



WOKING JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 26 June 2019
LEAD OFFICER: GORDON FALCONER, COMMUNITY SAFETY MANAGER
 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING 2019-20
AREA: WOKING

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

The local committee has a delegated budget of £3,000 for community safety projects in 2019/20. 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Woking Joint Committee is asked to agree that:

- (i) The committee's delegated community safety budget of £3000 for 2019/20 be retained by the Surrey County Council Community Partnership Team, on behalf of the Joint Committee, and that the Safer Woking Partnership and/or other local organisations be invited to submit proposals for funding that meet the criteria and principles set out in this report.
- (ii) Authority be delegated to the Community Partnership Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the joint committee and divisional members as appropriate, to authorise the expenditure of the community safety budget in accordance with the criteria and principles stated in section 3 of this report.
- (iii) The committee receives updates on the project(s) that was funded, the outcomes and the impact it has achieved.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

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.

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.

2. LAST YEARS FUNDING:

2018/19 - £3,000 for an Eagle Radio Campaign. Waverley, Guildford, Surrey Heath and Woking CSPs have in previous years worked with Eagle Radio to create a series of radio clips aimed at raising awareness of various community safety issues, such as domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour in parks and open spaces, neighbour related anti-social behaviour /noise, deliberate and accidental fire setting, anti-social parking and alcohol awareness.

In 2018 the four CSPs submitted a joint application for £3,000 each from the relevant local or joint committee in their area, to fund further collaboration with Eagle Radio. The proposed project included plans to re-run some of the existing radio campaigns, but also to create a new video to promote awareness and help increase public reporting of serious and organised crime. This might involve modern slavery, child exploitation, 'cuckooing', county line drug dealing, but once created this video would be shared across a variety of social media platforms and there will be the opportunity for all CSPs in Surrey to use it.

In November 2018 the CSPs commissioned Eagle Radio Video Production department to produce a bespoke video on serious and organised crime, a series of shorter custom videos and a separate video on knife crime.

The main video will concentrate on the issues of modern slavery and county line drug dealing. Eagle Radio is currently developing the script based on two case studies of real life events in Surrey, and which are supported by actual witness statements.

In January 2019, the CSPs secured the support of Surrey Police's Communications Manager to work with the Eagle to develop these videos and allowed the CSPs to link in with the Surrey Police's corporate communications timetable. As a result the video's launch will be supported by appropriate communications material and the annual awareness raising week in July 2019.

Any residual funding will be used to promote the new videos across Surrey.

3. 2019/20 FUNDING:

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.

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.

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)

To ensure funds can be utilised within the current financial year, it is suggested that a deadline 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 once confirmed.

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.

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.

4. OPTIONS:

- 4.1 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 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.
- 4.2 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.

5. CONSULTATIONS:

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

6. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 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.

7. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 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.

8. LOCALISM:

- 8.1 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.

9. 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 vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications.
Public Health	No significant implications

- 9.1 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.

10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 10.1 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.

11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 11.1 The CSP will be advised of the funding process agreed by the Local Committee and invited to access this funding.
- 11.2 A full Community Safety Annual Report will be brought to the next meeting of the Joint Committee

Contact Officer:

Gordon Falconer, Community Safety Manager

Consulted:

Surrey's local committee chairmen and local committee members.

Annexes: None

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