

## PFCC Decision Report

**Report reference number:** 019-24

**Classification:** Not protectively marked

**Title of report:** Safer Streets Funds Allocations - Round 2 Tranche 2

**Area of county / stakeholders affected:** Essex-wide

**Report by:** Greg Myddelton (Strategic Head of Partnerships and Delivery)

**Date of report:** 9 February 2024

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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report seeks approval to allocate the second tranche of funding from the PFCC's Local Safer Streets Fund (Round 2). The majority of funding supports local Safer Streets projects in 2024-25. The proposal also includes an allocation to cover a shortfall in Home Office funding.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the PFCC approves the allocation of grants as outlined in section 4.1, up to the value of £628,775, in this tranche of the PFCC's Local Safer Streets Fund (Round 2).

### 3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1. The PFCC approved the process for allocating Round 2 of the local Safer Streets Fund via decision report 101-23 on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- 3.2. The PFCC approved allocations of £1,093,868 in Round 2, Tranche 1 via decision report 182-23.
- 3.3. The PFCC also approved the allocation of £999,967 Home Office funding received via the Home Office's Safer Streets Round 5 to three Community Safety Partnerships (Colchester, Braintree, and Basildon) through decision report 182-23.

#### 4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

4.1. The PFCC is recommended to make the following allocations from Round 2, Tranche 2 of the PFCC's Local Safer Streets Fund:

CSP Area	Value	Activity
Colchester	£30,423	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 FTE Street Warden (Greenstead)</li> <li>• District-wide patrols / proactive work and the continuation of community safety initiatives in the Greenstead area</li> <li>• Total cost £51,000 (£30,423 to be funded through the PFCC's Safer Streets Fund; £20,577 to be funded through the Op Dial fund)</li> </ul>
Brentwood	£15,257	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training 6 x Street Pastors for work in Brentwood High Street at weekends throughout the year, plus equipment</li> <li>• 3 months' officer overtime to carry out high-visibility and plain clothes patrols and surveillance in Navestock to combat fly-tipping</li> </ul>
Tendring	£77,100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shop Safe initiative (including radios) to support businesses across Clacton, Harwich, Frinton and Walton</li> <li>• <i>Stronger Together - Changing perceptions of VAWG</i> schools' educational programme.</li> <li>• Women's safety campaign including training for businesses.</li> <li>• 12 months' subscription to the Noise App, a residents' support tool for gathering evidence to assist with Council noise nuisance investigations.</li> <li>• <i>Helping Our Communities Stay Safe</i> booklet</li> </ul>
Southend	£293,355	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing a Safe Space for the public to access agency support while using the night-time economy. Includes gazebo, generator, lighting, heating, merchandise, communications and marketing materials and officer overtime for Friday, Saturday and Bank Holiday deployment from February 2024 – March 2025.</li> </ul>
Thurrock	£32,640	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCTV and lighting improvements to address safety and environmental ASB from nuisance motorbikes in Aluric Field, Chadwell St Mary (a residential park situated on a housing estate)</li> <li>• Resources / community safety merchandise to supplement and enhance the delivery of the DfT ASB hotspot pilot project across county transport</li> </ul>

<b>CSP Area</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Activity</b>
		networks (reusable bottle protectors, card defenders, personal alarms, torches, pull up banner, Ask for Angela cards, and Safer Streets leaflets)
Colchester, Braintree & Basildon (Home Office 2024-25 funding shortfall)	£180,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In December 2023, the Home Office announced a reduction of £180,000 per county in Safer Streets Round 5, resulting in a shortfall in year 2 (2024/25) for projects in the CSP areas of Braintree, Basildon and Colchester approved through decision report 182-23. The PFCC is covering this shortfall through their own local Safer Streets Fund to allow these projects to deliver as planned.</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£628,775</b>	

## **5. Options Analysis**

- 5.1. PFCC staff reviewed SSF applications from the CSPs. In some cases, areas were encouraged to be more ambitious in their proposals in order to take advantage of the opportunity for investment.
- 5.2. The PFCC will continue to work with those district / borough / city areas that have not submitted bids to this round with the ambition to invest in each local authority area in Essex.

## **6. Consultation and Engagement**

- 6.1. Individual bidders were required to undertake and document engagement activity with local partners, including key stakeholders and delivery agencies. This was a mandatory requirement for applicants and was considered as part of the evaluation process.

## **7. Strategic Links**

- 7.1. The PFCC's Local Safer Streets Fund aligns with commitments within the Police and Crime Plan through investment in crime prevention, reducing violence against women and girls, and reducing drug-driven violence.
- 7.2. The focus of these proposals on violence against women and girls (VAWG) will also contribute towards achieving the outcomes in the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB) partnership strategy.

## **8. Police operational implications**

- 8.1. The Southend project includes some additional police deployments, which are approved by, and at the discretion of, the relevant local policing lead.

- 8.2. Delivery of the projects is expected to enhance community safety in their respective areas.

## **9. Financial implications**

- 9.1. The PFCC will allocate £628,775 in Tranche 2 from the PFCC's Local Safer Streets Fund to the Community Safety Partnerships as outlined in section 4.1. There will then be £1,936,048 remaining in the Local Safer Streets Fund. The PFCC will retain this for further allocations and future Local Safer Streets rounds.

## **10. Legal implications**

- 10.1. These grants will be subject to the PFCC's standard grant agreement.

## **11. Staffing implications**

- 11.1. Employment of staff will be the responsibility of the relevant delivery organisation. No liability for the continuation of roles will be placed on the PFCC or other funders because of this grant funding.

## **12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications**

- 12.1. As part of the application process, the PFCC included a "showstopper" question which required bidders to document the consultation they had undertaken with local stakeholders in compiling the bid. CSPs were also invited to consider wider demographic information about the area when developing their applications.
- 12.2. The criteria of the fund included a focus on violence against women and girls as well as anti-social behaviour. As a result, some of the activity is aimed specifically at women and girls, seeking to improve the perception of crime and feelings of safety among women and girls in public settings. Much of the activity is "universal" and will improve general feelings of safety, for instance through CCTV, diversionary projects, Street Wardens, a Safe Space within the night-time economy, and improved street lighting.
- 12.3. The PFCC has included a question in the Safer Streets Monitoring Form which explores how projects have complied with the Public Sector Equality Duty and ensured their initiatives are accessible.

## **13. Risks and Mitigations**

- 13.1. There is a risk regarding year 2 of the Home Office SSF 5 funding. Whilst the year 2 shortfall is currently £180,000, this amount could increase as no year 2 Grant Agreement has been provided to date. This is mitigated by the

availability of Local Safer Streets Funding and the option to curtail some activity in 2024-25 if required.

#### **14. Governance Boards**

- 14.1. The creation of the PFCC's SSF was agreed via decision report 101-23. The approach was endorsed by individual CSPs and was discussed and reviewed at the PFCC's Senior Management Team meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> August, their Management Team meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> September and their Corporate Management Team on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023.
- 14.2. The first tranche of PFCC Local Safer Streets Funding Round 2 was formally agreed via decision report 182-23.

#### **15. Links to Future Plans**

- 15.1. This funding will support the PFCC to deliver the Police and Crime Plan and the partnership domestic abuse strategy, as set out in section 7 above.
- 15.2. As set out in section 5 above, the PFCC will continue to work with those district / borough / city areas that have not submitted bids to this round, with the ambition to invest Safer Streets Funding in each local authority area in Essex.

#### **16. Background Papers and Appendices**

Decision report 101-23  
Decision report 182-23

**Report Approval**

The report will be signed off by the PFCC's Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Chief Executive / M.O.

Sign:

Print: P. Brent-Isherwood

Date: 9 February 2024

Chief Financial Officer

Sign:

Print: Janet Perry

Date: 21 February 2024

**Publication**

Is the report for publication?

YES

NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'None' if applicable)

None

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

2. Of Appendix?

YES

NO

NO

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

N/A

Date redaction carried out: .....

**Chief Finance Officer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only**

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

**Sign:** .....

**Print:** .....

**Chief Executive / Chief Finance Officer**

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

**Sign:** 

**Print:** Roger Hirst

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

**Date signed:** 21/02/2024

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

.....  
.....  
.....

**Sign:**

**Print:**

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

**Date signed:**