

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.033.2021 OPCC Grant Funding

BOX 1**DIRECTORATE:**

Adults, Health and Well Being

Contact Name: Bill Hotchkiss

DATE: 29/6/21

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 relates to the successful award of Safer Streets Funding from the Home Office.

BOX 3**REASON FOR THE DECISION**

We have received notification from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner that Doncaster will receive £106k of funding from the second round of the Home Office Safer Streets fund.

Doncaster was part of an initial tri-partite bid with Rotherham and Barnsley Councils and South Yorkshire Police. The bid sought to fund a number of initiatives in the Dearne Valley area to tackle acquisitive crime, enhance investigations and improve public confidence. The bid for Doncaster focused upon the Mexborough area, as we were aware of particular issues following a recent murder in January this year.

The bid for Mexborough was based around the following outcomes:

- Improved public sense of safety, pertinent to recent events.
- Improved confidence in the partner agencies
- Disruption to Organised Crime Group (OCG) activity
- Deter and detect a wide range of other crimes (environmental, crimes against the person etc.)

The awarded funding totals £106k and is broken down into three main elements. The first is £32k awarded for the target hardening of properties, using smartwater and other crime reduction tools.

The second is £64k provided for the purchase of additional CCTV, which will be positioned in key areas with higher levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, or where the public feel vulnerable. Work has already started in identifying these areas.

The final element is £10k to be used for the development of neighbourhood networks. These networks will be very important, as they will involve the local community developing active groups to follow similar principals to neighbourhood watch. The funding will kick-start these local groups and fund the purchase of signage and marketing materials.

In terms of administering the funding, we have an established locality Partnership structure in the Mexborough area (Mexborough Locality Bronze Plus) which would be able to monitor the project going forward, recognising the funding would have to be spent by March 2022.

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 mean that a number of important projects for this area would not go ahead.

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 this way would enable the Council and partners the ability to support local initiatives and activities and respond to emerging priorities and challenges. It would also enable the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (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 provides the Council with a general power of competence, allowing the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives the Council power to purchase goods and services.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 makes it clear that tackling crime should be a partnership matter, with key local organisations working together to achieve a shared strategy for the benefit of local communities.

The grant agreement contains terms and conditions which must be complied with so that clawback is not invoked.

Name: Nicky Dobson

Signature: by email Date: 18th August 2021

BOX 6

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Capital

The approved 2021/22 Adults, Health & Wellbeing Capital Programme does not currently include this project.

The proposed grant will need to be approved by CFO and relevant director in line with financial procedure rules below.

E.9 Directors are authorised to apply for external funding, in consultation with the CFO, which contribute to the delivery of Council services or achievement of Council goals. Grant acceptance and/or commitment is subject to key decision rules.

The capital cost amount of £106k is for the installation of CCTV along with other crime/anti-social behaviour reduction tools at Mexborough identified in the body of this report. The proposed grant will be fully funded from the Home Office Safer Streets Fund via the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Contingency has not been included in these figures because the service have received fixed cost quotations, there is no anticipation there will be any cost increases for the duration of the project.

The conditions of the grant state that all grant funded activity must be delivered by 31 March 2022 and all expenditure must be completed by 31 March 2022. The service will need to ensure the timescales are managed in accordance with the grant conditions in order to avoid the council incurring costs that they are unable to claim for.

The on-going maintenance costs of circa £2k will be funded from existing budgets within community safety. The first 12 months will be covered by the manufacturer's warranty.

Name: Cheryl Slade Signature: C.Slade Date: 12.07.21

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)

Being unable to utilise the grant funding would significantly affect potential 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 Rachael Blake has been fully consulted and briefed on the proposal and fully supports the decision for use of the awarded funding. SSDP

members have also been fully consulted and have agreed for Doncaster Council to act as the administrators of the grant submitting financial returns to the OPCC, which will be required by the Home Office. Regular updates regarding the Grant activity and spend will be provided to South Silver Locality meeting, chaired by Director Riana Nelson.

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: _12/08/2021

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

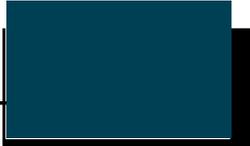
Name: Phil Holmes Signature:  Date: 12/08/2021

Director of Adults Health and Wellbe

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

Yes

If yes please authorise below:

Name: Faye Tyas Signature:  Date: 12/08/2021

Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance

Consultation with Relevant Member(s)

Name: Rachael Blake Signature:  Date: 23/08/2021

Designation Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities
(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.