

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 176/18
Classification Not protectively marked
Title of report: Open Road – Mini SOS bus
Area of County/Stakeholders affected: Chelmsford
Report by : Kirsty Smith
Date of report: 3 rd December 2019
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1. Purpose of report

To seek approval for the allocation of £1,000 in the form of a crime and disorder reduction grant from the 2019-20 Community Safety Fund to Open Road, whose activities will contribute to the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for Essex.

2. Recommendations

To approve the allocation of £1,000 to support upgrades to the SOS mini bus provided by Open Road. The mini bus will provide support to those in need in the night time economy during the winter months.

3. Benefits of Proposal

Open Road has managed and provided the Chelmsford SOS bus. The SOS bus provides support to those in need who are affected by the night time economy. It is known that the night time economy puts added pressure on emergency services including increased admissions to A&E and increased Police presence to manage anti-social behaviour. The SOS bus has been a vital support to help reduce this strain on services during peak times by supporting those most vulnerable. The SOS bus is equipped by Open Road and has medical equipment and a remote medic which means the bus is fully equipped for medical emergencies.

4. Background and proposal

Through the winter the Chelmsford SOS bus historically is only able to support a reduced service and only goes out on Saturday nights. In order to improve this and to continue to support the need in Chelmsford, Chelmsford Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has donated an additional transit van. This van is being transformed into an SOS mini bus. This mini bus is smaller and will allow for more agile use during the winter months and allow for coverage on a Friday night.

The new bus will also support the Drink Aware Crew initiative. Drink Aware is a PFCC supported project that proactively identifies and reduces risks to those that may be vulnerable in the night time economy, working directly with venues. It is the aim of Drink Aware to prevent any violent or sexual abuse incidents. The SOS mini bus will support this initiative by providing additional support to those identified as vulnerable.

The new bus requires some minor upgrades in order to be recognised as an Open Road SOS mini bus. With the support of Chelmsford CSP the bus is insured, taxed and three quarters finished. Match funding from the PFCC of £1,000 is requested to complete the upgrades to the mini bus in order for it to be functional ready for the peak Christmas period.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

The PFCC has the option not to fund this initiative, but the funding will support CSP relationships. The PFCC has supported Open Road in the past and the organisation delivers great outcomes in order to improve community safety across Essex.

6. Police and Crime Plan

Open Road's SOS Bus contributes to the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan, specifically priority 1 (more local, visible and accessible policing) by reducing the impact of the night time economy on Police.

7. Police Operational Implications

No direct operational implications

8. Financial Implications

The PFCC will fund a one off contribution of £1,000 from the 2019-20 Community Safety Fund to Open Road.

9. Legal Implications

The grant is subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement.

10. Staffing implications

No staffing implications.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

There are no equality and diversity implications

12. Risks

No risks have been identified for this decision.

13. Governance Boards

This is a small grant and not been subject to other governance boards

14. Background papers

n/a

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the OPFCC Chief Executive and Treasurer, prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC .

Chief Executive/M.O Sign: [Signature]
Print: P. Scott-Brown
Date: 23 December 2019

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Sign: [Signature]
Print: ABEEN GOSWAMI
Date: 24/12/19

Publication

Is the report for publication? YES
NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (state 'None' if applicable)

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N/A
.....

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet YES NO
2. Of Appendix YES NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

.....
..... N/A

Date redaction carried out:

Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only

If redaction is required, Treasurer or Chief Executive are to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign:

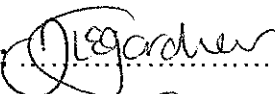
Print:

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Date signed:

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report;

Sign: 

Print: JANE GARDNER

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: 24 December 2019

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: