

News release



Date: 04.03.08

Use: Immediate

Ref: SW1943

A Clean Start

Wychavon District Council is working hard to get allotments in Evesham cleared and back in use.

In partnership with Rooftop Housing, Evesham Town Council and The Probation Service, Evesham Allotments will soon be cleared of the fly-tipped rubbish and returned to a green and growable state once more.

The Probation Service will be helping to clear the rubbish by providing people who have been convicted of an offence and who are now required to fulfil a number of hours of community service.

When the work is complete, the Probation Service will be given two allotments to work on, with all the produce grown going back into the community, to the benefit of retirement homes and charitable organisations.

Dave Roberts, Environmental Crime Enforcement Officer, said: "Environmental crimes such as fly-tipping, littering and abandoning vehicles, all lower the quality of life for people living in the affected areas, and can lead to an increase in other types of crime.

"Clearing the allotments is just the beginning of a long-term project where we hope to work in local parishes on various types of work, such as clearing rights of way and repairing local village halls."

Ian Hampton, Project Officer for West Mercia Probation said, "We are really pleased we can help out with this work and the offenders can give something back to their community. We hope this will be an-going project with the Council, so that we can help make a real difference locally".

-Ends-

Notes to Editor: Photo opportunity of some of the clearing work taking place – Friday 7th March, 3.00pm, Evesham Allotments, Common Road, Evesham.

Communications:

Emma Wild 01386 56 5102 emma.wild@wychavon.gov.uk

Spencer Winnett 01386 56 5585 spencer.winnett@wychavon.gov.uk

Wychavon District Council,
Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive
Pershore, Worcs. WR10 1PT
www.wychavon.gov.uk