

## The Safer Streets Project

### REPORT TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



<b>DATE</b>	01/12/2020
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	Community Services
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#### PURPOSE

1. To update the Executive on the details of the Safer Streets Project and seek approval to enter into an agreement to accept £549,500 grant funding from the project.
2. To Authorise the Head of Streetscene to tender for works associated with the project.

#### RECOMMENDATION

3. To seek approval for the Council to enter into an agreement with the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office to receive grant funding from the Home Office Safer Streets project.
4. That the Executive authorises the Head of Streetscene to tender for the proposed work in accordance with Standing Orders and accept the most economically advantageous tender.
5. To authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to give effect to all necessary documentation to implement the above decision.
6. To authorise the Head of Streetscene in conjunction with the Executive Member for Community and Environmental Services to oversee the project delivery, performance and completion.

#### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

7. The authorisation to proceed with the tender process will allow the commencement of works on the Safer Streets project with immediate effect.

#### SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

## **Background of the Safer Streets Fund.**

8. In January 2020 the Home Office announced the availability of the Safer Streets Fund, a funding stream of £25 million made available to Local Authorities to bid in to with projects tackling high impact acquisitive crime rates.
9. The mechanism for applying for this funding was via the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), and each Policing Authority could propose a maximum of three bids comprising of one primary bid and two further bids.
10. Following an analytical exercise conducted by the OPCC and Senior Lancashire Police officers it was proposed that a bid focusing on the specific Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) of areas of Bank Hall and Burnley Wood would be put forward as the primary bid for Lancashire.
11. A bid was submitted for £549,500 for a project based on a range of crime reduction interventions in the identified LSOA's and in August 2020 it was announced that the bid was successful. The proposal was put forward as the primary bid for Lancashire with a secondary bid put forward by West Lancs Borough Council. That bid was also successful.

## **Burnley Safer Streets Bid.**

12. The £549,500 funding awarded through the Safer Streets Fund will mainly facilitate bespoke home security improvements, and improvements to the local areas follows:
13. Bespoke Home Security improvements. Working with landlords and owner occupiers to identify households that would benefit from home security improvements such as better locks on doors and windows, better standard back doors, and improved lighting.
14. Rear yard gate replacement scheme. Prior to the submission of the bid an Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) was undertaken to identify issues within the area. Between this EVA and the analytical study carried out it was noted that the main vulnerability in these areas lay within the back streets with poorly secure back yards being a prime concern. The allocation ring-fenced for this activity will provide improvement in this area for approximately 400 properties.
15. Alleygating is an established method of crime reduction within the Borough and the funding allocated to this activity will provide a further 10 schemes to be rolled out concurrently with the annual capital program schemes.
16. CCTV improvements. Improvements have been proposed with the installation of 6 new locations, connected to and managed by the Pennine Lancs CCTV Hub. These locations

cover the main arterial roads and key access points to the project areas, enhancing coverage and security to the area.

17. Green Space Improvement. A key feature to the security of a community is the amenity of that area. The EVA identified a number of locations that could be improved and working with Parks and Green Spaces this work will be undertaken to improve local play areas and other public spaces.
18. Community Engagement. Working with a previously used awareness raising theatre group will be carried out to develop a package for residents that highlights issues around community safety and crime reduction.
19. Tracking Equipment. The Police will procure equipment for use in proactive work to detect offenders.
20. Residential Crime Survey and Community Engagement. This budget has been set up to enable proactive community engagement within the area to speak to residents and build sustainability for the project.
21. Communications program to promote the project within the community through a range of methods such as leaflets, social media, and newsletter.
22. Home Security Kits. Basic home property making kits and stickers to distribute to residents.
23. Project Manager. A Consultant Project Manager will be employed to oversee the delivery of the project, reporting to local Community Safety structures to ensure progress.
24. Project officers will, subject to Executive approval, commence procurement in accordance with Council policy with immediate effect.
25. All funding commissioned during December 2020 and committed by March 2021.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION**

26. The work outlined in the Safer Streets Project will be funded entirely by the Home Office Grant, administered by the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office. The Council will administer the budget. Match funding will be provided by the council and partner agencies in the form of officer time.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

27. N/A

<b>ITEM NO</b>	[AgendaItem]
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**DETAILS OF CONSULTATION**

28. N/A

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

29. None

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT: Richard Brown Community Safety Officer Ext 3375**

**ALSO: Joanne Swift, Head of Streetscene x7301**