



# Cabinet (Resources) Panel

## 3 March 2015

<b>Report title</b>	Police & Crime Commissioner Community Safety Fund Allocation 2015/16	
<b>Decision designation</b>	AMBER	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Elias Mattu Leisure and Communities	
<b>Key decision</b>	Yes	
<b>In forward plan</b>	Yes	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Linda Sanders, People	
<b>Originating service</b>	Community Safety Team	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Karen Samuels	Head of Community Safety
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<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	N/A	

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

1. Approve delegation of the 2015/16 ring-fenced allocation from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) for the purposes of delivering against the city's Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drugs Strategy 2014-17 and the Local Policing & Crime Plan 2015-16.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To seek delegation of the ring-fenced Community Safety Fund (CSF) 2015/16 allocation from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) in line with grant conditions, to aid delivery of agreed city-wide crime and community safety objectives. Allocation of the CSF for 2015/16 is subject to PCC approval of a fully costed programme of delivery, the details of which are outlined in this report.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 The city's Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drugs Strategy 2014-17 was agreed by SWP Board and approved at Cabinet at its meeting on 14 May 2014; the strategic priorities of reducing reoffending, substance misuse, gangs/youth crime and violence against women and girls are incorporated within the strategy; progress is monitored through a robust performance framework.
- 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.
- 2.3 The PCC has imposed conditions of funding which ringfences use of the CSF grant by LPCBs for delivery of its plan: *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.*
- 2.4 The grant is paid to the Council as the accountable body for SWP, and is therefore subject to compliance with council financial regulations; spend decisions are delegated to SWP which maintains governance responsibility for the grant and any associated service delivery. The PCC also maintains oversight of the grant through quarterly progress reports detailing progress, outcomes and expenditure.
- 2.5 There is an expectation that the costed programme for 2015-16 should also be aligned to PCC priorities detailed in the Draft Strategic Police & Crime Plan 2015-16. The key features of the draft plan as they currently stand are summarised below:
  - **Pride in our police** – this theme is primarily concerned with increasing public confidence in West Midlands Police
  - **Stronger, safer, more prosperous communities** – this theme sets out the part West Midlands Police plays in the wider economy, community and network of partnerships
  - **Protecting people from harm** – which covers how West Midlands Police will reduce the threat, risk and harm caused by criminality
  - **Making better use of our people and resources** – this theme is about financial planning during austerity and preparing the workforce for future challenges

- **Creating a new era in policing** – this theme is about how the existing change programme and the WMP2020 partnership with Accenture will make West Midlands Police ready for the future, equipped with new technology and using the most effective processes
- **Playing our part in responding to national threats** – this theme covers how West Midlands Police will fulfil its obligations under the national Strategic Policing Requirement

### 3.0 Funding Availability

- 3.1 From April 2013, various Home Office funding streams were diverted to the PCC; these included funding for Youth Offending services and the drug intervention programme. Historically, SWP has allocated a significant proportion of CSF to support the criminal justice element of the Public Health commissioned drug and alcohol contract; reflecting these changed grant allocations. Public Health has confirmed that for 2015-16 it is not seeking a contribution towards this contract; thus releasing a significant proportion of the grant for wider use.
- 3.2 Increasingly, during the current financial year, delivery has been heavily reliant on the use of mainstream resources; it is anticipated that during 2015-16, this focus should continue and relationships strengthened between other city-wide forums such as Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards, Health and Well Being Board and the city's Troubled Families programme; maximising opportunities for use of collective effort and resources.
- 3.3 The PCC has indicated that he is again willing to continue passporting CSF to local areas up to the same levels as 2014/15 on submission of a fully costed plan which would be subject to his approval; for Wolverhampton, this would result in an allocation of £492,000.

### 4.0 Programme Proposals

- 4.1 At its meeting on 13 February 2015, SWP considered and approved a costed programme of delivery for 2015/16 to support delivery of its strategic priorities; approval was also secured for the 2015/16 Local Police & Crime Plan (LPCP). The delivery programme is attached as **Appendix A**. It must be noted, however, that not all areas of delivery against the Strategic priorities and LPCP require a resource allocation of CSF; the majority of SWP delivery continues to draw on the mainstream resources of partners.
- 4.2 The programme includes continuation of core team functions to ensure statutory requirements of SWP are met and delivery against the strategic priorities of reducing reoffending, violence against women and girls, substance misuse and gangs/youth crime is maintained. The programme will deliver against identified actions within the LPCP; for 2015/16, these priorities include speeding and inconsiderate parking, drug dealing and use, and tackling anti-social behaviour.
- 4.3 Provision is also be made to deliver requirements of the new Prevent duty (arising from the Counter Terrorism and Security Bill which is being progressed through Parliament

and expected to come into force early summer 2015) and interventions to reduce harm and vulnerability in the city.

- 4.4 SWP agreed that delivery for 2015/16 should be underpinned by robust evaluation and a commitment that programme delivery should be viewed only as a short term measure; by evidencing the impact and cost savings associated with service delivery, this should aid development of a strong business case for long term sustainability using mainstream resources.
- 4.5 The fully costed programme will be forwarded to the PCC for final approval following endorsement by SWP; this will enable the PCC to be satisfied that there is sufficient alignment with the PCC's Strategic Policing & Crime Plan for the West Midlands.

## **5.0 Financial implications**

- 5.1 The PCC has confirmed an allocation of £492,000 is available for Wolverhampton to support community safety objectives in 2015/16 in line with grant conditions detailed in section 3 of this report. Cabinet (Resources) Panel approval is now sought to delegate this resource to SWP to support delivery against the strategic objectives detailed in section 4. Delivery of the costed programme in **Appendix A** will be funded entirely through CSF; there are no cost implications for the Council.

[MF/10022015/U]

## **6.0 Legal implications**

- 6.1 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.

[RB/06022015/L]

## **7.0 Equalities implications**

- 7.1 The programme of delivery for 2015/16 will be based on an assessment of need and contribute towards implementation of the strategic priorities in the Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drugs 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 has been undertaken on the strategy; there are no negative implications from its delivery.

## **8.0 Environmental implications**

- 8.1 Delivery of the programme detailed in this report will impact positively across all areas of the City through the implementation of crime reduction initiatives; particularly those neighbourhoods adversely affected by crime and anti-social behaviour.

## **9.0 Human resources implications**

- 8.1 The proposals contained within the work programme detailed in Appendix A will support continuation of existing posts within the Youth Offending Team and create two (12 month) fixed term posts within the Council's Community Safety Team.

## **10.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 10.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications.

## **11.0 Schedule of background papers**

N/A