

CABINET

Acceptance of external funding for Lancaster District CSP 24 July 2012

Report of Head of Environmental Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To agree to the acceptance of external funding and act as accountable body, on behalf of Lancaster District CSP			
Key Decision	X	Non-Key Decision	Referral from Cabinet Member
Date Included in Forward Plan	JULY 2012		
This report is public			

RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILLOR SMITH

- (1) That the council accept £47,000 of external funding during 2012/13 on behalf of Lancaster District CSP, and that as in previous years acts as accountable body for that funding.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The council has been requested to take responsibility as accountable body for the management and distribution of £47,000 of Community Safety Partnership (CSP) funding, subject to the council's agreed arrangements for the management of external funds. The funding is being granted to the partnership for 2012/13 by Lancashire Constabulary (£3,000) Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (£6,000) and Lancashire Police Authority (£38,000).
- 1.2 The Council has acted as accountable body for the CSP since its establishment.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 As in previous years the available funds will be used to support measures and projects to reduce the levels of crime and disorder detailed in the Lancaster District Community Safety Strategic Assessment and forthcoming CSP Action Plan. This will include partnership working between the local community, the voluntary sector and statutory organisations.
- 2.2 Projects to be funded have already been identified by the CSP, and appropriate oversight and reporting arrangements are already in place. In principle, any

underspend of the grant allocation in the financial year will be held and reallocated by the CSP unless requested return to the provider.

- 2.3 As in previous years the Council's Partnerships Officer (Community Safety) will act as responsible spending officer for the funding.

3.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

	Option 1: Accept the funding	Option 2: Reject the funding
Advantages	The CSP projects can go ahead as planned	None
Disadvantages	None	Another accountable body would need to be found.
Risks	Council resources are required to investigate and put right any issues identified in the running of the planned projects	A delay in agreeing the funding arrangements for these projects could jeopardise their implementation

4.0 Officer Preferred Option

- 4.1 The Officer preferred option is Option 1

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 The council has acted as accountable body for CSP funds for a number of years and has overseen the successful delivery of many projects that meet the aims and objectives of the Council and its partners. It is therefore requested that the Cabinet authorise the acceptance of funds on the CSP's behalf

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Community Safety Action Plan forms part of the Council's Policy Framework, and the projects these funds will deliver will impact on the council's corporate priorities of:

- Clean and Safe Streets
- Community Leadership

As well as the overarching theme of partnership working

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

Accepting these funds will ensure a positive impact on the issue of community safety across the District.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Governance are to be consulted over the contents of any documentation created in relation to any grants

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2012/13 general fund revenue budget includes a net amount of £33,100 which relates to

the City Council's contribution to deliver CSP schemes. At the time of producing the budget, the Lancaster District CSP were unable to confirm their funding allocation so it was therefore omitted from the budget.

Should the Council accept the funding amount of £47,000 then the general fund revenue budget will be updated accordingly, subject to there being a nil impact on the council's resources.

The management and distribution of the funding can be met from within the existing management framework and budgets.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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