

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

DATE: 23 June 2017



LEAD OFFICER: CARYS WALKER
PARTNERSHIP & COMMITTEE OFFICER

SUBJECT: LOCAL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING
DIVISION: All

<p><u>SUMMARY OF ISSUE:</u></p> <p>The local committee has a delegated budget of £3,000 for community safety projects in 2017/18. This report sets out the process by which this funding should be allocated to the Community Safety Partnership and/or other local community organisations that promote the safety and wellbeing of residents. The report also provides a progress update regarding last year's funding.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to agree that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The committee's delegated community safety budget of £3,000 for 2017/18 be retained by the Community Partnership Team, on behalf of the Local Committee, and that the Community Safety Partnership and/or other local organisations be invited to submit proposals for funding that meet the criteria and principles set out at paragraph 2.4 of this report. (ii) Authority be delegated to the Community Partnership Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the local committee and divisional members as appropriate, to authorise the expenditure of the community safety budget in accordance with the criteria and principles stated in paragraphs 2.5-2.11 of this report. (iii) The committee receives updates on the project(s) that was funded, the outcomes and the impact it has achieved.
<p><u>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>The report sets out a process for allocating the committee's delegated community safety budget of £3,000 to local organisations to achieve the recommendations outlined above.</p> <p>There is also an update on how last year's funding was used in order to provide visibility and promote accountability within the CSP.</p>

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Prior to 2016, the local committee had historically chosen to passport its delegated community safety funding to the local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to assist in their efforts to tackle crime and anti- social behaviour on behalf of residents.
- 1.2 Following countywide analysis of the projects that were funded through CSPs and the outcomes achieved, the local committee agreed that its local CSP should firstly be invited to provide an outline of any prospective projects that could be supported from the committee's funding for approval. This aimed to provide greater oversight of the committee's expenditure. In the context of the County's Medium Term Financial Plan and the requirement upon all county services to contribute to significant savings, the process would also help to achieve better value for money from projects in support of the County Council's wider community safety priorities.
- 1.3 In 2016/17, the committee awarded £3,000 as a contribution toward the costs of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) in Waverley. An overview of the initiative is outlined below. A more detailed progress review will be brought to Local Committee in December.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 DHRs are a statutory requirement under the Domestic Violence & Victims Act 2004 and review any case where there has been a death at the hands of a relative or member of the same household. The purpose of the review is to evaluate the role of the authorities prior to, during and after the incident. The lessons learned are used to shape future practice and prevent further cases of a similar nature
- 2.2 Since the inception of these measures Waverley has had conducted 3 DHRs (more than any other borough in Surrey) and a 4th is anticipated in 2017.
- 2.3 It is a legal requirement for DHR's to employ the services of an independent chairman to oversee proceedings as well as the acquisition of any specialised expertise needed. In addition, there is a requirement for substantial administrative resource and this may come from either an internal or external source. Therefore DHRs can be an expensive measure, currently averaging approximately £10-£12,000 with the highest cost so far being £25,000. This is funding that Waverley Borough Council has been picking up so far. The CSP executive therefore prioritised DHR's to be its top funding priority.

- 2.4 The funding awarded to the CSP last year has gone towards the completion of DHR3. This report from this review has now been submitted to the Home Office for quality assurance and is expected to be published in November. A full update on this will be prepared for December's committee.
- 2.5 As in the previous year, a clear and simple process designed to support CSPs will be adopted in order that funds can be processed efficiently this year.
- 2.6 Local CSPs will be invited to submit a brief outline of the projects that they would like to put the committee's funding towards, on a simple template designed for this purpose.
- 2.7 To assist CSPs in identifying suitable projects, the following criteria will be provided as a guide:
- (a) Results in residents feeling safer
 - (b) Has clear outcomes that align with the priorities of the Local Committee and/or the CSP
 - (c) Is non recurrent expenditure
 - (d) Does not fund routine CSP activities (e.g. salaries, training)
 - (e) Is not subsumed into generalised or non-descript funding pots
 - (f) Does not duplicate funding already provided (e.g. domestic abuse services, youth work, transport costs, literature which could be co-ordinated across all CSPs)
- 2.8 To ensure funds can be utilised within the current financial year, it is suggested that a deadline of **29 September 2017** is imposed for the submission of outline projects by CSPs and/or local organisations. This deadline will be communicated widely to local CSPs and partner organisations.
- 2.9 To ensure that funds can be distributed speedily and efficiently, it is recommended that authority is delegated to the Community Partnership Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee, along with the relevant divisional member, to authorise the expenditure of the committee's funds outside the formal quarterly committee meeting cycle. This should allow local organisations to obtain approval, initiate and implement projects with the minimum of delay.
- 2.10 Once implemented, the CSP and any other recipients of this funding will be required to provide the local committee with a short update on each project, outlining how the funding was used and the difference and impact it has made in the local community.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 All viable options were considered and appraised when forming the recommendations to the Local committee. The previous arrangement, whereby the committee transferred both its funding and the decision-making about how

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the funding could be used to the CSP was not considered to provide sufficient information on the impact that the funding or the outcomes it had achieved.

- 3.2 The recommended funding arrangements will employ a simple process for the commitment of funds by the committee to enable greater scrutiny over the use of this funding.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Local committee chairmen were collectively consulted about this process for allocating community safety funding as recommended in this report, before its implementation last year,

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The costs of the recommendations in this report are contained within existing revenue budgets. Early scrutiny of proposed projects by CSPs and local organisations will help to achieve better value for money for the Committee's funding.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 There are no direct equalities or diversity implications. However, through its membership of the local CSP and external bodies, the County Council can help to ensure that local services are accessible to harder to reach groups. The CSP also maintains ongoing monitoring of hate and domestic abuse crimes.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 The proposals contained in this report will enable CSPs and/or other suitable local organisations to submit projects that support the County Council's strategic goal of enhancing resident experience.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out below
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications.
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications.
Safeguarding responsibilities for	No significant implications.

vulnerable children and adults	
Public Health	No significant implications

8.1 Crime and Disorder implications

The county council's membership of local CSPs helps ensure the achievement of its community safety priorities. The committee's funding for local community safety projects enables the CSP and/or other local organisations to help to promote safety, reduce crime, and tackle antisocial behaviour and raise awareness of safer practices and behaviours.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 The recommendations contained in this report are intended to secure greater oversight of the committee's community safety expenditure and achieve better value for money through projects that help to achieve the County's community safety priorities.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 The CSP will be advised of the funding process agreed by the Local Committee and invited to access this funding.

Contact Officer:

Carys Walker Partnership and Committee Officer, Telephone 01483 517530

Consulted:

Surrey's local committee chairmen and local committee members.

Annexes:

None

Sources/background papers:

Waverley Local Committee, September 2016. Item 9, Local Committee funding of Community Safety Projects

