

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF: Executive Member for Adult Services and Prevention

LEAD OFFICERS: Strategic Director of Adults and Health (DASS)

DATE: Thursday, 8 July 2021

PORTFOLIO(S) AFFECTED: Adult Services and Prevention

WARD/S AFFECTED: Blackburn Central; Wensley Fold;

KEY DECISION: Y

SUBJECT:

EB: Safer Streets Funding

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Safer Streets Fund (2) is a second round of funding made available to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and Local Authorities in England and Wales in 2021/22 to help support areas with higher crime rates. Following a successful bid, Blackburn with Darwen has been awarded £432,000 from The Home Office for a scheme in the Whalley Banks and Bank Top area. The scheme includes Capital spend, and as such requires Executive Board approval.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board: Gives approval for the council to spend in line with grant funding requirements.

3. BACKGROUND

The purpose of the scheme is to work with partners to design and deliver local crime prevention plans in hotspot areas with the outcome of reducing neighbourhood crimes through situational prevention.

Two Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) have been identified as suffering significantly higher rates of acquisitive crime in comparison to the wider borough and, in some instances, Lancashire as a whole. This involves offences where the offender derives material gain from the crime.

As such, there are a number of primary objectives that the fund will focus on:

- Reducing neighbourhood crime (burglary, vehicle related theft, theft from the person, robbery).
- Continuation of evidence building around the impact of targeted investment in situational crime prevention in high crime areas.
- Growing local capability to undertake data driven problem solving and capture evidence and practical learning about how best to implement situational interventions to prevent crime.

To achieve this, specific measures will be used including:

- Property Target Hardening for privately owned properties
- Vehicle security provisions
- Green space improvement

- New CCTV infrastructure
- Tailored advice and awareness raising through education and communications

As part of the programme's 'operational design phase' we will use our standardised logic model to confirm milestones and track progress and outcomes.

The activity planned is consistent with individual approaches that are tried and tested, both locally and in other areas.

A Project Manager has been appointed who will oversee the Project. A detailed project plan has also been drafted which incorporates costs, timescales, deliverables and procurement. The programme will be completed before March 31st 2022 as is required through the grant.

The Project Manager will be responsible to a project implementation group, to be chaired by the Head of Service.

Overall governance will be through the legally constituted Pennine CSP Board, who will govern the programme and on which the Executive Member for Adults and Prevention sits.

Ward Councillors will also receive monthly updates on progress.

Capital spend includes:

CCTV - £140k &

Street lighting, External Security & Greening - £95k

Total capital - £235k

There is a further £197k allocated to revenue works to include domestic and vehicle security measures for local residents and community engagement. The total estimated scheme cost including both capital and revenue elements is predicted at £432,000.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

Any key risks to delivery are managed through the project manager who oversees the risk register a key part of the programmes management.

The Home Office have a fixed deadline for completion of the 31st March 2022 which is a short period of time for such a large capital and revenue programme. This again will be managed through the programme board, who with procurement support and project management team in place will ensure the programme moves forward quickly.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Existing policies, procedures and approaches to delivery are available to use to include strong governance arrangements noted.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has been awarded Safer Streets funding of £432,000 from The Home Office for the financial year 2021/22. Estimated capital and revenue costs as part of the grant bid are summarised below and are anticipated to be fully covered by the grant.

The match funding noted in the bid is 'in kind support' at circa £92,000 and this will be managed from within existing budgets. Any additional ongoing maintenance costs which may arise in the ensuing years as a result of the initial capital outlay will need to be considered at the time and are anticipated to be managed from existing resources.

Expenditure Profile (Safer Streets Funding)		£	£
Capital			
CCTV		140,000	
Street lighting, External Security & Greening		<u>95,000</u>	
Total Capital			235,000
Revenue			
Works to include domestic and vehicle security measures for local residents and community engagement		<u>197,000</u>	
Total Revenue			197,000
Total Expenditure			<u>432,000</u>

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate additional financial requirements for the Council at this stage. All costs are expected to be fully met by the grant funding. Any maintenance requirements in future years in relation to the capital outlay will require consideration but it's assumed it will be covered from existing budgets.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision.

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision.

10. CONSULTATIONS

Consultations took place with elected members from the LSOA areas, partners and departments, to cost and provide support for delivery before the bid was submitted. The areas were chosen using in depth crime analysis of the area and the strength and deliverability of the programme plan.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

CONTACT OFFICER:	Victoria Holmes, ,
DATE:	
BACKGROUND PAPER:	N/A