

1. Name of SOA case study

Street Football Initiative

2. What was the local need addressed by this SOA case study?

Provide an activity for young people as an alternative to low level offending particularly around vandalism and rowdy behaviour. Anti social behaviour by young people particularly on Friday and Saturday nights and during school holidays was also identified as a problem which could be relieved by the introduction of street football.

3. What was done – and by which partners?

Co-ordinated by a part-time Youth Worker and supported by volunteers from Grampian Police, Grampian Fire and Rescue and Youth Club members. The project provides a portable pitch which can be erected within any community and allows five a side football to be played by both males and females. The pitch is floodlit which allows games to take place during the winter nights. Games are played in the afternoon as well as evenings during the school holidays, with as many as 70 young people turning up for matches. Leagues are formed between different areas and these tournaments attract regular participants and spectators, with the inevitable downward impact on the potential for anti-social behaviour.

4. What is the evidence of the benefits for communities – or if the benefits are still to be delivered, what is the timeline for that?

It was introduced in 2007, as a small pilot project. During the year between April 2009 and March 2010, Street Football was deployed on 278 occasions. Last year anti-social behaviour incidents in the areas where street football takes place fell from 419 to 232.

5. What added value has the SOA process brought to the delivery of these benefits?

With the focus on anti social behaviour in national outcome 9, partners have committed their support to the project and has enabled it to grow from the initial small pilot.

6. What next steps are you taking to meet this local need?

Street football will continue to be supported by the CPP and given its huge success is an area which will continue into 2009-10. Indications for this first quarter of 2009-10 shows a continued reduction in anti social behaviour by young people. Games played on the pitch will also be expanded to include netball and touch rugby.



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