

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMBERSIDE
DECISION RECORD**

Decision Record Number: **262019**

Title: **HEARTSTONE Project**

Executive Summary:

The Police and Crime Commissioner has been asked to provide match funding to enable the coordination of the HEARTSTONE project across Humberside, to raise awareness and prevent hate crime in relation to Islamophobia and Faith/Race based hate crime.

Decision:

That match funding of £6,000 for this financial year (2019/20) be approved as set out in the report.

Background Report: Open

Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.

Any such interests are recorded below.

The above decision has my approval.

Signature



Date 17.07.19

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMBERSIDE**

SUBMISSION FOR: DECISION

OPEN

Title: Heartstone Project

Date: 17 July 2019

1. Executive Summary

This report seeks a decision from the Police and Crime Commissioner to provide funding from his Partnership Budget to enable the coordination of the Heartstone project to raise awareness of hate crime in relation to Islamophobia and Faith/Race based hate crime across Humberside.

2. Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner approve the match funding of £6,000 for this financial year (2019/20) as set out in this submission report.

3. Background

There has been a well acknowledged rise in hate crime over previous years. The most recent rise in faith and race based hate crime came after the UK voted to leave the EU on 23 June 2016, following a campaign in which the issue of immigration was seen as a key factor.

After the Brexit vote, hate crime against Eastern Europeans and visible ethnic minorities increased. Home Office figures and analysis show that reported hate crime increased:

"In 2016/17, there were 80,393 offences recorded by the police... an increase of 29 per cent compared with the 62,518 hate crimes recorded in 2015/16, the largest percentage increase seen since the series began in 2011/12. • The increase over the last year is thought to reflect both a genuine rise in hate crime around the time of the EU referendum and also due to ongoing improvements in crime recording by the police."

Source: Home Office Hate Crime Statistical Bulletin 2016-2017

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/652136/hate-crime-1617-hosb1717.pdf

It has also been noted that faith based hate crime reporting has increased in the aftermath of terror attacks in the U.K and abroad; victims are often targeted for being perceived to be Muslim.

The picture in Humberside showed a similar pattern, in the months between June and October 2016 following the Brexit vote a total of 318 hate crime incidents were reported, with a spike in July 2016 of 177 hate crimes and incidents reported.

Source: News item: <https://planetradio.co.uk/greatest-hits/east-yorkshire-north-lincolnshire/news/300-hate-crime-incidents-reported-humberside-police-since-brexit/>

To this end the Government released funding to support the aims of reducing this specific element of hate crime in 2016 under the national Prevent agenda. The Government directed this funding towards an organisation known as HEARTSTONE. The OPCC has been recently contacted by HEARTSTONE to roll out the programme across Humberside, having already successfully rolled this out across 10 regions, requiring £6000 match funding for Humberside.

HEARTSTONE is a non-profit organisation, the project works with young people over the age of nine years to produce story - fiction, Photo documentary and historically based story; presented through exhibitions, events, publications and online. The resulting images are utilised to form an exhibition for a wider audience of other local community members – these can be staged at the learning establishment, library, community centre, and museum or online. All stories have an underlying message - to see past prejudice and stereotypes and recognise a common human experience whilst generating sensitively-led discussion and debate.

The project will deliver 10 separate sessions across Humberside adopting a 'train the trainer' and one-to-one support model throughout the delivery phase. It will make best use of Force data to pinpoint locations where the most Faith/Race hate crimes are committed and/or reported.

It is proposed that Community Cohesion Officers and Humberside Police Community Safety Unit (CSU) review intelligence and Force demand data to identify hot spot areas in relation to Faith/Race based hate crime and Islamophobia. Resource and support for the coordination of the project and links into key local agencies will be enabled by OPCC Engagement Officers, Diversity Panel members and Humberside Police Community Cohesion Officers.

The Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) will be briefed and ensure that key local leads are linked into delivery and monitor progress. A package will be provided to the CSP's to enable them to coordinate activity, and to target schools, libraries and museums in the areas that we know have issues using this recent data obtained from the Force:

**Hate Crimes Recorded Between
01/07/18 and 30/06/19 - Top 10 Wards**

Ward	Total
Myton	174
Orchard Park and Greenwood	82
Town	62
West Marsh	56
St. Andrews	55
East Marsh	51
Newland	50
Goole South	34
Avenue	34
Bridlington South	33
St. Mary's	33
Grand Total	664

The outcome of this project will be the journey for the young people and their communities via their involvement, the products that they produce as a result of the project, contributing towards exhibitions both locally and nationally. Long and short term impact will be by way of the outcome of a change in mind set for communities around respect and understanding, evaluated in terms of direct perception feedback from participants and community.

4. Options

There are two options:

- 1) Firstly, to approve the funding request at the full amount of £6,000 for this financial year (2019/20).
- 2) Refuse the request and provide no funding.

5. Financial Implications

There is funding available from the PCC's Partnership Budget.

6. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications for approving this funding request.

7. Driver for Change/Contribution to Delivery of the Police and Crime Plan

The reduction in hate crime related offending and therefore of harm in communities has been soundly considered as part of the approach to this project. Therefore contributing to all of the aims commissioners police and crime plan, ultimately reducing harm and supporting more cohesive, safe communities

8. Equalities Implications

It could be argued that the HEARTSTONE project will improve community safety for local communities including people whose characteristics are protected under the Equalities Act 2010.

9. Consultation

There has been no need for wider consultation

10. Media information

There are no planned media releases but there may be positive media opportunities for the PCC should this funding request be approved.

11. Background documents

There are no background documents.

12. Publication

Open

PLEASE COMPLETE AND APPEND THE FOLLOWING TABLE TO ALL REPORTS THAT REQUIRE A DECISION FROM THE COMMISSIONER

This matrix provides a simple check list for the things you need to have considered within your report. If there are no implications please state

I have informed and sought advice from HR, Legal, Finance, OPCC officer(s) etc. prior to submitting this report for official comments	Yes
Is this report proposing an amendment to the budget?	Yes
Value for money considerations have been accounted for within the report	Yes
The report is approved by the relevant Chief Officer	Yes

I have included any procurement/commercial issues/implications within the report	Yes – Managed via small grant approach.
I have liaised with Corporate Communications on any communications issues	No –None required as yet.
I have completed an Equalities Impact Assessment and the outcomes are included within the report	No - None required
I have included any equalities, diversity and or human rights implications within the report	Yes – As above.
Any Health and Safety implications are included within the report	Yes – in broad terms on the health and wellbeing impact on service users
I have included information about how this report contributes to the delivery of the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan	Yes