

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE  
DECISION RECORD**

Decision Record Number **DR30/2023**

Title (This will be published): **Community Response Fund Continuation**

**Executive Summary:**

Following successful pilot activities, it is proposed that the Community Response Fund approach is rolled out further to additional locations across the Humber. The CRF invests in projects that respond directly to the issues identified by the local community through Humber Talking in specific locations across the Humber.

The Mid-Term Resourcing Strategy allocated funding to deliver a Democratic Small Grant Awards programme for the Humber, in addition to the Community Safety Fund which was launched in May 2022. A range of options have been considered and it is proposed that the Community Response Fund approach is piloted in Winterton and Bridlington South.

This proposal contributes to the Police and Crime Plan commitment to develop a Delivery Fund “to support innovation, community resilience and reduce local crime”.

**Decision of the PCC: Approved**

**Background Report: Open**

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside**

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 27/09/2023**

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**FOR HUMBERSIDE**

**SUBMISSION FOR: DECISION**

**OPEN**

**Title:** Community Response Fund Continuation

**Date:** .05.09.2023

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**1. Executive Summary**

Following a successful pilot, it is proposed that the Community Response Fund approach is rolled out further to other locations across the Humber. The CRF invests in projects that respond directly to the issues identified by the local community through Humber Talking in specific locations across the Humber.

The Mid-Term Resourcing Strategy allocated funding to deliver a Democratic Small Grant Awards programme for the Humber, in addition to the Community Safety Fund which was launched in May 2022. A range of options have been considered and it is proposed that the Community Response Fund approach is piloted in Winterton and Bridlington South.

This proposal contributes to the Police and Crime Plan commitment to develop a Delivery Fund “to support innovation, community resilience and reduce local crime”.

**2. Recommendation(s)**

Following successful pilot activities, it is recommended that the OPCC continues to deliver the Community Response Fund, offering grants to charities, community and voluntary sector organisations and town and parish councils to address specific issues identified by the local community through Humber Talking in a range of locations across the Humber.

**3. Background**

In order to ensure greater engagement with the public and to enable them to play a greater role in decision making, the idea of a Democratic Small Grant Awards programme for the Humber was developed and budget allocated through the Mid-Term Resourcing Strategy.

A number of different approaches were considered in order to identify the most appropriate way of ensuring a high level of engagement from the public in deciding on how funding is spent to address issues that are important to them.

An approach was piloted which provided up to £10,000 to fund a project to address issues relating to antisocial behaviour identified in both Winterton and Bridlington South. The two pilot locations were within areas that had lower concentrations of funding through the Community Safety Fund.

The PCC's Office undertook an initial appraisal on applications received to ensure that they met the eligibility criteria of the programme. A shortlist of two projects per area were then subject to a public vote with the project receiving the highest number of votes in each location being awarded the funding (i.e. one project selected per area). In Winterton, the vote was so close and the projects so different in nature that they were both selected to proceed.

A second set of locations has been trialled as a continuation of the pilot activity to assess the levels of demand in other locations and this too has proved successful. As a result, it is proposed that the Community Response Fund is continued and rolled out to locations across the Humber.

#### **4. Options**

##### **Option 1: Do not continue with the Community Response Fund**

The PCC has the power to make grants but is under no obligation to offer a scheme of this kind. It could therefore be withdrawn and the budget reallocated.

However, this would withdraw a valuable source of support for community and voluntary sector organisations. It may lead to a reduction in the availability of activities which divert people from antisocial behaviour, having an adverse impact.

##### **Option 2: Utilise the Community Safety Fund to provide a focus on specific locality-based issues instead of continuing with the Community Response Fund**

The Community Safety Fund could be utilised to target specific issues in specific locations, however, this approach would remove a key aspect of public engagement which the CRF provides via a public vote to choose the final projects selected.

### **Option 3: Deliver a Community Response Fund (preferred option)**

The pilot activities have proved that the approach to delivering a Community Response Fund has been a successful way of both seeking projects that address a recognised issue identified by the public and as a way of engaging the public in decision making. Continuing this approach will enable the Delivery Fund committed to in the Police and Crime Plan to be delivered successfully.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

Provision has been made for the scheme within the current budget which was agreed as part of the Mid-term Resourcing Strategy. This continued approach will enable the delivery of the Democratic Small Grant Awards programme which was approved as part of this and highlighted committed to within the Police and Crime Plan.

#### **6. Legal Implications**

The PCC has the power to issue grants under Section 143 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Legal advice was sought on the Community Safety Fund Grant Agreement which will be used for this scheme.

#### **7. Driver for Change/Contribution to Delivery of the Police and Crime Plan**

The Police and Crime Plan sets out the PCC's commitment to develop a Delivery Fund "to support innovation, community resilience and reduce local crime". The creation of the Community Response Fund, to be managed by the OPCC, will form part of the Delivery Fund.

#### **8. Equalities Implications**

The scheme requires applications to be submitted online through an applications portal that has been purchased from an external provider. This has been designed to meet current accessibility requirements, but the guidance advises any individuals unable to use the portal to contact the OPCC for assistance.

#### **9. Consultation**

The following have been consulted during the development of the approach and are supportive of the preferred option:

- Chief Executive
- Data Protection Officer (who has confirmed the grants application portal meets legal requirements)
- Other OPCC officers with past involvement in grant-making
- Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspectors for pilot locations
- Inspector leading on Humber Talking data
- Community Safety Partnerships

## **10. Media information**

The scheme will require publicising to source a range of applications, particularly at launch and in advance of application deadlines.

The preferred approach involves the continued engagement of the public directly in deciding on the successful projects through a public vote.

There will also be opportunities to promote the successful projects and publicise their impact as they commence delivery.

## **11. Background documents**

None.

## **12. Publication**

Open

## **13. DPIA considered**

Given the similarities in approach with the Community Safety Fund, the DPIA undertaken has been updated to include the Community Response Fund.