

OFFICER DECISION RECORD 1 FORM

This form should be used to record Officer Decisions in Excess of £100k (but below the key decision threshold), or where required by Financial, Contract or other Procedure Rules or following formal delegation from Cabinet or a Cabinet Member or a Council Committee.

Decision Reference No: AHWB.022.2021 Grant Funding from OPCC

BOX 1**DIRECTORATE:**

Adults, Health and Well Being

Contact Name: Bill Hotchkiss

DATE: 28.04.21

Tel. No: 01302 737831

Subject Matter:

Approval to receive grant funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

BOX 2**DECISION TAKEN**

To approve the receipt of grant funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), which will enable the Safer Stronger Communities Service to administer this fund on behalf of the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP).

BOX 3**REASON FOR THE DECISION**

We have received notification from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner that the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) will receive a Community Safety Grant of £129,391, which is allocated every year to fund initiatives and projects agreed by the partnership and linked to Partnership and OPCC priorities.

The Safer Stronger Communities service within Doncaster Council administers the grant funding on behalf of the partnership, gaining approval from the OPCC for proposed activity; submitting bi-annual 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 proposed the activity below for the 2021-22 funding allocation. This is a similar approach to last year, which worked well and has been discussed and agreed informally with the OPCC:

- The continuation of the Workforce Development Officer post - £36,507;
- The continuation of the OCG Co-ordinator post - £31,800
- Support to strategic theme groups within the SSDP structure - £50k (£10k per group to allow them to respond to emerging issues throughout the year);
- Retention of an initiatives pot to allow the wider partnership access to funding for any initiatives/activity that may be required throughout the year - £11,084

BOX 4

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

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; we 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 posts, projects and existing services, identified by both Doncaster Council 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 this additional grant funding in the way identified above would enable continuity of existing Safer Communities services and key South Yorkshire Police roles, in addition to supporting initiatives and activities to respond to emerging priorities and challenges throughout the financial year. Utilising the Community Safety Fund grant would enable the SSDP to continue to tackle the key priorities identified within the Community Safety strategy, as below:

- Protecting Vulnerable People;
- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour;
- Reducing Crime and Re-offending;
- Tackling Serious and Organised Crime;
- Reducing Substance and Alcohol Misuse.

BOX 5

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the local authority the power to do anything that individuals may generally do.

In relation to the staffing proposals, S112 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows a local authority to appoint such officers as are necessary for the proper discharge of its functions, on such reasonable terms and conditions as it thinks fit. Salary grade should be determined by job evaluation. When recruiting to these posts consideration should be given to establishing them as temporary contracts for a fixed term and appropriate advice sought from HR and Legal. If the length of the contract exceeds 1 year upon termination the Employee may be entitled to be placed on the redeployment register and after 2 years may be entitled to a redundancy payment. It is important that sight is not lost of the Council's recruitment and retention and vacancy management policies which should be followed.

Funding of any third party bodies should be subject to funding agreements.

Name: Scott Fawcus Signature: S.R. Fawcus Date: 30.04.21
Signature of Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services (or representative)

BOX 6**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

This report seeks approval to receive external funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) after the 21/22 budget has been set as per financial procedure rule E9. £129,391 has been awarded towards Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership initiatives as outlined in the body of this report. This grant is allocated on a year by year basis after the council budget has been set. Formal confirmation of any further years allocation is not given. The grant is ring fenced to expenditure approved by the OPCC and are claimed in arrears after approved expenditure has been incurred, in line with the terms of the grant.

Name: Cheryl Slade Signature: C. Slade AH&WB Date: 04/05/21

Signature of Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance (or representative)

BOX 7**OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Assistant Director (or representative)

ANY IMPLICATIONS SENT TO DEPARTMENTS SHOULD GENERALLY BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 5 WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE TO ENSURE THESE CAN BE GIVEN THE RELEVANT CONSIDERATION.

BOX 8**EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:** (To be completed by the author).

Equality impact assessments completed during the development of the Community Safety Strategy and other key partnership strategies identified that the Partnership and Doncaster Council 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.

BOX 9**RISK IMPLICATIONS:** (To be completed by the author)

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

Failure to maintain existing services may result in priorities not being delivered and may increase the risk to victims and families across the crime and disorder agenda.

BOX 10
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 grant. SSDP members have also been fully consulted and have agreed for Doncaster Council to act as the administrators of the grant submitting bi-annual financial returns to the OPCC as we have done in previous years. Regular updates regarding the Grant activity and spend are provided to SSDP members at Executive Board meetings.

BOX 11

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, redacting only the signatures.

Name: Gillian Parker_ Signature by email_ Date: _04/05/2021_

Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

BOX 12

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Please confirm if any Background Papers are included with this ODR (NO)

(If YES please list and submit these with this form)

BOX 13

AUTHORISATION

Name: Phil Holmes **Signature:** _____
Director of Adults Health and Wellbeing

Date: 05/05/2021

Does this decision require authorisation by the Chief Financial Officer or other Officer

NO

If yes please authorise below:

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Chief Executive/Director/Assistant Director of _____

Consultation with Relevant Member(s)

Name: Chris McGuinness **Signature:** _____ **Date:** 04/05/2021

Designation Cabinet Member for Communities, Voluntary Sector & the Environment

(e.g. Mayor, Cabinet Member or Committee Chair/Vice-Chair)

Declaration of Interest YES/NO

If YES please give details below:

PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE IN FULL UNLESS IT CONTAINS EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

Once completed a PDF copy of this form and any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk who will arrange publication.

It is the responsibility of the decision taker to clearly identify any information that is confidential or exempt and should be redacted before publication.