

## Community Payback Consultation Partnership Council charity gives local people a say in how offenders make amends

Hyson Green based charity, the Partnership Council, is giving local people the chance to have their say about the type of work done by offenders serving a Community Order.

Community Orders (formerly known as Community Service) were introduced in 2003 and give courts the power to order offenders to carry out unpaid work in the community, as part of their punishment and to make amends for the crime they've committed.

Recently, the Government has launched a scheme called Community Payback, which encourages local people to influence the type of unpaid work done by offenders, to make sure it's relevant to the needs of communities.

The Partnership Council is holding a special Community Payback Consultation event on the 25th June at the New Art Exchange, 39-49 Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green from 10am - so that local people can find out more about the Community Payback scheme. As part of the event, residents, businesses and community-based organisations are also welcome to come along and suggest ideas for work that could be carried out by offenders.

### **Matthew Danquah, Project Coordinator for the Partnership Council explains:**

*"Thanks to Community Payback, communities can now have a concrete say in how offenders can give something positive back to the neighbourhood. For example, your street or local park may need clearing up or you may need help to redecorate your local church hall or community centre. The aim of the consultation is to find out what local people want doing so that offenders can make a genuine difference to their neighbourhoods as part of their Community Order."*

Whilst carrying out unpaid work, offenders are supervised by the Probation Service, or by fully trained supervisors working for the Probation Service. In addition, each offender is carefully assessed by the Probation Service before being assigned work. Types of unpaid work already being done by offenders in the UK include graffiti removal, street clean-ups, ground clearance, gardening, building maintenance and recycling projects.

**If you'd like to nominate a project or find out more about how Community Payback could help you please go along to the New Art Exchange on the 25th June, from 10am onwards.**

**To find out more contact Matthew Danquah, Project Coordinator  
on 0115 970 8200 or email [matthew@partnershipcouncil.co.uk](mailto:matthew@partnershipcouncil.co.uk)**

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