

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

Decision Record Number: **28/2024**

Title: **Community Safety Fund Redistribution**

Executive Summary

The Community Safety Fund was launched in May 2022 offering grants towards the costs of community safety and crime reduction projects across the Humber area. To date there have been four bidding rounds which have resulted in the commitment of circa £1,500,000.

In order to enable an additional round of the Community Safety Fund in 2024/25 it is proposed that up to a further £350,000 is allocated to the fund. This report also seeks approval to enable projects to continue to spend in 2025/26, in exceptional circumstances as the original approval was only for spend until end of March 2025.

Decision of the PCC

Approved.

Background Report: Open

Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside

I confirm I have considered whether 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 31/07/2024

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMBERSIDE**

SUBMISSION FOR: DECISION

OPEN

Title: Community Safety Fund Round 5

Date: 17.07.2024

1. Executive Summary

The Community Safety Fund was launched in May 2022 offering grants towards the costs of community safety and crime reduction projects across the Humber area. To date there have been four bidding rounds which have resulted in the commitment of circa £1,500,000.

In order to enable an additional round of the Community Safety Fund in 2024/25 it is proposed that up to a further £350,000 is allocated to the fund. This report also seeks approval to enable projects to continue to spend in 2025/26, in exceptional circumstances, as the original approval was only for spend until end of March 2025.

2. Recommendation(s)

To allocate an additional £350,000 of the Community Safety Fund (CSF) budget from the projected underspend to enable the funding of additional projects which meet the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan as outlined in Section 3 Background and preferred Option 2.

To also give approval to enable projects to continue to spend in 2025/26, in exceptional circumstances.

3. Background

The Community Safety Fund was launched in May 2022 offering grants towards the costs of community safety and crime reduction projects across the Humber area. It is designed to support community organisations to kick-start local projects that will cut crime and antisocial behaviour and improve feelings of safety.

The Fund provides grants of between £500 and £35,000 towards projects that meet the scheme criteria. A total of £1.5m was allocated to the Fund between 2022/23 and 2024/25. Funding was distributed via bidding Rounds until the full allocation was committed to projects.

In order to provide funding for additional projects, it is proposed that a further allocation of £350,000 funding is committed to the scheme to allow a Round 5 to be launched. This will focus on the provision of funding to support investment in additional security measures in public spaces and community assets and the purchase of equipment / assets to support projects which divert people from crime or antisocial behaviour or support people at risk of becoming or previously been victims of crime.

There are also a small number of projects which, due to exceptional circumstances, may require approval to spend into 2025/26. The current approval only permits spend until 31 March 2025.

4. Options

Option 1 - Do nothing

This option is not recommended. This approach would not enable the CSF to have a greater impact on Police and Crime Plan outcomes through support for additional projects.

Option 2 – Allocate an additional budget of £350k to enable the launch of Round 5 of the Community Safety Fund and permit spend into 2025/26 in exceptional circumstances (**Recommended Option**)

This is the preferred option as it enables additional projects to be selected which contribute to delivering the outcomes of the Police and Crime Plan. It will also allow projects to continue into 2025/26 where there are legitimate reasons for delayed spend.

5. Financial Implications (Seek financial advice from Chief or Deputy Chief or Deputy Chief Finance Officer)

This proposal will be funded through funding allocated to the Community Safety Fund within the OPCC base budget, as well as additional funds from the Partnership Reserve.

6. Legal Implications (Seek advice from Legal Services)

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

Existing processes will be utilised to allocate any budget to projects and will be subject to existing Grant Agreements.

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

The Police and Crime Plan set out the PCC's commitment to develop a Delivery Fund "to support innovation, community resilience and reduce local crime". The Community Safety Fund is part of this Delivery Fund and this proposal seeks to provide additional resources to enhance the impact on the outcomes of the Police and Crime Plan.

8. Equalities Implications (Have due regard to the Public Section Equality Duty)

The scheme application form includes a question to capture any equalities implications for individual projects. These are considered as part of the appraisal and decision-making process.

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

Consultation has taken place with:

- Chief Executive
- Head of Policy and Partnerships
- Data Protection Officer
- Chief Finance Officer

10. Media information (Seek advice from Head of Communications)

There will continue to be regular opportunities to announce successful projects and publicise their impact.

This will be achieved by working in conjunction with the OPCC's Communications team.

11. Background documents (This will be published if open)

None

12. Publication

Open

13. DPIA considered (Data Protection Officer will complete full checklist – see attached)

Yes – a DPIA has been carried out for the Community Safety Fund and this proposal will not impact on the existing DPIA, it is simply providing additional resources within the same framework.