

20 July 2017

Agenda Item: 10

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR SOUTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND PUBLIC PROTECTION.**

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY BUDGET UPDATE: REQUEST FOR FUNDING.**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for committing **£132,334** of funding from the **£211,840** available through the Community Safety Initiatives Budget for 2017/18.
2. To seek approval to add the **£25,000** paid to Nottinghamshire County Council by the Office of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to the Community Safety Initiatives Budget. This would bring the amount available to **£236,840**.

#### **Information and Advice**

##### **Community Safety Initiatives Budget 2017/18**

3. Each year, a proportion of the Community Safety Budget is allocated to initiatives across the County that are designed to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, reduce the fear of crime, and increase levels of community safety and confidence within our communities. Initiatives are designed to tackle the issues that are causing the most harm to communities and individuals.
4. The amount available for 2017/18 is £211,840.
5. £25,000 is also received from the Office of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner for acting as the Accountable Body for the grant received from the OPCC. Related activity undertaken by the Community Safety Team includes monitoring the use of this funding by Community Safety Partnerships and Safer Nottinghamshire Board priority theme leads. In previous years these monies have been added to the amount available through the Community Safety Initiative Budget.

## **Funding to support neighbourhood working - £93,334**

6. Each year, a proportion of the Community Safety Budget is allocated to Community Safety Partnerships across the County to support work in localities.
7. Each Community Safety Partnership develops activities to utilise this funding based on their local knowledge and understanding of key issues in their locality.
8. A funding formula has been developed, based on factors such as crime rates, for the allocation of this money to the three Community Safety Strategic Groups across Nottinghamshire, which would see the distribution of these monies as follows:

Mansfield / Ashfield,	55.6% = £51,894
Newark and Sherwood, and Bassetlaw	26.9% = £25,107
South Nottinghamshire	17.5% = £16,333

9. How these amounts are distributed within each locality is a local decision.

## **Working with Individuals who Hoard - £12,000**

10. At the Community Safety Committee in February 2016 approval was given for an amount of £3,000 to support this work. The availability of this service was very well received by Community Safety partners, with colleagues from Newark and Sherwood immediately requesting support for a complex case they are managing.
11. Compulsive hoarding is defined as the uncontrollable need to obtain items and / or the inability to throw anything away. Compulsive hoarding presents a concern to family and friends of the hoarder, and in many cases to neighbours and the overall community. There are a number of dangers directly to the hoarder, and in many cases this can present a larger issue. For example fire risks, illness resulting from issues relating to basis hygiene, and falling.
12. Jigsaw, a voluntary and community sector organisation based in Mansfield, run a support service for people who hoard that has helped twenty individuals living in Ashfield and Mansfield in the past twelve months. Referrals have come from a number of organisations and also family members.
13. The provision of a further £12,000 funding would enable this service to continue and to also further strengthen its work by forming closer links with the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service who took the lead on the development of the countywide Hoarding Protocol. This protocol sets out a framework for collaborative multi-agency working within Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire using a 'person centred solution' based model. The protocol offers clear guidance to staff working with people who hoard, and the provision by Jigsaw would enhance this offer.
14. This project is led by the Community and Voluntary Sector Team.

## **Community Cohesion Project - £20,000**

15. This project would be led by the Community and Voluntary Sector Team, working collaboratively with the Community Safety Team.
16. The unprecedented pace and scale of population change has been having an impact, particularly in areas classed as deprived, at a time when Britain has been recovering from a recession and concerns about terrorism, immigration and the future of public services have been running high. Problems of social exclusion have persisted for some ethnic minority groups, and poorer White British communities. Added to this Brexit has posed another question about unity as a nation, sparking increased reports of racist and xenophobic hatred (Casey Review 2016).
17. Community cohesion is about how people get along together in our communities and so is highly important. Community development and promoting cohesion can help to defuse difficult and tense situations. If people are unable to get on, tension and intolerance start to emerge, which can lead to fragmented neighbourhoods and increases in antisocial behaviour. Across Nottinghamshire the Community and Voluntary Sector Team have been working with communities to help people get on well together by trying to:
  - Increase community engagement, a sense of belonging and pride
  - Increase and promote interaction between people
  - Increase safety and respect for individuals and communities
18. Bringing together community engagement and community cohesion provides a positive framework for understanding how to promote community representation in ways that take account of diversity and population change. Through maximising local intelligence and knowledge the team identify:
  - Whose views are heard, and whose are not;
  - What are the barriers to being heard and how can they be overcome;
  - How these barriers could be addressed in ways that would promote community cohesion, rather than increasing competition within and between communities.
19. This will help to develop ways of working in which new and emerging communities can be involved effectively, together with more established communities, thereby increasing cohesion and mutual solidarity. Examples of support and intervention may include:
  - Working with local voluntary groups to enable new and emerging communities to become involved in their local community
  - Supporting the development of informal networks which can provide valuable ways to communicate with new communities and provide support for people who may be isolated.
  - Community development support to enable new groups to constitute themselves formally and so gain increased recognition;

- Developing ways of challenging negative stereotypes, used most effectively when part of wider strategies to promote increased understanding between communities;
- Supporting shared events including community festivals and sports events, outings and welcome events as part of wider strategies to promote community cohesion.

20. An amount of £20,000 is requested to support the promotion of community cohesion activities and projects across Nottinghamshire. Examples may include:

- Helping young people from different communities to engage with each other and service providers
- Supporting volunteering across communities by developing intergenerational / multi community networks and good neighbourhood schemes
- Shared community events
- Myth busting literature, communication and social media
- Working with representatives of new communities, refugees and other mobile communities not currently represented by mainstream community organisations and groups to improve community engagement and empowerment.
- Looking at how the provision of reliable and standardised data on the population turnover experienced by a community, can facilitate effective service planning and user / citizen involvement.
- Develop proactive communication strategies, including challenging negative stereotyping within and between communities.

### **Dragon's Den Style Project - £7,000**

21. This will be the ninth year this project, which has won a national award, is being delivered. Each year a new school year of students, across seven secondary schools in Ashfield, get the opportunity to participate in developing a response to issues of most concern to them.
22. This year the project will join forces with a regional arts based project using the learning from Shakespeare as a starting point to explore contemporary issues. This will specifically provide an opportunity to discuss issues recently raised for young people as a result of the Manchester bombing and the emerging counter narrative to fear illustrating communities coming together.
23. In the first phase of this work Year Ten students from the participating schools come together to form an Ashfield wide Community Safety Arts Lab / Hub. The students will be asked to design a community event to take place in April 2018 to celebrate creativity, innovation and culture to bring communities together to prevent fear, promote emotional well-being, resilience and community safety.
24. The project also involves Ashfield District Council, Nottinghamshire Police and the Youth Commissioners. There will also be expert input from Emerge, and young artists and the project is looking to work collaboratively with the provider for the commissioned children and young people's resilience service.

25. In phase two each school staff group, alongside a group of young artists, will receive expert input in relation to the thematic aims and how this relates to recent events.
26. In phase three a young artist will then work alongside the above expert to provide issue based arts workshops relating to the theme for the students and support them to produce a creative element to contribute to a community event. Funding is already secured for the art element of the project and the community event.
27. In phase four students will work on their art pieces to plan and create a unique campaign / market stall or performance for a community event which addresses the theme, which will take place in April 2018. Each school and student will participate in the event, with a judging panel selecting the best contribution.
28. The intended outcomes of this project include raising the students' awareness of the importance of self-care and personal resilience and resilience across their school and local community.

## Other Options Considered

29. There will be other options for use of the 2017/18 community safety initiatives budget and proposed spends of the remaining balance **£79,506 (or £104,506 if the recommendation to add the money from the OPCC is approved)** will be the subject of future reports to the Communities and Place Committee.

## Reason/s for Recommendation/s

30. Community Safety remains one of the key concerns for the residents of Nottinghamshire. The recommendations contained within this report will enable funding to action a range of targeted projects, specifically designed to combat issues of crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime. Any reductions in these issues will encourage the development of strong, healthy and vibrant communities thus reducing risks to those deemed as vulnerable within those communities

## Statutory and Policy Implications.

31. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## Financial Implications

32. The report seeks to commit £132,334 of the £211,840 Community Safety Initiative Budget that is available for 2017/18. The amount of £132,334 is made up of the following proposed allocations:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Proposed Allocation</b>
Funding to support neighbourhood working	£93,334
Working with individuals who Hoard	£12,000
Community Cohesion Project	£20,000
Dragons Den Style Project	£7,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£132,334</b>

This leaves a remaining amount unallocated of £79,506.

33. The report also seeks to add to this amount the £25,000 paid to Nottinghamshire County Council by the OPCC for undertaking the Accountable Body role. If agreed this would take the amount unallocated to £104,506.

## RECOMMENDATION/S:

34. It is recommended that the approvals for the allocation of the **£132,334** of funding from the Community Safety Initiatives Budget for 2017/18 be approved.

35. It is recommended that the £25,000 paid to Nottinghamshire County Council by the OPCC in recognition of its Accountable Body role be added to the amount available through the Community Safety Initiative Budget for 2017/18.

**PAUL MCKAY**

**Service Director, South Nottinghamshire & Public Protection**

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Vicky Cropley, Team Manager Community Safety x 72040

## Constitutional Comments ( )

The recommendations in the report fall within the Terms of Reference of the Communities and Place Committee.

## Financial Comments (CT63 - 29.06.17)

The financial implications are contained within Paragraphs 32 and 33 of this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

None

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s)**

All