

**DECISION NOTICE**

<b>Subject:</b>
Standing Together – Community Grants

<b>Type of decision:</b>		
<b>Deputy Mayor's decision</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Chief Officer's decision</b>

**The decision is that:**  
To provide a total of £1.1m directly to the Greater Manchester local authority districts for the year 2018/19 for the local allocation of community grants in relation to crime and community safety. Each district is to be allocated £100,000, with Manchester City Council receiving a total of £200,000.

**The reasons for the decision are:**  
The former Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) had offered a series of grants under a 'Community Grants' scheme. This included the Youth Aspiration Fund, Youth Aspiration Sustainability Fund and Active Citizens Fund. Since 2015, a total of £2.6m has been awarded to 245 organisations to deliver initiatives around crime prevention, vulnerability and raising the aspirations of and opportunities for young people.

Whilst the Community Grants were well received by grant recipients, community safety partners were not able to demonstrate the impact that the projects were having in their locality and how they were contributing to local community safety priorities and targets. It was therefore agreed to review the future allocation process of the Community Grants scheme with the intention of piloting a new approach for the 2018/19 allocations by providing the grant directly to each district for local allocation and management through their community safety partnership.

The 2018/19 allocation will be a pilot year in order to better understand whether this funding has provided added value to district community safety partnerships in the achievement of local priorities. Regular communication will take place throughout the next 12 months to develop this work and outline any expectations in relation to the grant and the monitoring/reporting requirements.

The Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Accord implied that local grants should be awarded for a longer period of time (2-3 years).

This pilot year is to be used to test local processes and build an initial evidence base ahead of decisions on longer-term funding. A monitoring process will be established to ensure that spend and outcomes/impact can be robustly assessed.

To ensure the districts are able to receive the allocation in good time, it is recommended that the £1.1m be allocated on an equal basis, with each district receiving £100,000 and Manchester City receiving £200,000.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

This funding was previously administered internally by the OPCC/GMCA. Following a review of the process in early 2018 it was considered that the Community Grants would be better managed locally.

**Financial comments:** The Director of Finance (Police and Crime) has been consulted and is satisfied that the proposal falls within the resources available.

**Legal comments:** The funding will be provided with a series of grant conditions which must be adhered to throughout the life of the grant. This includes the requirement to ensure that the allocation follows local procedures for undertaking an equality impact assessment.

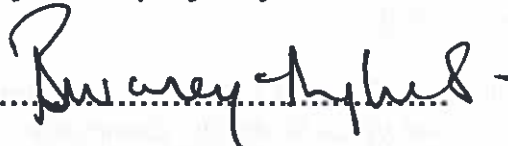
**Risk Assessment:**

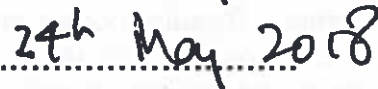
This allocation is being treated as a pilot year, to provide an opportunity to learn and build monitoring and assessment processes ahead of any decisions on longer-term funding arrangements. Interim updates on the spend and effectiveness of the grant will be monitored through the GMCA Police and Crime Team.

**Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:**

Safeguarding arrangements in relation to the use of the grant will be the responsibility of the local authority through internal grant administration processes.

Agreed by the Deputy Mayor

Signed: 

Date: 

Contact Officer: Clare Monaghan – Assistant Director for Police, Crime, Criminal Justice services and Fire