

## TILLEY AWARD 2003

Project Title      **School Exclusion Scheme**  
Category              **Crime And Disorder Reduction**

### **Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary**

Endorsing Chief Officer(s)      **Superintendent Thomas Gordon**

### **Contact Details**

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**TILLEY AWARD 2003**

**SCHOOL EXCLUSION SCHEME**

**Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary**

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## TILLEY AWARD 2003

### SCHOOL EXCLUSION SCHEME

#### Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary

Contact: PC Andrew Hawes, Telephone: 01387 252112 Ext 65775, E-mail:  
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#### **Nature of problem addressed:**

*Combat instances of vandalism and anti-social behaviour at Schools in the town of Dumfries.*

Dumfries has a population of about 45,000 residents. In the south east area there is a residential area known as Georgetown and Calside.

Under-age drinking, vandalism, anti-social behaviour, littering has been seen by the local community, Local Authority, Police and other interested parties as being an increasing problem in the area.

The majority of the problems associated with the area occur within the confines of the two main primary schools outwith school hours. Initial meetings with interested parties looked at ways of combating this issue, however at an early stage it was clear that Georgetown and Calside was not alone in this regard.

#### **Evidence used to define the problem:**

Analysis of data held by the Local Authority and Police showed that other schools in Dumfries suffered a similar problem.

In relation to the use of school grounds the current Education Department policy was for all schools to be more or less accessible to the public at all times.

#### **Response to the problem:**

On 10 May, 2002 a pilot project was commenced in Dumfries Town and the adjoining village of Locharbriggs relative to the exclusion of persons from within the grounds of all Primary and Secondary schools.

All school grounds were designated out of bounds between the hours of 6pm-7am in the winter and 10pm-7am in the summer.

This was to allow the Police to have the authority to protect schools from misuse while still allowing schools to continue to be a safe and valued amenity for the community.

The media was used extensively to promote the initiative, regular and more extensive patrols were carried out of school grounds by Police and occupiers of houses

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Description of Location

Dumfries and Galloway is very much a rural area situated in the south west of Scotland. In geographical terms, Dumfries and Galloway covers some 2,500 square miles from the border with Cumbria in the south to Strathclyde in the north.

Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary is the smallest Police Force in mainland UK with only 473 serving Police Officers.

One of two divisions within Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary, Dumfries Division covers the east of the Force area with a Divisional Headquarters located in the town of Dumfries.

Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary, due to its rural location, strives to maintain close links with the local community and has over the years embraced the ethos of community policing with the emphasis being on officers striving to improve/enhance the existing strong links with the community in Dumfries and Galloway.

Over the years members of the Force have used the partnership approach to solving problems in the local communities, and in recent years, has recognised the benefits of using Problem Oriented Policing plans.

The town of Dumfries is the main population centre within Dumfries and Galloway with a population of some 45,000 residents. In economic terms Dumfries has some light industry, with the main employment being in the retail sector and tourism. The town enjoys relatively full employment.

In the south east area of the town there exists a large, fairly new and still developing, residential area known as Georgetown and Calside. The housing in this area consists of mainly owner occupied properties with a small but developing council/housing association stock. There are few amenities to support the local residents which number some 14,000 – 15,000 people. It should be noted the area is fairly affluent with health employment throughout.

There are two main Primary Schools in the area, both having a school roll of over 250 pupils.

### 1.2 Defining the Problem

Over the past few years, there has been a developing problem with general youth disorder in the Georgetown/Calside area. Issues of under-age drinking, vandalism, anti-social behaviour, littering and intimidation are seen as increasingly problematic in the area.

One area of particular concern that was highlighted was the continual increase in vandalism at the two primary schools located within the area. On numerous occasions

staff were attending at school in the morning and finding numerous windows having been smashed, graffiti on walls and fires having been lit.

Data was held by Dumfries and Galloway Council in relation to vandalism reports at schools in Dumfries. Analysis was carried out of vandalism reports to Dumfries schools over a 3 year period from 1999 to 2002.

This analysis showed that over a 3 year period the total cost of broken windows and other malicious damage was £115,468.63 for schools in the Dumfries area.

(Appendix 1 refers)

## 2. ANALYSIS

### 2.1 Underlying Causes

As indicated previously there is little provision of amenities in the Georgetown/Calside area.

The area is occupied by predominantly young families and as such young people tend to hang around streets, shops/public spaces as there is little provision for appropriate places for young people to meet.

Unfortunately there is a general apathy and lack of appetite for active community involvement in solutions to local problems. The local Community Council has not met for some few years and there is little involvement in Neighbourhood Watch or Crime Prevention Schemes.

It was clear that work was required in relation to a number of aspects in the Georgetown/Calside areas.

### 2.2 Victim

The main identified problem in the Georgetown/Calside area was the two Primary Schools who were suffering from continual criminal damage and littering. The victims in this instance were the staff, pupils; the Department for Education of Dumfries and Galloway Council who had to pay for appropriate repairs and ultimately the wider community.

The staff and pupils of the schools expect to be able to enjoy their education in damage-free schools and were keen to look for methods to be implemented to prevent any damage, graffiti and littering of the school grounds.

### 2.3 Locations

An initial working group looking at Georgetown and Calside was formed specifically in relation to issues surrounding damage, anti-social behaviour etc. at both Georgetown and Calside Primary Schools.

It was clear from the outset that like many other areas throughout the UK, the problems of damage to schools was prevalent throughout the Local Authority area and certain schools were more susceptible to attack and repeat victimisation than others.

The Dumfries and Galloway Council policy for use of school grounds approved by the Education Committee in June 1996 stated:

- (a) Informal use, outwith school hours, of school grounds for sport and recreation outwith the context of the council's letting policy but subject to existing prohibitions e.g. golf practice;

- (b) Persons in possession of alcohol or drugs, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or in the company of those who have alcohol or drugs or are under the influence of alcohol or drugs, are not permitted in school grounds and, if children, they should be reported to the Children's Reporter;
- (c) Where the security/safety of a school or school ground is threatened as a result of litter, damage or misconduct, the school ground should be vacated; and
- (d) Vehicles should only be in school grounds where permission has been given or for legitimate business.

In essence this policy allowed free and easy access to school grounds outwith school hours and at that time there was no general power for the Police to remove persons who were congregating around school premises.

Clearly in Dumfries as a whole, some action had to be taken to curb these acts of damage as it was clear that on a year by year basis the cost of repairs to schools in the Dumfries area in relation to vandalism was ever increasing.

#### 2.4 Offenders

The primary schools at Georgetown and Calside, like the majority of schools in the Dumfries and Galloway area, are open plan and very few are enclosed by suitable security fencing to prevent persons from congregating there outwith school hours.

As such schools are an ideal for persons to congregate in groups as they are unlikely to be disturbed and there is shelter/lighting normally available for them to utilise during inclement weather or during the hours of darkness.

Experience by Community Police Officers based within the location has shown that when they engage with young people, one of the young people's main issues was that there were insufficient facilities to cater for them and they were basically "bored".

The Local Authority did not have infinite sums of money to provide new facilities within the location and as such young people were continually hanging around the school areas as they felt there was no other place for them to go.

A similar situation occurred at other school properties in the area.

### 3. RESPONSE

#### 3.1 Partnerships

Initially during April 2002, due to the increasing number of complaints from residents in the Georgetown/Calside area and from staff at the two primary schools in relation to damage/anti-social behaviour, the first of a series of meetings was convened at Dumfries Police Office in relation to progressing ways to combat the problems of vandalism and anti-social behaviour, not only at the schools themselves but in the wider Georgetown community.

The partners involved in these discussions were:

- Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary
- Dumfries and Galloway Council – Department for Education
- Dumfries and Galloway Council – Department for Community Resources
- Staff, Georgetown Primary School
- Schoolboard Chairman, Georgetown Primary School
- Staff, Calside Primary School
- Chairperson, Parent Teacher Association, Calside Primary School
- Elected Members for the Georgetown area.

The intention was for all the partners involved to work together to look at reducing the instances of disorderly and criminal behaviour in the Georgetown and Calside area of Dumfries and contribute to making the area a safer, more peaceful environment in which to live.

#### 3.2 Actions

The group set themselves a number of goals in relation to the area, namely:

- Reduce the level of reported vandalism and malicious damage in the Georgetown/Calside area;
- Reduce the level of reported disorderly behaviour in the Georgetown/Calside area;
- Reassure the population of the area and reduce the levels of fear and intimidation;
- Pro-actively engage with young people in the area;
- Work with partners to develop facilities for the young people of Georgetown and Calside.

Clearly a number of these actions would not take place or be completed overnight and some long-term work was clearly going to be taking place in relation to working with young people and partners to develop facilities for the young people of Georgetown and Calside to utilise.

Dumfries and Galloway Council, like many Local Authorities throughout the UK, had limited resources to enhance the physical security of school properties and clearly a short-term, simple and cost effective method required to be looked at in order to

quickly reduce the level of reported vandalism and malicious damage at the Georgetown and Calside schools.

A number of actions were planned in relation to the Georgetown/Calside areas in relation to long-term issues, however as a short-term measure it was proposed to introduce a school exclusion scheme for the two schools previously mentioned.

Discussions took place between all the various parties and a number of actions were allocated in relation to setting out to achieve the goals mentioned above.

It was clear from the data held that it may well be beneficial to look at the school exclusion policy on a Dumfries wide basis and as a result a paper was submitted to the Education Committee of Dumfries and Galloway Council to allow members to consider this immediate action which could be taken to effect greater powers for the Chief Constable to curb vandalism and complaints.

It was proposed to the Education Committee that a pilot scheme be introduced in the Dumfries area schools whereby all school grounds were out of bounds between the hours of 6pm-7am in the winter and 10pm-7am in the summer.

This would allow the Police to have the authority to protect schools from misuse whilst still allowing schools to continue to be a safe and valued amenity for the community.

The matter was discussed at the Dumfries and Lower Nithsdale Area Committee meeting of Dumfries and Galloway Council and Elected Members were supportive of the initiative. As a result, from 10<sup>th</sup> May 2002 the school exclusion policy was implemented throughout all schools in Dumfries.

The following actions were developed to implement this policy:

- (1) The media was utilised at an early stage to highlight problems regarding vandalism at the schools and they also assisted in advertising that the school exclusion was in place.

The children at the local schools, as part of their curriculum, were spoken to in relation to issues of vandalism and some of the pupils made up posters in relation to expressing their feelings as to how the vandalism was affecting their school and themselves.

- (2) A flyer (Appendix 2) was distributed to parents at all schools in the Dumfries area and to properties overlooking the schools to ask for the public's help in reporting to the Police any persons seen within school grounds during the exclusion time.

As a particular snapshot of activity, traditionally the schools summer holiday period is a time where there is increased vandalism at schools and a specific problem oriented policing plan was implemented for this six week period.

Since the inception of the school exclusion scheme on 10 May 2002, schools in the area suffered 24 reported vandalism's, this figure was still down on the period prior to the curfew.

The specific plan ran from 29 June – 20 August 2002 and utilised the actions previously mentioned to highlight the issues of vandalism at schools.

An analysis of Police figures for the school summer holiday period 2001 highlighted that 26 reported instances of vandalism were reported at schools during that period. Analysis of the figures held by Dumfries and Galloway Council showed a differing perspective in that for the same period according to the figures held by them, 114 reports had been received from schools in relation to vandalism, at a cost of £15,393.06.

As part of the problem oriented policing plan for the school summer holiday period, a number of actions were specifically initiated:

- (1) Increased visible, preventative patrols, targeted at specific problem areas/times, utilising overtime and Special Constables as necessary.
- (2) Offenders to be reported to the Reporter to the Children's Panel or the Procurator Fiscal as appropriate.
- (3) Existing juvenile warning letter scheme to be utilised.
- (4) Fully direct and engage skills of Community Safety Officers for the area.
- (5) Maximise impact of increased patrols through media campaign, seeking public support/engagement
- (6) Throughout period of this specific POP carry out detailed analysis of reported crime in the area, patterns, locations, times to ensure a full understanding was gained of how the POP was progressing.
- (7) Community Officers to pro-actively engage with the youths of the area – diversion, intelligence gathering and developing relationships.
- (8) Deploy resources at particular times to target public drinking of alcohol in the area.

## 4. ASSESSMENT

### 4.1 Outcome of Project

To give an indication of how successful this project has been the intention is to give a snapshot in relation to the specific Problem Oriented Policing plan initiated to cover the school summer holiday period in Dumfries from 29 June – 20 August 2002.

During this particular POP plan the exclusion scheme continued to be in force and officers were specifically tasked with carrying out regular checks of school premises to prevent anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

The results of the exclusion scheme for that particular period were very encouraging. Concentrating on the school summer holiday period figures drawn from Police recording systems show that in total compared to the same period in 2001, there had been a reduction of 9 instances of vandalism at schools in the Dumfries area.

Three schools, namely Calside Primary, Georgetown Primary and Lincluden Primary, have in the past been the schools most targeted for vandalism and figures this year for these schools are particularly good.

An analysis of figures held by Dumfries and Galloway Council were even more encouraging showing a dramatic decrease in the number of reports received by the council for vandalism during the school summer holiday period, from a total of 114 reports in 2001 to 56 reports in 2002.

In terms of cost for the school summer period during 2001 vandalism cost the Local Authority £15,393.06, whilst in 2002 this was reduced to £6,456.09.

A further report was submitted to the Education Committee of Dumfries and Galloway Council in October 2002 highlighting the effectiveness of the scheme in Dumfries over the school summer holiday period.

### 4.2 Progress Since Implementation

Following the introduction of the school exclusion scheme in Dumfries and the success of the specific POP plan for the school summer holiday period, a further report was submitted to the Education Committee of Dumfries and Galloway Council on 3 December 2002 to seek approval for the exclusion throughout schools in Dumfries and Galloway.

A copy of the report submitted to the Education Committee is attached at Appendix 3 and as a result it was agreed to a target approach to exclusions where Headteachers, the Police and the local community could implement the exclusion scheme on a needs basis.

The Department for Education of Dumfries and Galloway Council circulated a letter (Appendix 4) to Headteachers advising them that if they wished to implement the scheme they should contact their local Community Police Officer.

Since then a number of schools throughout Dumfries and Galloway have implemented the scheme as necessary to try and reduce the instances of vandalism and anti-social behaviour at their particular premises.

#### 4.3 Future

This particular scheme continues to develop. If a specific problem is highlighted at a particular school, the exclusion has been implemented.

The scheme is flexible in its approach in that some schools have adapted same to have the exclusion policy in place at specific times, i.e. weekends.

The scheme has been seen to be simplistic but effective and in one instance has even been utilised in a public park to exclude persons from congregating there as the park was constantly being vandalised.

## 5. CONCLUSION

The implementation of the school exclusion scheme was seen as a simple, cheap and effective means of reducing instances of vandalism, littering and anti-social behaviour at schools in Dumfries area.

Initially discussions were held in relation to two specific schools, namely Georgetown and Calside Primary Schools, who had an ever increasing problem with damage to property.

It was clear following the discussions with appropriate partners and analysis of information held by the Police and Local Authority that this problem existed at schools throughout Dumfries and as a result the pilot project was implemented.

As a result of the success of the scheme in Dumfries, schools throughout the Local Authority have implemented the scheme and found it to be a useful tool to make the schools safer.

This scheme is not the panacea to solving all the problems at the schools in the Local Authority but was a quick and simple method of helping to protect the schools.

Work continues to be carried out in the local community between Police and other partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and this includes the implementation of proper security measures at schools and engaging with young people to ensure that they have the proper facilities in place for them to utilise.

VANDALISM REPORT - OTHER MALICIOUS DAMAGE  
DUMFRIES SCHOOLS - LAST THREE YEARS

APPENDIX 1

PROPERTY NAME	TOTAL COMMITMENT (£)
BROWNHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL	300.16
CALSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL	2,952.24
CALSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	37.22
CARGENBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL	1,264.39
DUMFRIES ACADEMY	230.42
DUMFRIES HIGH SCHOOL	412.89
EDUCATION COMMUNITY CENTRE - MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL	126.98
EDUCATION HOUSE - MARYFIELD	40.97
GEORGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL	3,882.30
GEORGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	85.80
GEORGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	103.52
HOLYWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL	2,548.79
LANGLANDS SPECIAL SCHOOL	300.88
LAURIEKNOWE PRIMARY SCHOOL	2,341.90
LAURIEKNOWE PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	250.20
LAURIEKNOWE PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	1,994.13
LINCLUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	5,435.80
LINCLUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	436.31
LOCHARBRIGGS PRIMARY SCHOOL	1,384.02
LOCHSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL	1,622.85
LOCHSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	85.80
LOREBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL	52.25
MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL	4,944.95
MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL KITCHEN	164.36
MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL	481.69
NEW ABBEY PRIMARY SCHOOL	381.03
NOBLEHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL	288.17
NOBLEHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	148.48
ST ANDREW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	101.76
ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (RC) DUMFRIES	3,893.29
ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (RC) DUMFRIES SPORTS HALL	268.34
ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	472.78
ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	5,641.41
ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	90.39
ST TERESA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	421.21
ST TERESA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	32.86
TROQUEER PRIMARY SCHOOL	2,318.20
TROQUEER PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	46.88
TROQUEER PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	109.75

45,695.35

VANDALISM REPORT - BROKEN WINDOWS  
DUMFRIES SCHOOLS - LAST THREE YEARS

APPENDIX 1

PROPERTY NAME	TOTAL COMMITMENT (£)
CALSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL	8,697.68
CALSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	81.68
CARGENBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL	1,556.43
CARGENBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	87.91
DAVID KESWICK CENTRE - DUMFRIES	130.95
DUMFRIES ACADEMY	3,701.63
DUMFRIES HIGH SCHOOL	5,606.31
DUMFRIES HIGH SCHOOL KITCHEN	40.41
EDUCATION COMMUNITY CENTRE - IRISH STREET	41.61
EDUCATION COMMUNITY CENTRE - MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL	1,565.23
EDUCATION HOUSE - MARYFIELD	169.46
ELMBANK SPECIAL SCHOOL - DUMFRIES	199.15
GEORGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL	10,507.93
GEORGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	417.29
GEORGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	600.50
LANGLANDS SPECIAL SCHOOL	1,300.00
LAURIEKNOWE PRIMARY SCHOOL	5,158.17
LINCLUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	15,600.87
LINCLUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	172.76
LINCLUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	2,837.82
LOCHARBRIGGS PRIMARY SCHOOL	5,301.78
LOCHARBRIGGS PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	217.54
LOCHSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL	5,310.11
LOREBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL	571.45
LOREBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	11.85
MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL	13,561.44
MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL ADVISORS CENTRE	641.89
MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL KITCHEN	247.59
MAXWELLTOWN HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL	741.69
NOBLEHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL	55.35
ST ANDREW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	289.60
ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (RC) DUMFRIES	4,873.17
ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (RC) DUMFRIES SPORTS HALL	344.46
ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	117.09
ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	16,527.48
ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	117.01
ST NINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	383.37
ST TERESA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL	4,017.77
ST TERESA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	80.00
TROQUEER PRIMARY SCHOOL	3,198.01
TROQUEER PRIMARY SCHOOL KITCHEN	146.74
TROQUEER PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY	239.45

115,468.63

# Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary



Established 1948

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

As a result of the number of vandalism's reported at our schools it has been agreed that between 2200 hours and 0700 hours in the summer time and between 1800 hours and 0800 hours in the winter time school grounds and playgrounds will be off limits other than to authorised persons.

In order to enforce this we ask that you, as valued members of the community, report to us any persons within the school grounds during the times stated.

You do not need to identify yourself when reporting this, however you will be asked for your telephone number and any other information which may be of value to the enquiry officer. This will allow the Police to take the necessary action without having to contact you at your home.

Thank you for your assistance.

**Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary**

**Tel. No. 01387 252112.**

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## SCHOOL SECURITY/VANDALISM

### 1. Reason for Report

To update Members on measures to reduce vandalism in schools in Dumfries and Galloway.

### 2. Background

2.1 At the Education Committee meeting on 5 November, Members AGREED *inter alia* the submission of further updating reports to include a region wide review of arrangements.

### 3. Discussion

3.1 Discussions have taken place with the Chief Constable regarding extension of the exclusion and although we are heartened with our responses in Dumfries Burgh it is thought that exclusion would only be useful in certain circumstances:

- repeated or continuous incidents;
- petty vandalism;
- where premises are used by unauthorized persons and debris such as broken bottles is discarded and removed by school staff the next day.

3.2 The Police are of the view that one-off major incidents cannot be prevented by exclusion.

3.3 It is suggested that where it is recognized by Head Teachers, the Police and the community that there is incidence of repeated petty vandalism or nuisance, there should be a partnership approach with the Police targeting individual schools in an attempt to prevent further recurrences.

3.4 It is thought that a blanket approach to exclusion will discourage the community use of schools.

3.5 Statistics on targeted schools will be provided to a future meeting of this Committee.

### 4. Consultation

The Chief Constable has been consulted and his comments have been reflected in the report.

**5. Recommendation**

- 5.1 APPROVE**, in principle, a targeted approach to exclusion where Headteachers, the Police and the community, in partnership, have identified regular repeated occurrences of vandalism
- 5.2 NOTE** this report and **AGREE** to receive further reports on specific targeting proposals.

R J Wells  
Project Manager (PPP)  
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Edinburgh Road, Dumfries  
R JW/RN  
21 November 2002

Roger Guy  
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Dumfries

Background Papers:  
Education Committee, 5 November 2002 – School Security/Vandalism

Back To E-Circulation

## E - Circulation

<b>ab</b>	Circular Distribution (indicate with 'X')		Circular (indicate with 'X' where appropriate)	
	Primary HT: X	Pony Publication:	Significant Event: [dd / mm / yy]	
Department for Education & Community Services 30 Edinburgh Road Dumfries, DG1 1NW Phone: 01387 260427	Secondary HT: X	Policy & Procedure: X	Vacancies:	
Date: 17/01/03	Circular Summary: <b>Vandalism in Schools</b>			
Ref: RW/NG/C1				
Circular No: Admin. Use Only	Circular Title: School Security/Vandalism			
Circular Contact: Rhona Wells	Direct Dial: 01387 260443	e-mail: RhonaW@dumgal.gov.uk		

Dear Colleague,

### SCHOOL SECURITY/VANDALISM

As you are no doubt aware, we have over the past years had an increasing problem with vandalism in our area. In an attempt to control this we introduced, in co-operation with the police, an exclusion scheme in Dumfries Burgh which proved to be very successful.

Consideration was given to extending this out over the whole region but this blanket approach was not thought to be the best use of resources and at the Education Committee on 3 December 2002 agreed:-

“A targeted approval to exclusion where Head Teachers, the Police in the community in partnership had identified repeated occurrences of vandalism”.

To this end if your school has been subjected to vandalism and you wish to participate in the exclusion scheme you should contact your local Community Police Officer who will put in place the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely

Rhona Wells  
Project Manager (PPP)