaging partners and stakeholders in a problem-solving forum to effectively respond to the situation. In late November 2006 the first multi-agency meeting was held to coordinate action. Monthly meetings were arranged thereafter to share information regarding complaints and enforcement activity.

Partners include: -

- *Southwark Community Wardens.*
- *RSPCA Inspectors*
- *Battersea Dogs Home*
- *Council Dog Wardens*
- *Southwark Anti-Social Behaviour Unit*
- *Southwark Environmental Health*
- *Local Councillor*
- *MPS Dog Handler*
- *British Transport Police*
- *College Safer Neighbourhood Team*

Response:

Upon first approaching the owner / occupier of Beltwood, College SNT and agency partners initially adopted a preventative / advisory role. This was in order to foster changes in her behaviour without resorting to legal action. She was found to be unwilling to accept that the problem existed at all. She appeared unconcerned about the safety and well being of the local community. Investigations revealed no underlying mental health issues.

The owner / occupier blamed the police and local authority for the continuing escape of her animals. She alleged that the police had failed to investigate allegations she had made of criminal damage to her perimeter fence. Leaflets were posted to local residence asking if they had seen anything suspicious and encouraging them to report any vandalism of the fencing. No responses were received and close inspection of the fences indicated that the problem was a lack of maintenance and general wear and tear rather than criminal damage, which had lead to insecure fencing.

The owner of Beltwood and her staff were interviewed by College Ward SNT regarding the animal nuisance and various offences. She would not give a commitment to maintain her fencing or to control her animals. A neighbour in an adjoining property is a cardiac surgeon who was suffering sleep deprivation due to the persistent barking. He

Beltwood Estate Dangerous and Nuisance Animals.

entered the estate and tried to reason with the owner. She refused to discuss the matter and he was bitten on the arm by an Alsatian and escorted from the premises by her employees.

The early priority was to prevent further dog attacks. In November 2006, police seized a dog responsible for repeated attacks and biting members of the public. Following a series of court hearings it was eventually destroyed in October 2007 and two employees were found guilty of offences under the Dangerous Dogs act.

A co-ordinated partnership approach was taken to enforcement actions. Each agency initiated legal interventions designed to compliment each other. Southwark Council served a Section 80 Notice under the Environmental Protection Act in October 2007. A further Section 80 notice followed this in January 2007 requiring the construction of an internal perimeter fence to contain the animals. Successful prosecutions ensued due to the owner's failure to comply with the notices. The owner was fined but failed to abate the nuisance.

Assisted by the MPS Dog Section, College SNT obtained Dog Control Orders under Dogs Act 1871 on two Alsatis called Guinness and Lucy that required the owner to:

Keep the dogs in a secure courtyard at the rear of Beltwood House.

Dogs to be 'micro-chipped' and kept leashed or muzzled in Beltwood grounds or in any public place.

The boundary fence at Beltwood House to be kept secure and maintained.

These conditions were breached and prosecutions have been pursued in the magistrate's court. The owner failed to attend hearings and multiple adjournments were granted. The final hearing took place in December 2007. Four convictions were obtained and heavy fines were imposed. These dogs were eventually destroyed.

In February 2007 an employee was cautioned for allowing a dog to be dangerously out of control and another was charged for this offence under the Dangerous Dogs Act. He was convicted of this offence in August 2007 and received a fine and community sentence.

During the March 2007 review, It was clear to the multi agency partnership that the agreed interventions had not resolved the nuisance. The owner would not comply with statutory notices and was adept at delaying legal processes in the magistrates' court. The RSPCA carried out a further inspection and concluded that animal neglect was not sufficient to warrant prosecutions under the new 'un-tested' Animal Welfare Act 2006.

The local community who had been kept updated by phone, letter and emails felt increasingly frustrated that the legal interventions made by the police and Environmental Health had failed to abate the animal nuisance. Dogs and horses continued to escape and the noise nuisance persisted. This was despite the fact that prosecutions had prevented any further dog attacks .A problem solving review indicated that our actions to date were only dealing with the consequences of the problem and not the root cause.

As part of the partnership approach to the issues and in order to provide a sustainable exit strategy, Southwark Anti-Social Behaviour Unit was tasked with investigating if an Anti-Social Behaviour Order would be effective. A decision was made to apply for an interim Anti –Social Behaviour Order to prevent the owner from being able to cause noise or to keep animals at Beltwood House. This was a large, complex project. Local residents and agencies provided 40 witness statements and over 500 pages of evidence were gathered.

The interim ASBO was granted In May 2007 and it prohibited the owner from keeping animals on the Beltwood Estate and causing noise nuisance. Unfortunately, the defendant failed to comply with this order and left the country to avoid prosecution. Inadequate arrangements were made to care for the animals and animal welfare became a serious issue.

Problem solving meetings continued and College Ward SNT learned that Lambeth County Court bailiffs had made unsuccessful attempts to execute a warrant for possession of Beltwood House due to mortgage arrears. They had been unable to enter the premises due to the pack of hostile dogs that roamed the grounds. College SNT and Southwark Council carried out risk assessments and planned an operation to assist the bailiffs in the execution of the warrant. The objectives were to prevent a breach of the peace, safeguard the personal safety of the bailiffs and to ensure that the animals were not left abandoned following the eviction.

The eviction involving all agencies, took place on 16/07/2007. This was a complex operation requiring meticulous

planning and cross agency cooperation. The premises were secured and the animals were safely removed to Battersea Dogs Home and the international league for the protection of horses (ILPH). It generated considerable media interest and was made into a documentary by the BBC and broadcast in August 2007. Due to the distressing images of animal neglect contained within the documentary, the BBC issued a warning to viewers prior to transmission of the program. In the documentary Southwark dog warden James Lytle said "there's no reason that any dog in this country should live like this". Manager of Battersea Dogs Home Scott Craddock said "it's an extreme case".

At this point it was discovered that the former owner / occupier of the Beltwood Estate had returned to England and also owned four other large properties within the borough of Lambeth. Intelligence suggested that similar problems were occurring at these properties. A consequence of modern policing techniques can be a displacement of problems rather than resolution. In order to avoid this effect, contact was made with Lambeth council, which lead to extensive exchanges of information. Further evidence was obtained and statements were taken from witnesses in Lambeth. An application to vary the order was made to the court. On 12/12/2007 the court granted a lifetime Anti-Social Behaviour Order that prohibits the defendant from keeping animals anywhere in England and Wales.

This was an important outcome as the defendant has now made financial arrangements, which have allowed her to regain possession of Beltwood House. The Anti-Social Behaviour Order effectively prevents any further animal nuisance.

Assessment:

Following multi-agency interventions, there have been no further animal related offences recorded at Beltwood House since July 2007. However, breaches of the 'asbo' took place at one of the defendant's Lambeth properties. Following prosecution by the SNT, five 'breach' convictions were obtained.

The undertaking of this problem solving process has demonstrated that partnership working and enforcement can have a positive result on entrenched anti-social behaviour.

This is a case where the presenting problem turned out to have unforeseen implications and the partnership process was well employed in finding resolution.

Following obtaining Dog Control Orders in April 2007, there were no further reports of dog bites. There was also a direct correlation to the number of stray dogs arriving at Battersea Dogs Home, which had dramatically reduced.

"I can walk to the station now without being frightened or attacked by stray dogs"

"I do not get woken up by barking dogs at 5.00am anymore".

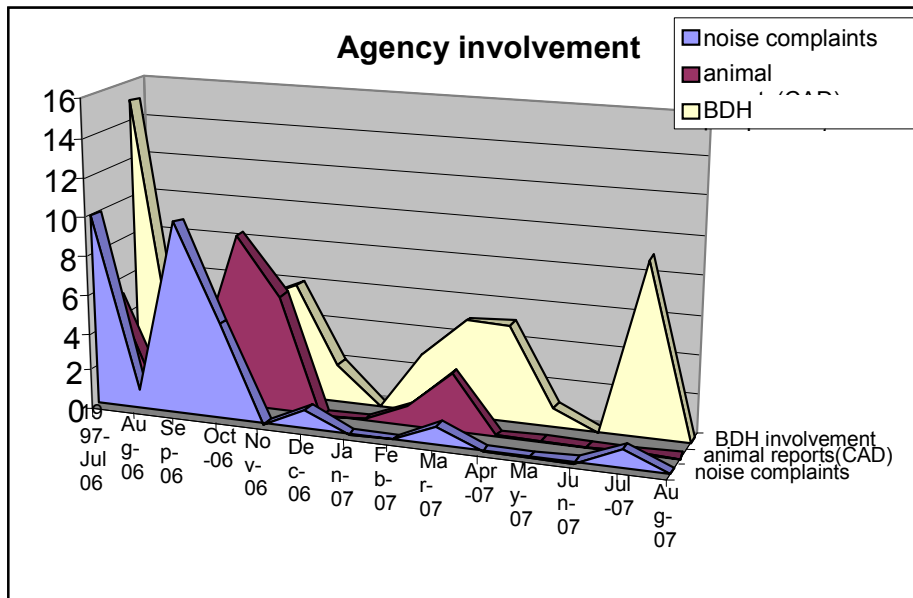
"My life has been improved no end since the problems have been sorted out. I have been able to sleep and keep my bedroom window open at night".

"The problems have stopped now they've gone"!

"You have always responded promptly and kept us informed. The team are professional, even handed and have really listened and solved a major problem in our area".

Quotes from citizen impact survey.

The graph below illustrates the levels of police (via Daris (CAD)), council noise unit and Battersea Dogs Home involvement between August 2006 and July 2007.



The graph shows levels of involvement and incidents recorded by agency. The blue trace shows noise complaints, which clearly peaked in the summer and autumn of 2006. A dramatic reduction is indicated following the early legal interventions between November 2006 and January 2007. It is interesting to see the purple trace, which shows police calls following a similar trend. The cream coloured trace representing Beltwood dogs arriving at Battersea Dogs Home, shows that straying continued to be a problem until the eviction in July 2007. This represents a 100% reduction.

The local community in Sydenham Hill felt a lot of compassion for the animals kept at Beltwood House, despite the nuisance, which had been caused. They were very distressed and anxious when they learnt stray dogs had been injured and killed on the railway line and hit by motor vehicles. There was widespread relief that they knew animals were being properly cared for by Battersea Dogs home and the International league for the protection of horses.

A major difficulty in this case was the management of multiple prosecutions; we attended 30 separate court hearings. The wealthy defendant was adept at manipulating the legal process and getting matters adjourned. We often felt thwarted by gaps in animal related legislation. We narrowly avoided losing some cases due to the Crown Prosecution Service procedures. Every time we attended court we would have to brief a new prosecutor and case files were often incomplete. We experienced setbacks but were determined to find a resolution and showed tenacity in changing tack to find new interventions to provide a permanent resolution for our local residents.

The Beltwood House multi-agency information sharing group's approach has been recognised within the borough as an example of good practice and has been adopted across the Safer Southwark Partnership. When a large number of partners are involved it is possible to lose focus and meetings can become talking shops instead of tasking forums. We found it helpful to delegate tasks to sub groups to ensure completion.

A positive outcome from this project has increased community spirit amongst local residents. This common problem has united the local community. The 'can do' approach taken by the Safer Neighbourhoods Team and other agencies and the ongoing commitment that was shown, overcame the initial negativity felt by residents. Residents were kept informed and updated on all interventions by phone calls, emails, leaflet drops and home visits.

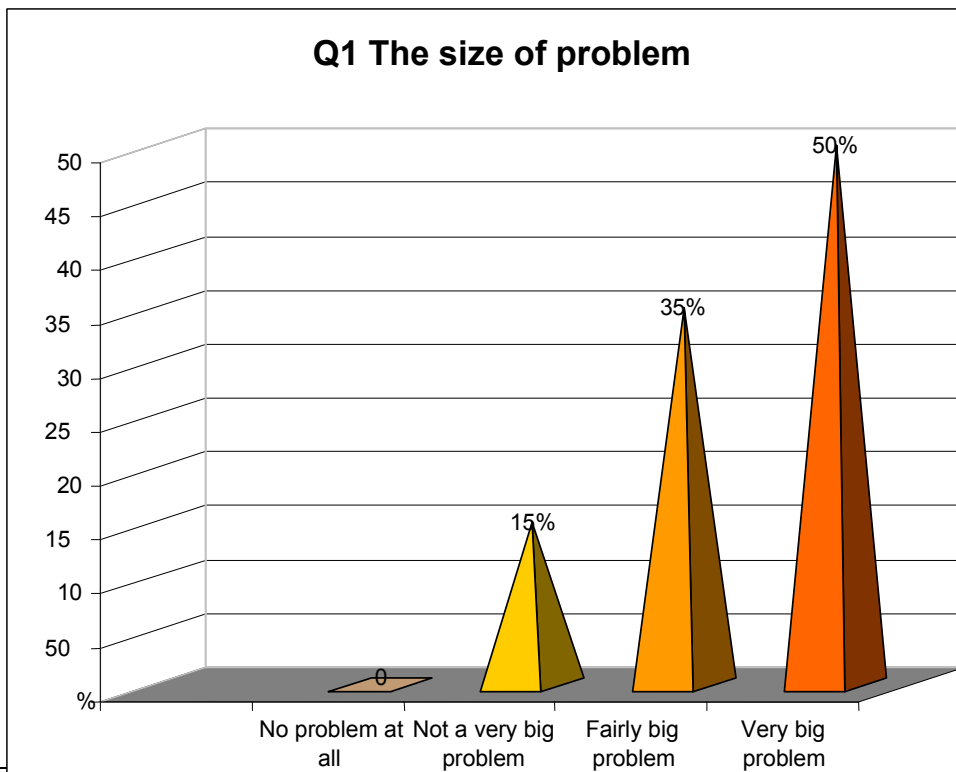
Beltwood Estate Dangerous and Nuisance Animals.

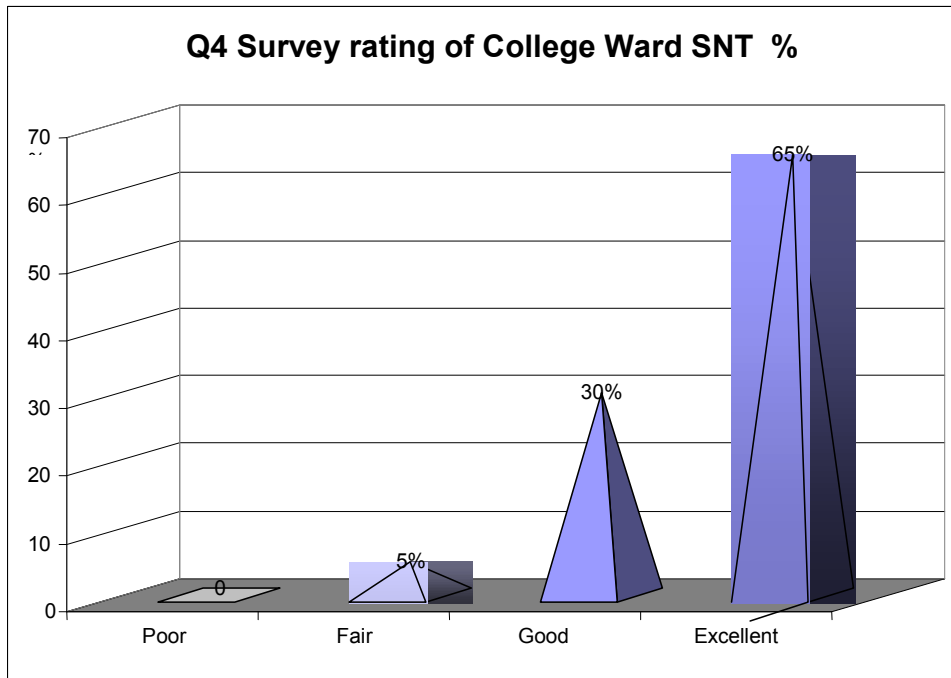
This encouraged ten local residents to agree to give evidence in court. Enhanced victim and witness support was given by all the agencies to maximise evidential opportunities at court. This led directly to a variety of successful legal interventions. Costs of twenty-five thousand pounds were obtained against the defendant.

As part of the evaluation process, in October 2007 College Ward SNT carried out a citizen impact survey to measure levels of satisfaction with the project and to provide an opportunity for comment. 34 responses from residents were received.

Following are graphs and tables showing results of the citizen impact survey.

	in respect of animal and noise nuisance, do you consider the situation has improved in the last few months?				
Q2		Not at all	Slightly better	Much better	Problems have stopped completely
		0	0	20%	80%
	Do you feel you have been kept informed regarding Police and Local authority action to resolve animal and noise nuisance in your area?				
Q3		Don't know	Not at all informed	Fairly well informed	Very well informed
		0	0	40%	60%





“The way the police have treated me and kept me informed about the case has been brilliant”.

“Business has picked up considerably and we haven’t had any complaints from customers lately”.

“We are so pleased that this animal nuisance has ended. Thank you for working so hard to resolve it”.

“We think the College Ward SNT Team have improved our quality of life immeasurably”.

“Top job”.

Quotes from citizen impact survey.

The ward panel objective was to achieve a reduction in the instances of animals from Beltwood House escaping or causing a nuisance to the public to zero by July 2007. The evidence from the citizen impact survey, police and other agency reporting systems indicates that this objective has been achieved and this can be directly attributed to the partnership approach led by the Safer Neighbourhoods Team. The survey clearly shows that the partnership has achieved the second part of the objective, which was to eradicate the fear of animal nuisance in the local area.

By facilitating effective channels of communication between all of the stakeholders and promoting community engagement we have been able to bring a variety of responses to bear on issues concerned and to eradicate the problems faced by the local community.

Please state number of words: 3541.

Section D: Endorsement by Senior Representative - Please insert letter from endorsing representative, this will not count towards your word or 1MB size limit restrictions.

"I write to endorse the good work carried out by Southwark Borough, College Safer Neighbourhoods Team and its partner agencies over the past two years in tackling animal related anti-social behaviour in the Sydenham Hill area.

They led a coordinated and multi-agency problem-solving project to deal with the serious public concerns caused by dog attacks, straying animals and noise nuisance. The attention of the project team to the principles of problem solving has been to such a high standard that I believe they should be submitted to the Tilley Awards.

Winning this competition will demonstrate how Southwark Borough and its' partners understand that working together and listening to the communities we serve is essential to problem solving and improving the quality of life of our residents"

Chief Superintendent Malcolm Tillyer
Borough Commander London Borough of Southwark (Met Police)

Checklist for Applicants:

1. Have you read the process and application form guidance?
2. Have you completed all four sections of the application form in full including the endorsement from a senior representative?
3. Have you checked that your entry addresses all aspects of the judging criteria?
4. Have you advised all partner agencies that you are submitting an entry for your project?
5. Have you adhered to the formatting requirements within the guidance?
6. Have you checked whether there are any reasons why your project should **not** be publicised to other police forces, partner agencies and the general public e.g. civil or criminal proceedings pending in relation to your project?
7. Have you inserted your project name as a footer note on the application form? Go to View-Header and Footer to add it.
8. Have you saved you application form as a word document and entitled your message '**Tilley 08 entry (followed by project name in brackets)**' before emailing it?

Once you are satisfied that you have completed your application form in full please email it to Tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk. One hard copy must also be posted to Alex Blackwell at Home Office, Effective Practice & Communication Team, 4th Floor, Fry Building (SE Quarter), 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF and be received by 25th April 2008.