

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Offenders help restore Redditch garages

Offenders performing unpaid work as part of their community orders have been working with the Council and Probation Service to restore garages in the Woodrow area of Redditch.

A work party of 12-18 offenders and two supervisors have been working on the project for six months, restoring the Redditch Borough Council- owned garages. The work will enhance the surroundings, help reduce anti-social behaviour and reduce the fear of crime in the area. The project is one of a number of regeneration projects West Mercia Probation is working on with Redditch Borough Council.

Robert Elmes, Community Punishment Officer for the West Mercia Probation, who is supervising the work party said:

“Some of the offenders working on this project live in the area and so they are really giving something back to their local community. Hopefully it will encourage them to have a sense of pride in their local area”.

“We are really pleased we can help out with this work, it helps us increase our visibility in local communities, so that people can see offenders are giving something back. It also gives us an opportunity to demonstrate the quality of the work we can offer”.

Jane Smith, Tenancy Officer from Redditch Borough Council said:

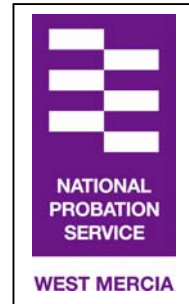
“The work that the Probation Service has carried out on the garages has made a real difference to the local environment.

We hope that we can extend this partnership working to other local areas within the community.”

West Mercia Probation Area is keen to help out local communities with projects, subject to Health & Safety restrictions. Please contact Redditch Unpaid Work Unit on 01527 585152.

Notes to editors

- 1 **Jackie Bell**, West Mercia Probation Area, Stourbank House,
90 Mill Street, Kidderminster Worcs DY11 6XA.
Tel: 01562 748375 ext 253 Mob: 07974 169254
jackie.bell@west-mercias.probaton.gsi.gov.uk



For more information contact the Press Office on 01527 534007
Redditch Borough Council. Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch Worcestershire. B98 8AH.
Tel: (01527) 534007 or 64252. Fax : (01527) 65216. www.redditchbc.gov.uk