

OFFICER DECISION RECORD

For staff restructures, please also complete an RA1 form to update the HR Portal. This is attached at Annex 2.

Decision Ref. No:
AHWB/036/2017 Approval
to receive grant funding

Box 1

DIRECTORATE: Adults Health and Well Being **DATE:** 3.5.17

Well Being

Contact Name: Bill Hotchkiss

Tel. No.: 01302 2862507

Subject Matter: Approval to receive grant funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Box 2

DECISION TAKEN:

- 1) To approve the receipt of grant funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), which will enable the Community Safety Service to administer this fund on behalf of the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP)
- 2) To approve the receipt of Domestic Abuse grant funding from the OPCC, which will be ring fenced and used for the purpose of funding Domestic Abuse Caseworkers for this financial year.

Box 3

REASON FOR THE DECISION:

Decision 1

We have received notification from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner that the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership will receive a Community Safety Grant of £169 k, which is allocated every year to fund initiatives and projects agreed by the partnership and linked to Partnership priorities.

The Community Safety service within DMBC administer the grant funding on behalf of the partnership, gaining approval from the OPCC, submitting quarterly financial returns and monitoring underspends. The use of underspends from the grant requires approval from the OPCC and any unspent funds have to be returned in line with the terms of the grant from Central Government.

At this stage the SSDP have identified a number of projects, linked to our community safety priorities, which will be funded going forward. At least two of these initiatives are projects which commenced last year and are linked to the ambition of the partnership to improve our response to Domestic Abuse and to improve data analysis and performance monitoring by the SSDP.

Decision 2

The second decision relates to the approval to use a further award of grant funding from the OPCC. This grant is slightly different in that it is specifically to be used to fund Domestic Abuse services in Doncaster and is allocated to each local authority area within the County.

In the case of Doncaster the Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed that this £69k grant can be used for the purpose of funding three Domestic Abuse Caseworkers. These caseworkers provide an important and crucial support service to medium and standard risk victims of Domestic Abuse, who form a substantial percentage of the overall number of victims.

Last year the service supported over 1,000 victims and since their introduction there has been a 40% increase in referrals to the service. Funding for the caseworkers for this financial year has been in jeopardy and therefore using the allocated grant from the OPCC will fund the posts until March 2018 at which time a more long term funding arrangement will be in place in line with the newly published Domestic Abuse Strategy.

Box 4

OPTIONS CONSIDERED & REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

Present a business case to the Senior Management Team seeking approval to use grant funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in a specified way.

Option 1: Do Nothing

This is not viewed as a viable option as without the required approval to use grant funding in this way may risk non-compliance with financial regulations.

Should we not take up the option to utilise this funding it would also place at risk a number of important projects and existing services, identified by both DMBC and the SSDP as being significant and vital for service delivery.

Option 2: Seek approval to use the grant funding received from the OPCC for the purpose specified in this report.

Recommended option, utilising the additional funding would enable continuity of existing Domestic Abuse services, maintaining the ability to take referrals and continuing to meet the demands from all referral agencies within Doncaster.

Utilising the larger Community Safety grant would enable the SSDP to continue to tackle the key priorities identified within the Community Safety strategy. The three key priorities being :

- Protecting vulnerable people
- Reduce anti-social Behaviour, crime and re-offending
- Reduce substance and alcohol misuse and the associated effects on crime

Box 5

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides the Council with a general power of competence, allowing the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do.

The Financial Procedure Rules set out the responsibilities on the Director with regard to the receipt and allocation of funding and such provisions should be complied with at all times.

Legal Services should be consulted with regard to the £30 000.00 allocated to South Yorkshire Police , to provide advice and the funding agreement.

The Council's constitution should be complied with.

Name: Nicky Dobson Signature: (Via e-mail) Date: 25.5.17
Signature of Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services (or representative)

Box 6**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

It is proposed to accept grant funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for 2017/18 after the budget has been set. The purpose for which the grants are to be used is set out by OPCC. The grants are payable in arrears on provision of evidence that the grant has been spent according to the agreed plans.

As described in the body of the report, there are two separate grants. One grant is for the DMBC Domestic Abuse (DA) Service (£69k) and one is a Community Safety Grant (£169k) for the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SDP).

The £69k DA grant contributes towards the cost of three Domestic Abuse Caseworkers (DACs). The full cost of 3 DACs is between £74k - £83k dependent upon the scale point. The remainder will be met from carefully managed underspends within the Community Safety budget.

The Community Safety SDP grant is specifically for funding Domestic Abuse services in Doncaster and is allocated to each local authority area within the County. The table below shows the items that have been agreed to be funded by this grant in 2017/18. It is anticipated that any small variances from the agreed contributions that may arise can be absorbed within the allocation, providing the overall spend is within the £169k allocated.

Community Safety (SDP) Grant Approved Expenditure	Agreed Contribution
Partnership Performance Analyst - South Yorkshire Police.	£30,000
Domestic and Sexual Abuse Programme Manager. DMBC Grade 12 temporary post.	£59,500
Domestic Abuse Workforce Development Manager. DMBC grade 8 temporary post.	£30,000
Interventions to target the use of illegal off road motorcycling and signage in key locations including signage and marketing materials.	£500
Community Safety Partnership (CSP) initiatives / focus regarding future structure. Exact activity to be determined by CSP and submitted to OPCC for approval.	£49,000
TOTAL	£169,000

Financial procedure rule E9 states that Directors are responsible for ensuring that action plans are in place (including exit strategies) for all external funding within the Directorate. For these two grants the posts are either being recruited to on a temporary basis or alternative permanent funding is being secured for future years.

There is currently only one payment to an external body agreed within this allocation.

This is £30k to fund the Performance Analyst employed by South Yorkshire Police. Financial procedure rule E15 regarding the issue of grants will need to be followed which includes ensuring that a suitable funding agreement between DMBC and SYP is in place. If any further grants to external parties are issued as part of the initiatives pot, a further report will be required to approve this as per financial procedure rule E14 and again a suitable funding agreement will need to be put in place.

Name: Olivia Brown Signature: (via e-mail) Date: 16/05/17
Signature of Assistant Director of Finance & Performance
(or representative)

Box 7

HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no Human Resources implications to this decision.

Name: D L Dawson Signature: [REDACTED] Date: 3.05.17
Signature of Assistant Director of Human Resources and Communications (or representative)

Box 8

PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS:

The receipt of the funding in itself does not carry any procurement implications however any subsequent spend of this funding must be in line with Doncaster Council CPR requirements

[redaction]

Name: Daniel Charlesworth Signature: [REDACTED] Date: 9th May 2017
Signature of Assistant Director of Finance & Performance
(or representative)

Box 9

ICT IMPLICATIONS:

There are no direct ICT implications in implementing the recommended option contained in this report. If any requirements are identified in relation to network and infrastructure on this site, then a business case should be submitted to the ICT Governance Board for full technical consideration to be given in relation to the network and any statutory and compliance obligations that the Council must adhere to in securing PSN compliance.

Name: Dan Parry Signature: D. Parry Date: 05.05.17
Signature of Assistant Director of Customer Services and ICT
(or representative)

Box 10

ASSET IMPLICATIONS:

There are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report that impact on the use of DMBC assets.

Name: Gillian Fairbrother (Assets Manager, Project Co-ordinator)
Signature: By email Date: 3rd May, 2017

Box 11**RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

The SSDP being unable to utilise the grant funding put forward by the OPCC would significantly affect key work-streams identified by the partnership as key areas of business and focus for this year.

Failure to maintain existing DA services may result in a key part of the new Domestic Abuse Strategy not being implemented and would increase the risk to victims and families by failing to offer support to a key cohort of victims.

[redaction]

Name: Bill Hotchkiss Signature:
(Report author)

Date: 3rd May 2017

Box 12**EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:**

Equality impact assessments completed during the development of the Domestic Abuse and Community Safety Strategy identified that the Partnership and DMBC deliver key services to under-represented groups and individuals with protected characteristics.

The proposals for use of this grant funding enables the Partnership and ourselves as a public authority to discharge our responsibilities effectively within the terms of the Equality Act, ensuring that our services do not tolerate prohibited behaviours and we actively work to reduce discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and the fostering of good relations.

[redaction]

Name: Bill Hotchkiss Signature:
(Report author)

Date: 3rd May 2017

Box 13**CONSULTATION**

The cabinet member for Community Safety Councillor Chris McGuinness has been fully consulted and briefed on the proposal and fully supports the decision for use of the two grants.

SSDP members have also been fully consulted and have agreed for DMBC to act as the administrators of the grant submitting quarterly financial returns to the OPCC as we have done in previous years.

[redaction]

Name: Bill Hotchkiss Signature:
(Report author)

Date: 3rd May 2017

Box 14

INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION:

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, it is in the Public's interests for this decision to be published in full. [redaction] only the signatures.

Name: Gillian Parker Signature: _____ Date: 25/05/2017
Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

[redaction]

Box 15

Signed: _____ Date: 30/5/17
Director/Assistant Director

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Additional Signature of Chief Financial Officer or nominated representative for Capital decisions (if required)

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Signature of Mayor or relevant Cabinet Member consulted on the above decision (if required).

- This decision can be implemented immediately unless it relates to a Capital Scheme that requires the approval of Cabinet. All Cabinet decisions are subject to call in.
- A record of this decision should be kept by the relevant Director's PA for accountability and published on the Council's website.
- A copy of this decision should be sent to the originating Directorate's FOI Lead Officer to consider 'information not for publication' prior to being published on the Council's website.
- A PDF copy of the signed decision record should be e-mailed to the LA Democratic Services mailbox

