

Briefing Report

Safer Streets 3



Background

We have successfully secured £512,083 funding from the Home Office in the Safer Streets 3 bid process. Out of this a total, £299,661 has been awarded to address the infrastructure of the bid area with new CCTV, improved Street Lighting and introduction of Help Points. The balance of the grant will be placed in the revenue budget and distributed to funding partners to deliver the work streams.

This year, the bid is focused on targeting Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) crimes, recognising that lower-end behaviours create the conditions for other more harmful crimes to take place. The areas chosen include Stonehouse, Barbican and the City Centre and University areas (North Hill and Mutley).

Our proposal aims to reduce VAWG crimes and improve feelings of safety using 3 approaches:

1. Strengthening the local ENVIRONMENT to improve safe passage
2. TARGETED PREVENTION activity
3. Helping the COMMUNITY to develop their own solutions, reclaim community spaces and improve guardianship.

With approach 1 above, it leverages existing infrastructure, partnerships and will position the bid area to accommodate additional capacity and enhance security of connection for all cameras. The improvements to street lighting is economical and environmentally friendly and will contribute to reducing crime.

Reasons for decision:

Following success in securing grant funding from the Home Office Safer Streets 3, we need the Council to accept the grant funding and agree the distribution of the revenue grant to our delivery partners.

£299,661 of the fund is for infrastructure (ie CCTV, Street Lighting and Help Points), which needs to be added to the capital programme before the orders can be placed.

Recommended Decision - It is recommended that the Leader of the Council:

1. Authorise the business case
2. Accept the Home Office Grant of £512,083 and distribute the funds through separate Funding Agreements to partners designated within the Home Office Funding Agreement.
3. Allocate £299,661 for the project into the Capital Programme funded by Safer Street Fund 3
4. Authorise the procurement process to commence on an urgent basis.
5. Delegates the award of the contract to Service Director, Community Connections