

Meeting **CABINET**

Date **27 July 2011**

agenda item **6**

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community Safety Funding

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval to allocate £755,000 from the Home Office Community Safety Fund, together with £200,000 from the County Council Community Safety Budget, to focus on 15 Partnership Plus Areas and countywide community safety priorities.

Background

2. Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are statutory partnerships with responsibility for reducing Crime and Disorder in Nottinghamshire. They are held to account through the Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB) Performance Group and ultimately the Board itself. The Home Office Community Safety Fund (CSF) for 2011/12 is £755,000 and will be allocated through the County Council this year. The funding available for 2012/13 is £392,000 and, subject to legislation, will become the responsibility of the Police & Crime Commissioner. In the past the County Council, as the Accountable Body, has allocated the funding (formerly known as the Area Based Grant) directly to the Community Safety Partnerships. It has not been possible to carry this funding over to the next financial year.
3. At the Council meeting on 24th February, it was agreed to defer decisions on how to distribute the CSF until actual figures were confirmed by the Home Office and options had been discussed with partners. Consultation has subsequently taken place with:
 - Chief executives, at their meeting on 15th April 2011
 - SNB Performance Group on 10th May 2011
 - Portfolio holder for Community Safety on 11th May 2011
4. Following this consultation, it is proposed that the CSPs will be empowered to commission work in the 15 Partnership Plus Areas (PPAs) listed in Appendix A, which were prioritised through the

Strategic Assessment as they have highest crime and anti social behaviour in the county. The delivery plans for the PPAs are comprehensive and are quality assured by the local CSP Board and Performance Groups, which have high level representation from key partnership agencies including the County Council.

5. It was also agreed through the consultations that the CSF together with the £200,000 Community Safety Portfolio Holder's allocation (totalling £955,000) should be split 70:30 between the Partnership Plus Areas (£44,500 per Partnership Plus Area) and countywide issues (£286,500).
6. Accountability for the £286,500 for the countywide issues will rest with the Commissioning Group, which will report directly to the SNB Performance Group. Initial indications are that Domestic Violence and Reducing Repeat Offending will be priorities for the countywide funding.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of the implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and users. Where such implications are material, they have been brought out in the text of this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications

8. The County Council, as a statutory partner under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, has a duty to work with partners in the police, the health service, fire authority district councils and voluntary sector to reduce the impact of crime and disorder.

RECOMMENDATION

9. It is recommended that:
 - i) Cabinet approves an allocation of £200,000 from the Community Safety Budget to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board for funding targeted work in the Partnership Plus Areas and countywide community safety priorities.
 - ii) Cabinet approves the allocation of the Home Office Community Safety Fund, with £44,500 for each of the 15 Partnership Plus Areas, to commission services/work locally.
 - iii) Cabinet agrees that the SNB Commissioning Group develops and implements a process for the allocation of funding of countywide initiatives and is authorised to approve funding up to a total of £286,500.

- iv) Cabinet agrees that the SNB Performance Group monitors performance against the agreed outcome measures in the Partnership Plus Areas and for the countywide initiatives.

COUNCILLOR MICK MURPHY

Cabinet Member for Community Safety

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Legal Services' Comments

Cabinet has authority to approve the recommendation set out in this report.
(NAB 14.06.11)

Comments of the Service Director – Finance

Adequate budget provision exists within the community safety budget to make the agreed contribution to fund the approved projects. Since the projects are been managed by external partners there is no further risk to the county (DD 06.07.11)

Background Papers Available for Inspection

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.