



Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner

Making Suffolk a safer place to live, work, travel and invest

ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING

DECISION NUMBER: 11 - 2023

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: AWARD OF CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION GRANT – SAFER STREETS FUND ROUND 4 – MATCH FUNDING

SUMMARY:

1. In accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 the Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:
 - a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
 - b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.
2. Ipswich Borough Council, as the lead authority for ‘Safer Streets Fund 4’ project has been awarded Home Office funding of £499,588 until 31 March 2023. The project addresses violence against women and girls, anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood crime in the Town Centre and Waterfront area. The Home Office funding is conditional on partner contributions (match funding) to the total of £432,038, comprising funding and in-kind (resource) contributions from Ipswich Borough Council, Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Central, Suffolk Constabulary and a proposed contribution from the PCC.
3. This report seeks approval for £25,000 match funding from the PCC for the Safer Streets Round 4 project in Ipswich during 2022/23.
4. The funding will enable crime and disorder reduction activity and support the delivery of Objective 2 in the Police and Crime Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) awards grant funding of £25,000 to Ipswich Borough Council, as match funding for ‘Safer Streets Round 4’ for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

APPROVAL BY: PCC

The recommendation set out above is agreed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Parry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Signature:

Date: 28 February 2023

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) can commission services that:
- a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
 - b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.

This is in accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. In applying this provision, the PCC will ensure that the services commissioned are also consistent with the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan.

- 1.2 This report seeks approval from the PCC to award a grant of £25,000 as match funding in support of the Safer Streets Round 4 project in Ipswich for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

2. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 In February 2022, a new Police and Crime Plan for the period 2022-2025 was published. Objective 2 sets out the intention to provide services which support victims of crime and invest in initiatives which reduce crime.

- 2.2 The proposed match funding contributes to the following activity within Objective 2:
- Ensure quality service provision to support all victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence including ensuring there are routes in to support for those who do not wish to report to the police.
 - Support problem solving in local communities by investing in solutions which reduce reoffending, prevent crime and disorder or improve community safety.
 - Consider with the Constabulary areas where investment might reduce non-crime demand on the police.
 - Consider match-funding opportunities with Community Safety Partners where the initiatives meet shared priorities.
 - Reducing re-offending and preventing crime.
 - Consider initiatives which reduce the demand on the police in particular policing the night-time economy, anti-social behaviour and reducing crime and disorder in our towns.

3. PROPOSED ACTIVITY

- 3.1 The Safer Streets Round 4 bid, led by Ipswich Borough Council addresses violence against women and girls, anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood crime within the Town Centre and Waterfront area of Ipswich. The focus is to promote the safety of everyone within the Town Centre and routes in and out of the town.

- 3.2 As part of the bid process a consultation was undertaken resulting in 244 responses from partners, public and residents. This consultation shaped the activities to be delivered and whilst there are some physical security measures the focus is on challenging attitudes and behaviours and ensuring 'capable guardians' have every opportunity to ensure everyone can feel safe in the town.

- 3.3 Physical interventions include improving subway lighting in the main route between the town and the residential west, which is heavily used at all times of day, making users feel safer and enhancing existing CCTV capability.

- 3.4 This project aims to build on the success and work undertaken in the previous Safer Streets projects to challenge inappropriate attitudes. There will be Crimestoppers and Community Safety led campaigns and increased training and awareness of staff and participants in the Night-Time Economy (NTE) where vulnerabilities can be most prevalent or easily missed.
- 3.5 The creation of safe spaces via the expansion of the Ask for Angela scheme beyond licenced premises as well as interventions such as the SOS bus and call points with immediate access to emergency personnel will provide protection to anyone who feels in a vulnerable situation at any time of the day.
- 3.6 A significant proportion of respondents to the consultation suggested extra Police and other 'capable guardians' as a means of making them feel safer. In terms of sustainability of the benefits beyond the duration of the project, the project delivers activity to support the capable guardians (CCTV operators, door and bar staff, taxi marshals, street rangers) to be able to work smarter.
- 3.7 Extra and improved cameras will be deployed around the key NTE locations and walking routes as well as body worn cameras on staff within NTE venues to act both as a deterrent to criminal behaviour but also to increase the opportunity for successful prosecutions should a criminal act occur. Improvements in technology will support quicker access to CCTV images and a more efficient response.
- 3.8 An anticipated crime reduction rate of 2% is predicted during the project period, rising to 3-5% in the following 12 months. Experience from previous projects suggests that reducing violence against women and girls (VAWG) crime rates through behaviour change is a longer-term trend to impact.
- 3.9 The Home Office and match funding from local partners will enable the above activities to be delivered through a dedicated project manager and project officer. The recommended funding from the PCC will contribute to the cost of the project manager.

4. MONITORING AND OUTCOMES

- 4.1 Monitoring of the Safer Streets project is undertaken through the project board which meets monthly. The PCC's Head of Commissioning participates in the Board.
- 4.2 Quarterly monitoring is required by the Home Office and reviewed by the Board. Reporting includes:
- Narrative progress report against specified deliverables
 - Risk assessment and mitigation
 - Crime statistics
 - Financial report

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The PCC is recommended to provide match funding of £25,000 for the Safer Streets Round 4 project in Ipswich during 2022/23 utilising the PCC Commissioning budget (Crime and Disorder Reduction).
- 5.2 Ipswich Borough Council, as the lead authority for the project, has been awarded Home Office funding of £499,588 until 31 March 2023.

- 5.3 In order to submit the bid, the Home Office criteria required a minimum 50% contribution from local partners (in kind or funding). Suffolk partners are contributing £432,038 for the period 1 April 2022 – 30 September 2023.
- 5.4 The main value in the match funding is dedicated police patrols including Operation Servator (£348k) supplemented by: £23k Ipswich Borough Council staffing; £24k from Suffolk County Council for CCTV installation licenses, signage approval and improved subway lighting; £12.5k from Ipswich Central in support of public art and images in empty premises and the proposed £25k from the PCC to contribute to the Project Manager post.
- 5.5 The funding is for time limited delivery of activities without ongoing commitment from the PCC.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 6.1 An assessment of risk in delivery of the service has been undertaken. This assessment has considered the value of the grant sought, the duration of delivery and the grant recipient's history of delivery and ability to deliver on similar projects, not least the Home Office Safer Streets funding in recent years.
- 6.2 Should there be any risk to the service being delivered, Ipswich Borough Council are required to notify the PCC.
- 6.3 The progress of the Ipswich 'Safer Streets' bid to the Home Office will be monitored for any implications on the proposed delivery and funding.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) awards grant funding of £25,000 to Ipswich Borough Council 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	NO
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	YES
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	YES
Have human resource implications been considered?	YES
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	YES
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	YES
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	YES
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	YES

In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER

Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.



Signature:

Date: 28 February 2023