

Report to: EXECUTIVE CABINET

Date: 26 July 2023

Executive Member: Councillor Vimal Choksi MBE, Executive Member for Towns & Communities
Councillor Jacqueline North, First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation)

Reporting Officer: Emma Varnam, Assistant Director of Operations & Neighbourhoods

Subject: GRANT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE TAMESIDE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Report Summary: This report sets out the details of the grant funding for the Tameside Community Safety Partnership and the restrictions of the funding. It recommends acceptance of the grant.

- Recommendations:**
- That the contents of the report are noted.
 - That the funding from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) for Community Safety is accepted and a grant funding agreement entered into with GMCA.
 - It also to be noted that the Local Authority administrates this fund on behalf of the Tameside Community Safety Partnership (CSP).
 - The CSP board approves projects, monitors spend and outcomes in terms of the utilisation of the fund. The CSP report back to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) on the utilisation of the spend.

Corporate Plan: The grant fund is aligned to the GM Standing Together Police and Crime Plan and the local Community Safety Partnership Strategy

Policy Implications: Not applicable

Financial Implications: This report seeks approval to accept the GMCA funding for The Tameside Community Safety Partnership totalling £1.407m across the financial years 23/24 – 25/26.

(Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)

Grant Allocation	23/24 £m	24/25 £m	25/26 £m
Community Safety	0.244	0.244	0.244
Voluntary & Community Sector	0.100	0.100	0.100
Hate Crime	0.010	0.010	0.010
Serious Violence	0.150	0.150	
Serious Violence Duty	0.027	0.018	
Total Per Year	0.531	0.522	0.354

As the Council administers these grants on behalf of the Tameside Community Safety Partnership, the service must ensure that all spend is allowable under the criteria detailed in section 4 of the grant agreement and approved by the Partnership. In line with section 3.5 of the grant agreement the service must provide a copy of the agreed spend allocations to GMCA no later than July 2023.

The service must ensure that all spend is monitored to ensure it remains in line with the approved allocations and within the available funding.

The arrangement for governance, monitoring and reporting to GMCA are set out in section 5 of the grant agreement and the service must ensure these are met as part of the administration of this funding.

**Legal Implications:
(Authorised by the
Borough Solicitor)**

As outlined in the report, approval is being sought to accept funding for a number of areas relating to community safety, namely (i) Community Safety Grant;(ii) Voluntary and Community Sector Grant; (iii) Hate Crime Grant; (iv) Serious Violence Grant and (v) Serious Violence Duty Grant. The funding (subject to the current levels of funding being received by GMCA) will be allocated in advance and is intended to be spent within that financial year. The Grant Funding Agreement covers the years from 2023/2024 to 2025/2026. Except for the Serious Violence Grant which cannot be carried forward, carry forward with the consent of GMCA can be considered in exceptional circumstances. As set out in the report, the Community Safety Partnership will need to provide spending proposals and monitoring information to the GMCA. There are different timescales to provide the proposed allocation of funding to the GMCA set out in the agreement so this will need to be carefully monitored to ensure the timescales are met.

The Council should ensure that it has processes in place to award the funding to community and voluntary sector groups and organisations and that it in turn monitors the use of the funding by these groups.

Risk Management:

If any of the grant received remains unspent, there is a risk that underspend will return to the GMCA unless there is an agreement in place to carry forward any underspend.

If there is no agreement in place and any unspent grant is returned to the GMCA, this could have impact on future years funding in terms of receiving a reduced amount.

Access to Information:

Not Confidential

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Dave Smith, Partnership Manager by:



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e-mail: dave.smith2@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a statutory duty on responsible authorities to work together in a local authority area to reduce crime, these are:
- Local Authority
 - Police
 - Fire and Rescue
 - Probation
 - Clinical Commissioning Groups
- 1.2 These responsible authorities, as well as Voluntary Community Sector Organisations and Housing Providers form the Tameside Community Safety Partnership.
- 1.3 The introduction of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 created a flexible framework for partnership working. The community safety duty specifies that a Police Crime Commissioner for a specified police area and the responsible authorities of a Community Safety Partnership must co-operate and take account of one another's priorities.
- 1.4 The Greater Manchester Standing Together Police and Crime Plan 2022-2025 sets three priorities, these are:
- Keeping people safe and supporting victims
 - Reducing harm and offending
 - Strengthening communities and places
- 1.5 The Tameside Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2022-2025 sets five priorities, these are:
- Building Stronger Communities
 - Preventing and reducing violent crime, knife crime and domestic abuse
 - Preventing and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Preventing and reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol
 - Protecting vulnerable people and those at risk of exploitation

2. GRANT FUNDING AGREEMENT

- 2.1 Each Community Safety Partnership in Greater Manchester receives an annual grant from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) who is the Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester. The grants are received and administrated through each Local Authority in Greater Manchester.
- 2.2 The grant is divided into different themed sections, they are:
- Community Safety Grant
 - Voluntary And Community Sector Grants (Standing Together)
 - Hate Crime
 - Serious Violence
- 2.3 Whilst previous years grants have all been issued on annual basis, this year the Deputy Mayor has stipulated a move towards a 3-year grant. The Deputy Mayor wrote to all the Greater Manchester Chairs of the CSPs and Local Authority Chief Executives on the 6 April 2023 to this effect. A copy of the Tameside Community Safety grant allocation letter can be seen at **Appendix 1**. This was accompanied by the Grant Agreement document that is attached at **Appendix 2** detailing the terms of how each grant is to be spent.
- 2.4 The Grant Agreement document sets out the following grant over the next 3 years:

Grant name	Year	Amount	Notes
Community Safety Grant	2023/24	£243,900	Carry forward only in exceptional circumstances
	2024/25	£243,900	
	2025/26	£243,900	
Voluntary and Community Sector Grant	2023/24	£100,000	
	2024/25	£100,000	
	2025/26	£100,000	
Hate Crime Grant	2023/24	£10,000	
	2024/25	£10,000	
	2025/26	£10,000	
Serious Violence Grant	2023/24	£150,000	Carry forward not permitted
	2024/25	£150,000	
Serious Violence Duty – Labour costs	2023/24	£11,182	
	2024/25	£9,858	
Serious Violence Duty – Non -Labour costs	2023/24	£15,966	
	2024/25	£8,098	

- 2.5 In order to accept the terms and conditions of the grant, a declaration must be signed by the following:
- Chief Executive of the Local Authority
 - Finance Director of the Local Authority
 - Community Safety Partnership Chair(s)
 - Director of Children Services
 - Director of Public Health

- 2.6 The monetary values above are not provided as one lump sum. Each individual grant will be provided on an annual basis.

3. DECISION MAKING PROCESS FOR SPENDING THE GRANT

- 3.1 Whilst it is the Local Authority that receives the grant allocation, the grant is for the Tameside Community Safety Partnership (CSP). How the grant is utilised is a decision for the CSP. The Local Authority's Community Safety Team administrate the grant and monitor spend.
- 3.2 In terms of how the grant is utilised, the Community Safety Partnership must ensure that the outcomes of spend support the local community safety plan and align with the GM Standing Together priorities 2022-25 (as detailed in paragraphs 1.4 and 1.5).
- 3.3 The Local Authority's Community Safety Team also hold responsibility for reporting to the Police and Crime Commissioner via the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) on the proposals of how the grant will be spent and provide updates on spend in accordance with the reporting timescales detailed in the grant agreement.
- 3.4 With specific reference to the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCSE) Grant, the grant can only be allocated to VCSE groups and organisations with the aim of supporting them to contribute to the delivery of local and GM police and crime priorities. In Tameside, in order to utilise part of this fund, we have launched the 'Community Inspiration and Innovation Fund' (CIIF) which follows a 'participatory budget' theme through area-based events. The fund allows for community groups to submit a bid to the fund with a project proposal that meets the following criteria:
- Preventing & Reducing Youth Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Keeping People Safe
 - Supporting Poverty & Vulnerability
 - Strengthening Communities through Green Spaces

- 3.5 Those groups that have made successful bids are all invited to their relevant area event, where they will give a short presentation on their bid/project to all the other groups to present. All groups present are able to bring a maximum of five members/volunteers from their group to the event. Each person present is then able to cast two votes and at least one of the votes must be for a project other than their own.
- 3.6 The significance of this process is that the terms of the grant state that representatives from the VCSE sector will be part of the process to allocate grants, which is achieved through this method as the VCSE community are voting for community projects.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 As set out at the front of the report.