Agenda Item No: 10



Cabinet (Resources) Panel

11 March 2014

Report title Police & Crime Commissioner Community

Safety Fund Allocation 2014/15

Decision designation AMBER

Cabinet member with lead

responsibility

Councillor Elias Mattu

Leisure and Communities

Key decision Yes

In forward plan No

Wards affected All

Accountable director Tim Johnson, Education and Enterprise

Originating service Community Safety Team

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Report to be/has been

considered by

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

 Approve delegation of the 2014/15 ring-fenced allocation from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) for the purposes of delivering the Community Safety programme outlined within this report.

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1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To seek delegation of the ring-fenced Community Safety Fund (CSF) allocation (2014/15) from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) in line with conditions of grant, to aid delivery of agreed city-wide crime and community safety objectives.
- 1.2 To present a proposed programme of Community Safety services in line with SWP strategic objectives.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Following successful delivery against the Crime, Community Safety and Drugs Strategy 2011-14, which resulted in significant improvements in both performance and outcomes for service users, SWP has been engaged in a process of priority setting during 2013 to inform a revised Crime Reduction Community Safety and Drugs Strategy for the City covering 2014-17. At its meeting on 18 October 2013 the strategic priorities of reducing reoffending, substance misuse, gangs/youth crime and violence against women and girls were agreed; the revised crime and community safety strategy reflects these priorities and the direct contribution they all make towards delivery of the City Strategy.
- 2.2 Since the introduction of elected PCCs in November 2012, the Home Office funding of CSF previously received by local statutory organisations has been diverted to PCCs. Across the West Midlands Police Force Area (WMPFA), the PCC has opted to passport CSF subject to establishment of Local Police and Crime Boards (LPCB). SWP Board extended its membership in July 2013 to include voluntary, community sector and resident representation to fulfil these requirements.

3.0 Police and Crime Commissioner – Conditions of Funding

- 3.1 The following conditions of funding apply to Wolverhampton's receipt of CSF:
 - CSF is to be used solely for the purpose of achieving the priorities outlined in the Local Policing and Crime Plan, as agreed by the Local Police and Crime Board.
- 3.2 The grant will be paid to the accountable body (local authority) in whose areas the LPCB is to be established, and the accountable body will be responsible for ensuring the grant is expended and accounted for in accordance with recognised accounting practice, the accountable body's own standing orders and financial regulations and legal and statutory requirements.
- 3.3 The CSP grant is to be used for revenue purposes only.

4.0 Funding Availability

4.1 In previous years the Home Office awarded three separate grants in support of the Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP), the Community Safety Programme and the work of the

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Youth Offending Team (YOT). From April 2013, these Home Office funding streams were diverted to the PCC. The DIP which was provided through the Primary Care Trust became a function of the Council with the transfer of Public Health in April 2013. The PCC has decided to passport the Home Office CSF grant to local areas subject to the conditions of funding being met.

4.2 Home Office grant received for 2013/14 was reduced by 12% resulting in an allocation for Wolverhampton of £492,000. The PCC has confirmed that the same financial allocation will be made for 2014/15.

5.0 Programme Proposals

- 5.1 At its meeting on 17 January 2014, SWP Board agreed to continue funding allocations to Public Health to support DIP delivery, YOT and Community Safety; this would ensure financial support for the three year substance misuse contract 2013-16 continues; crime prevention interventions delivered through YOT are maintained and delivery of statutory functions and commissioning against strategic priorities are safeguarded.
- 5.2 The programme includes continuation of the core team functions to ensure statutory requirements of SWP are met; continuation of priority services within offender management; delivery of city-wide domestic violence services, continuation of the agreed specification within the substance misuse contract and delivery of youth crime / gangs specialist services. The programme is detailed at Appendix 1 attached.

6.0 Financial implications

6.1 The PCC has confirmed an allocation of £492,000 to support community safety objectives in 2014/15 in line with grant conditions detailed in section three. Cabinet (Resources) Panel approval is now sought to delegate this resource to SWP to support delivery of the programme detailed in Appendix 1 attached. [CF/25022014/P]

7.0 Legal implications

7.1 Sections five and six of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 require the Council and other responsible authorities to formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder in the area. Subsequent revisions to the Act (Police and Justice Act 2006) places a duty on Community Safety Partnerships to prepare strategic assessments with the purpose of informing the partnership plan revisions. [AS/26022014/Q]

8.0 Equalities implications

8.1 The programme of delivery for 2013/14 has been based on an assessment of need and contribution towards meeting strategic priorities. Delivery will directly support implementation of the revised Crime and Community Safety Strategy tackling crime within some of the City's most deprived neighbourhoods and providing support to some of the City's most vulnerable residents through targeted interventions. A full equality analysis is being undertaken on the revised strategy.

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9.0 Environmental implications

9.1 Delivery of the programme detailed in this report will impact positively across all areas of the City; particularly those neighbourhoods adversely affected by crime and anti-social behaviour and will contribute towards an improved city image.