OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR HUMBERSIDE DECISION RECORD

Decision Record Number: 33/2013

Title: Hull City Council East Area Team - Grant Application

Executive Summary:

In May 2013, Councillor Hewitt, requested a contribution of £1,530 towards the cost of a shop watch scheme to operate in the Longhill Ward in Hull. This report provides further information on the costs of the scheme and seeks approval to an offer of grant.

Decision:

That a grant of £523, which would make the total policing contribution up to 50% of the total cost of the scheme, be approved.

Background Report: Open

Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside

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I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.

Any such interests are recorded below.

The above decision has my approval.

Signature

Date 04.09.13

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR HUMBERSIDE

SUBMISSION FOR DECISION

Title: Hull City Council East Area Team - Grant Application

Date: 4 September 2013

1. Executive Summary

In May 2013, Councillor Hewitt, requested a contribution of £1,530 towards the cost of a shop watch scheme to operate in the Longhill Ward in Hull. This report provides further information on the costs of the scheme and seeks approval to an offer of grant.

Recommendation

That you approve a grant of £523, which would make the total policing contribution up to 50% of the total costs of the scheme.

2. Background

You were approached earlier this year to support an initiative started by a PCSO of the East Area NPT in the Longhill Ward in Hull.

The project is essentially the same as a "Pub Watch" scheme and involves the provision of radios to local shop staff in order that they can keep in touch and advise each other of likely problems or those actually occurring in order that suspects are identified quickly, preventing further similar incidents and assisting in ensuring that incidents are dealt with speedily.

I discussed this with you previously and you indicated that whilst you were mindful to support making a contribution to the scheme you needed further information on which to make a decision.

The Force has now provided the information requested. The total costs of the project is £2,046 broken down as follows:-

Description	Cost £
Base Repeater	1128
Base Station	300
One year license fee	80
Radios for Police use	516
Total Cost	2046

The intention is that retail shops in the area will each purchase a radio at a cost of £258 and eight shops are interested at the moment with scope to extend to other retail premises in the area.

The Force has committed £500 towards the cost of the project. If you wish to make the police contribution up to 50% of the total cost then this would require a grant of £523. The intention would then be to look to the Area Committee budget to match this contribution.

3. Options

The options are to make a contribution towards the costs of the scheme, to fund the scheme in full or to not make a contribution at all.

Making a 50% contribution is the preferred option and is in keeping with your desire to engage partners in initiatives that are designed to prevent crime. This is in line with the Police and Crime Plan.

4. Risks

The local NPT will be closely involved in administering the scheme and there are few risks associated with it. There is a risk that there will not be a sufficient level of buy in for the scheme to be successful. The costs contain a one year licence and so there may be issues in relation to future running costs. There is also a risk that by making a contribution you will be seen to be setting a precedent that will generate other similar requests however, in the future, these can be directed to your Community Safety Fund and Crime Reduction Grant scheme when those proposals are finalised.

5. Financial Implications

The report provides details of the costs of the scheme. Any contribution that you approve would be met from the unallocated provision within the OPCC budget.

6. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications although the contribution will need to be documented so that the funding provided can be audited and tracked to ensure that monies are spent for the intended purpose.

7. Equalities Implications

There are no equalities implications in the context of this report.

8. Consultation

The Force has discussed the matter with local shopkeepers and the project is supported by local ward councillors.

9. Media information

The scheme could provide a media opportunity for you, the Force, the Local Authority and the local retail traders involved.

10. Background documents

JB/File Ref:- Grants/east Hull NPT/2

11. Publication

The report is available for publication.