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Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111
Our Reference:
Your Reference:

Date: 07/03/11

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of West Midlands Police, I am writing this letter to express support for the work Blue River is doing with disadvantaged young people including care leavers and ex-offenders in Birmingham. We strongly believe that Blue River's projects are aligned with the needs of vulnerable young people in the community.

Blue River's projects impact on crime through:

- **Improving Education:** Poor educational attainment directly impacts on crime through reducing unemployment. Blue River works with young people to improve their educational achievement make them more employable.
- **Providing Positive Activities:** By providing positive activities, Blue River reducing the number of young people engaging in anti-social behaviour. As anti social behaviour is a key priority for the police in Sparkbrook, Blue River provides a valuable result.
- **Re-engaging young ex-offenders:** A lack of employment, educational opportunities and poor independent living skills are key factors influencing the reoffending rate. Blue River supports young ex-offenders to achieve employment through accredited qualifications and supporting them to gain independent living skills.
- **Tackling Substance Abuse:** Blue River promotes healthy lifestyles through addressing substance abuse. Drug and alcohol abuse directly influences crime and addressing these issues reduces youth offending.

These outcomes result in significant social value. Youth crime costs the UK £1.2bn each year, whilst antisocial behaviour has far reaching consequences for communities. Youth crime can be mitigated through providing educational activities and supporting young people to reach positive destination such as stable employment.

West Midlands Police believe Blue River's work is aligned with the key issues for crime in Sparkbrook and will continue to work with them through our community cohesion team. Please take this letter as formal confirmation of our support for Blue River Support Services.

Yours' Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Hallworth', written over a horizontal line.

PC 9764 Hallworth



Serving our communities, protecting them from harm
www.west-midlands.police.uk

*Calls may be monitored and/or recorded for security, quality control or training purposes