



**Urgent Leader of the Council Cabinet  
Member Meeting  
27 April 2022**

## **ITEM 5**

Report sponsor: Samantha Dennis – Director of Public Protection and Streetpride.  
Report author: Sam Kelly - Streetpride Service Manager.

### **Approval to submit a bid for the Safer Streets Fund round four**

#### **Purpose**

- 1.1 Safer Streets Fund Round Four – to approve submission of a bid up to £0.750m to deliver activity targeting neighbourhood crime, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Anti-social Behaviour (ASB).

#### **Recommendations**

- 2.1 To grant approval to submit a bid for the Safer Streets Fund round four.
- 2.2 Subject to if the bid is successful, to delegate approval to the Strategic Director of Communities and Place, following consultation with consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place and Community Development, to accept the funds, enter the necessary funding arrangements and commence project delivery.

#### **Reason(s)**

- 3.1 To enable funding to fund initiatives with the aim to reduce neighbourhood crime, anti-social behaviour and Violence Against Women and Girls.
- 3.2 This is in line with the Council Plan 2022-25, specifically with the resilient City theme and providing a safe City.
- 3.3 A decision using the Urgent Leader of the Council Cabinet Member Meeting process is required due to the bid submission deadline, being 10 May 2022.
- 3.4 Subject to if the bid is successful, to delegate approval to the Strategic Director of Communities and Place, following consultation with consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place and Community Development, to accept the funds, enter the necessary funding arrangements and commence project delivery.

#### **Supporting information**

- 4.1 From the funding prospectus: 'The Government is clear that everyone in this country should have the security and confidence that comes from having a safe street and a safe home, and this is central to the mission of levelling up. The Government's strategic approach to cutting crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), reducing the number of victims of crime, and making the country safer is set out in the Beating Crime Plan. This plan shows how we will focus our efforts on 'hotspot' areas where crimes are

disproportionately concentrated; the Safer Streets Fund forms a key part of this approach in supporting local areas.’.

- 4.2 The fourth round of funding is an innovative initiative that will combine and expand previous focuses of the Safer Streets Fund and the Safety of Women at Night (SWaN) Fund through targeting neighbourhood crime, VAWG and ASB.
- 4.3 Bidders can choose which crime or issue type, or combination of crimes and issues, to focus on based on their understanding of local needs.
- 4.4 We are developing a proposal which will have a primary focus on neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour. This will include environmental crime and will be delivered through a locality, better together approach, cutting across various teams within the authority, and community partners.
- 4.5 The key objectives of the fourth round of funding are:
  - Reduce neighbourhood crimes (burglary, robbery, theft from person, vehicle crime)
  - Reduce ASB incidents, making individuals and communities safer.
  - Change attitudes and behaviours towards VAWG in public places, with the long-term goal of reducing VAWG crimes in public. However, for VAWG and ASB, it should be noted that increased reporting of some crimes or issues could be seen as a positive outcome.
  - Improve feelings of safety for everyone within the community, in particular women and girls’ feelings of safety in public spaces and the night-time economy.
  - Make local areas safer and reduce demand on the police to focus on higher harm crimes.
  - Build the evidence base for what works on reducing neighbourhood crimes and ASB and for changing attitudes and behaviours in relation to VAWG in the public domain.
  - Increase local area trust in Policing and local Government and their activities within the community.
- 4.6 Secondary objectives for the Fund are to:
  - Grow local capability, and increase community ownership, to undertake data driven problem solving and capture evidence and practical learning about how best to implement interventions to prevent crime.
  - Understand secondary crime benefits associated with preventing and reducing neighbourhood crime, VAWG and ASB.
  - Improve the national and local data picture regarding neighbourhood crime, ASB,
  - and VAWG in public spaces.
  - Improve awareness of the ASB tools and powers from the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.
- 4.7 The Safer Streets Fund round four, worth £75 million, is overseen by the Home Office and runs across the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years

- 4.8 The maximum amount per bid is £750,000, this can be up to £500,000 for 2022/23 and £250,000 for 2023/24.
- 4.9 If approval to submit a bid is granted, the application is submitted to the Police Crime Commissioner (PCC) by 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022, to prioritise and submit bids for their geographic region. These are submitted to the Home Office for bid assessment.
- 4.10 The bid is in the development stage, but the areas being reviewed in relation to this funding includes (1) CCTV and street lighting, (2) Prevention work to challenge neighbourhood crime and ASB, and connecting with community groups to enable this, (3) Locality based interventions which may include education within schools, campaigns to change behaviours relating to environmental crime and environmental cameras to enforce against and reduce fly-tipping.
- 4.11 To satisfy the needs of the bid, the areas targeted need to be clearly defined and supported by data indicating which areas have exceeded the benchmark for what we are targeting, for example neighbourhood crime.

Under the delegation officers will finalise the details of the bid, following consultation with the Cabinet member to finalise the details of the bid.

### **Public/stakeholder engagement**

- 5.1 Engagement with statutory partners and community groups will be undertaken in the design and content of the bid.
- 5.2 If funding is successful, engagement with the public will be sought within Neighbourhood Board meetings.

### **Financial and value for money issues**

- 6.1 This is an approval to access funding, the maximum amount per bid is £750,000, this can be up to £500,000 for 2022/23 and £250,000 for 2023/24.
- 6.2 There is a requirement for 50% matched funding, the matched funding contribution can be 'in kind', for example officer or volunteer time. In the development of the bid we will identify existing costs that can align to the priorities of the fund. Should there be a need to identify additional funds to provide the matched funding, creating a cost for the council, these will be discussed with the Strategic Director for Communities and Place and Cabinet Member for Place and Community Development before the submission is made. Any costs created by submission of the bid will be included in the Financial Matters Report where acceptance of the grant is required. Projects delivered by community partners are not subject to the matched funding requirement and will work with those partners to coproduce a submission which minimises new financial burdens on the Council.

## Legal implications

- 8.1 The eligibility requirements for this funding are set out within the Safer Streets round four prospectus. Matched funding and funding provisions are monitored and reported on throughout the period. Failing to comply with the terms set out within the agreement is deemed a breach of the terms of the grant, which can result in the Home Office stopping funding or requesting funding back.
- 8.2 If successful, funding will be used to educate, raise awareness and support enforcement in line with relevant legislation and policy. This includes the Anti-social Crime and Policing Act 2014 and the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

**This report has been approved by the following people:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of sign-off</b>
<b>Legal</b>	Olu Idowu	21 April 2022
<b>Finance</b>	Janice Hadfield	19 April 2022
<b>Service Director(s)</b>	Samantha Dennis	21 April 2022
<b>Report sponsor Other(s)</b>	Charles Edwards	19 April 2022