

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

Decision Record Number **DR 132023**

Community Response Fund

Executive Summary

This report sets out a proposal to pilot a new Community Response Fund to invest in projects that respond directly to the issues identified by the local community through Humber Talking in specific locations across the Humber.

The Mid-Term Resourcing Strategy allocated funding to deliver a Democratic Small Grant Awards programme for the Humber, in addition to the Community Safety Fund which was launched in May 2022. A range of options have been considered and it is proposed that the Community Response Fund approach is piloted in Winterton and Bridlington South.

This proposal contributes to the Police and Crime Plan commitment to develop a Delivery Fund “to support innovation, community resilience and reduce local crime”.

Decision of the PCC: Approved

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 16/03/2023

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

FOR HUMBERSIDE

SUBMISSION FOR: DECISION

OPEN

Title: Community Response Fund

Date: 07.03.2023

1. Executive Summary

This report sets out a proposal to pilot a new Community Response Fund (CRF) to invest in projects that respond directly to the issues identified by the local community through Humber Talking in specific locations across the Humber.

The Mid-Term Resourcing Strategy allocated funding to deliver a Democratic Small Grant Awards programme for the Humber, in addition to the Community Safety Fund which was launched in May 2022. A range of options have been considered and it is proposed that the Community Response Fund approach is piloted in Winterton and Bridlington South.

This proposal contributes to the Police and Crime Plan commitment to develop a Delivery Fund “to support innovation, community resilience and reduce local crime”.

2. Recommendation(s)

To deliver a Community Response Fund Pilot, offering grants to charities, community and voluntary sector organisations and town and parish councils to address specific issues identified by the local community through Humber Talking in two locations across the Humber, as set out in Option 3.

3. Background

In order to ensure greater engagement with the public and to enable them to play a greater role in decision making, the idea of a Democratic Small Grant Awards programme for the Humber was developed and budget allocated through the Mid-Term Resourcing Strategy.

A number of different approaches have been considered in order to identify the most appropriate way of ensuring a high level of engagement from the

public in deciding on how funding is spent to address issues that are important to them.

4. Options

Option 1: Do not proceed with the CRF Pilot

The PCC has the power to make grants but is under no obligation to offer a scheme of this kind. It could therefore be withdrawn and the budget reallocated.

However, this would withdraw a valuable source of support for community and voluntary sector organisations. It may lead to a reduction in the availability of activities which divert people from antisocial behaviour, having an adverse impact.

Option 2: Utilise the Community Safety Fund to provide a focus on specific locality-based issues instead of launching the CRF Pilot

The Community Safety Fund could be utilised to target specific issues in specific locations, however, this approach would remove a key aspect of public engagement which the CRF will provide via a public vote to choose the final project.

Option 3: Deliver a Community Response Fund Pilot (**preferred option**)

The pilot scheme would be known as the **Community Response Fund** and would form part of the Delivery Fund committed to in the Police and Crime Plan.

The CRF Pilot responds directly to the issues that the public have identified via Humber Talking. The CRF Pilot will focus on two specific areas within the Humber, providing funding for projects that seek to address a key issue identified by residents that is impacting on their local area.

The pilot will provide up to £10,000 to fund a project to address issues relating to antisocial behaviour identified in both Winterton and Bridlington South. The two initial locations are within areas that have had lower concentrations of funding through the Community Safety Fund.

The PCC's Office will undertake an initial appraisal on applications received to ensure that they meet the eligibility criteria of the programme. A shortlist of up to three projects per area will then be subject to a public vote with the project

receiving the highest number of votes in each location being awarded the funding (i.e. one project will be selected per area).

Applications will be made via our existing online portal using. There will be a minimum match-funding requirement of 10% (cash or in-kind), except in exceptional circumstances and the fund will be open for charities, community and voluntary sector organisations and town and parish councils to apply.

Full details are set out in the draft application guidance (see Appendix 1).

A list of all organisations and projects funded will be published on the OPCC website.

5. Financial Implications

Provision has been made for the scheme within the current budget.

6. Legal Implications

The PCC has the power to issue grants under Section 143 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Legal advice was sought on the Community Safety Fund Grant Agreement which will be used for this scheme.

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

The Police and Crime Plan sets out the PCC's commitment to develop a Delivery Fund "to support innovation, community resilience and reduce local crime". The creation of the Community Response Fund, to be managed by the OPCC, will form part of the Delivery Fund.

8. Equalities Implications

The scheme requires applications to be submitted online through an applications portal that has been purchased from an external provider. This has been designed to meet current accessibility requirements, but the guidance advises any individuals unable to use the portal to contact the OPCC for assistance.

9. Consultation

The following have been consulted during the development of the approach and are supportive of the preferred option:

- Chief Executive
- Data Protection Officer (who has confirmed the grants application portal meets legal requirements)
- Other OPCC officers with past involvement in grant-making
- Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspectors for Bridlington South and Winterton (pilot areas)
- Inspector leading on Humber Talking data
- Community Safety Partnerships

10. Media information

The scheme will require publicising to source a range of applications, particularly at launch and in advance of application deadlines.

The preferred approach will also involve the public directly in deciding on the successful project through a public vote.

There will be opportunities to promote the successful projects and publicise their impact.

11. Background documents

Community Response Fund Pilot - Guidance (March 2023) – published on website www.humberside-pcc.gov.uk/Community/Community-Response-Fund.aspx

12. Publication

Open

13. DPIA considered

Given the similarities in approach with the Community Safety Fund, the DPIA undertaken for that will be updated to include the Community Response Fund pilot.