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Garland Court, Newbury benefits from Community Payback

Garland Court managed by Creative Support is a charity that supports adults with learning difficulties and mental health issues. They recently benefited from work carried out by offenders sentenced to do Unpaid Work through Community Payback by the Courts.

Supervised by Thames Valley Probation the team worked at the site completing more than 90 hours of work. This included cleaning the communal hallway, removal of weeds and digging over small areas of land, repainting and repairing the picket fence around the premises, general gardening and removal of overgrown vegetation. The partnership work will continue well into 2011 and the Community Payback team will now focus on general improvements around the grounds and buildings.

Before and after photos



To find out more about other local projects and watch our short dvds on Community Payback, log onto www.thamesvalleyprobation.gov.uk

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Community Payback in Thames Valley explained

In the Thames Valley, around 2,000 of the 8,000 offenders we supervise in an average year are carrying out Community Payback (Unpaid Work) in the community and complete almost 300,000 hours annually. That's about £1.5m of free labour.

The work benefits local schools, faith groups, charities, community organisations and partnerships. The range of work can include: Graffiti removal, ground clearance, building maintenance and landscaping, improvement to parks and community facilities, general gardening projects, painting and decorating in community centres and meeting places.

Unpaid Work is the name of one of the 12 Requirements that comes under the generic community sentence called a Community Order. Offenders on an Unpaid Work Requirement can be ordered by the courts to do between 40 and 300 unpaid work hours.

Thames Valley Probation works with adult offenders, supervising them through their Community Orders and assisting with rehabilitation. We also supervise offenders released from prison on licence and work with victims of serious crime. The main aim of the service is to increase public protection and reduce the re-offending rate. Community Payback is the name and logo used for the Unpaid Work that offenders carry out. It has been designed to highlight the work of offenders to put something back into communities in which they've offended.

For further details or pictures, please contact:

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