

**PROPOSAL FOR INVESTMENT – 2008 / 2009**  
**BUDGET**

**Ref: Appendix  
3**

Title	Pennine Lancashire Night Time Noise Service
Section	Environmental Health
Service	Street Scene and Neighbourhood Services
Submitted by	Environmental Health Manager

**Description of Proposal:**

Contribution to the costs of a joint Night Time Noise Service being developed by the six Pennine Lancashire councils.

Night time noise is a particular concern to residents in terms of anti-social behaviour and neighbour nuisance issues. As a relatively small council it is not cost effective for the Council to provide such a service on its own behalf.

The service would operate on Friday and Saturday evenings throughout the year and on the Sunday evening before a bank holiday. It will be built around a joint service currently operated by Hyndburn and Blackburn with Darwen Councils. This service includes specific provision for visiting officers. Between April and December 2007 this service dealt with 200 complaints and took formal enforcement action in 31 cases including 5 prosecutions.

**Impact on Corporate Priorities for Improvement:**

This proposal should have a beneficial impact on all the corporate priorities, but in particular:

- Keeping our Borough Clean and Green – This priority encompasses the community safety agenda and includes specific targets in relation to the Government’s “respect” agenda which are intended to address neighbour nuisance and anti-social behaviour.
- Improving Health and Well Being across the Borough – through having a positive impact on perceptions of how well people in the Borough get on with each other, by addressing neighbour nuisance issues.

**Outcome / Output which will be delivered:**

Specific outcomes are expected in terms of improvement in customer satisfaction scores in relation to:

- How well people get on together
- Perceptions of how the Council and partners address issues of anti-social behaviour.

This particular type of service is, when provided in this manner, likely to be relatively low cost but high impact in terms of customer perception of the Council’s ability to be proactive in terms of issues which concern residents.

**Timescale for implementation:**

As soon as formal agreement can be reached between the six councils after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008.

**Risks to delivering Outcomes:**

The major risk is the ability to recruit and retain staff of the right calibre at the given salary level and for a fixed term.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

(Note all figures must be validated by accountants and will be to the nearest £10.00)

	<b>First Year £</b>	<b>Full Year £</b>	<b>Staff FTE</b>
<b>Extra Expenditure (+ve)</b> Cash contribution to joint service	7,000	7,000	
<b>Additional Income (-ve)</b>			
<b>Net Budgetary Impact</b>	7,000	7,000	

**Key Assumptions in Costing:**

Estimate based on top end of initial costing range based on the assumption of a service entirely based on the current model. Pendle and Burnley BC's have asked for alternative models to be tested. However, it seems unlikely that these will have a significant impact on the cost, at least in the first year.