

Report To:	CABINET/COUNCIL
Date:	16th SEPTEMBER 2024
Heading:	COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING 2024/2025
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR JOHN WILMOTT - EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME REDUCTION
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	YES
Subject to Call-In:	NO

The purpose of the report is to note the positive work that continues to be undertaken to secure external funding to deliver initiatives and enhance community safety across Ashfield; and recommend the acceptance of this funding for the financial year 2024/2025 to support the delivery of our corporate and partnership objectives.

Recommendation(s)

1. To receive the following funding from the Nottinghamshire Police Crime Commissioner:
 - To accept the 'safer4all' grant funding agreement to the total amount of: **£91,666.**
 - To accept the 'immediate justice scheme' grant funding agreement to the total amount of: **£55,428.**
 - To accept the 'safer streets 5' grant funding agreement to the total amount of: **£216,094.**
2. To receive the following funding from Nottinghamshire Police:
 - To accept the 'hotspot patrol' grant funding agreement to the total amount of: **£38,583.30.**
3. To receive the following funding from Nottinghamshire County Council:
 - To accept the 'sanctuary scheme' grant match funding agreement to the total amount of **£40,000** and acknowledge recent acceptance of grant funding allocations of **£34,397** from 'DLUHC' which is used to support survivors of domestic abuse.

Total Funding Amount: **£476,168.30**

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

The total funding of £476,168,30 will facilitate the implementation of a number of community safety initiatives across Ashfield, providing opportunity to build trust and confidence, address crime and anti-social behaviour, and enhance feelings of safety across the District.

Alternative Options Considered

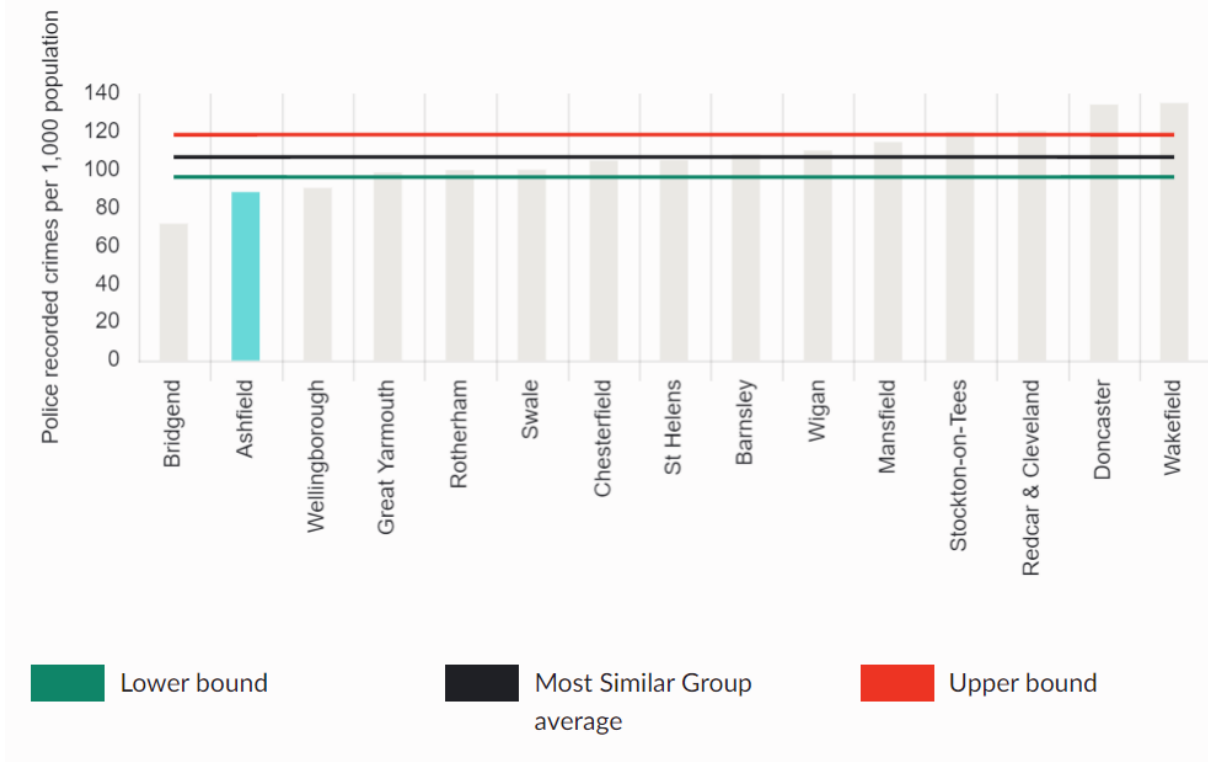
To not accept the funding agreements which would mean the Council cannot undertake the interventions detailed within the report. Not recommended.

Detailed information

Ashfield District Council and the Community Safety Partnership has been successful in securing over £1.8 million of external funding to support community safety projects in Ashfield between 2019 and 2023. The new funding awarded means the Council and partnership has secured over £2million since 2019.

The funding has and is being used to address longstanding community concerns relating to feelings of safety, violence against women and girls, domestic abuse, neighbourhood crimes and anti-social behaviour in public places, as well as individual support.

As illustrated in the table below, compared to the 15 local authorities in England and Wales deemed as being most similar to Ashfield, recorded crime across the District is significantly lower than in all but one area, indicating that the work of the Council and other partners is having a positive overall impact in tackling crime and disorder across the District.



Delivering our priorities requires significant investment from all partners within the Community Safety Partnership, and a firm commitment to working together and dedicating resources to deliver a safer and stronger District.

To support the delivery of the funding that has been secured for 2024/2025, a 'terms of reference' and strategic working group will be formed by the Community Safety Partnership to progress and finalise the work within the timescales set. This project documents will outline the specific and activities which the Council and partners will undertake to deliver the commitments set as part of the funding agreements.

An outline of these projects are detailed below. All monies are to be spent in 2024/25:

Activity	Deliverables	Funding Allocation	Funding Source
Camera deployment, Signage & Installation	CCTV Provision installation (columns) and signage in target areas to move existing cameras (minimum 2)	£10,000	Safer4All Grant - PCC
Burglary Reduction Scheme	Risk Assessments / installation of security measures in residential homes (20-40 premises)	£10,000	Safer4All Grant - PCC
Environmental improvements	Assess for Lighting, hedge, tree removal, erection of fences etc with monies to design out crime.	£16,666	Safer4All Grant - PCC
PSPO Delivery of serious violence and violence against women and girls signage etc	Deliver a PSPO to focus on street harassment and support with signage and posters across the District	£10,000	Safer4All Grant - PCC
Licensing Award for Licensed Premises Scheme	Deliver the Award/scheme with minimum of 10-30 premises	£20,000	Safer4All Grant – PCC
Ask for Angela Scheme	Delivery of staff training, production of posters and materials at a minimum 25 venues across commercial venues within the District.	£15,000	Safer4All Grant - PCC
Work with NHS, GP surgeries to address Serious Violence, Sexual Abuse and Domestic Abuse	Delivery of staff training, review of protocols and production of posters and materials for GP surgeries across the District. Work will also focus on reducing abuse to NHS employees at surgeries	£10,000	Safer4All Grant - PCC
Immediate Justice Scheme	To identify individuals who can provide community payback across the District for ASB related offences as an out of court disposal method.	£55,428	Immediate Justice Scheme - PCC

Hotspot Patrols	To undertake 358 hours of hi-visibility patrols in both Hucknall West and Sutton East areas of Ashfield to improve feelings of safety and deter ASB. Total 716 hours.	£38,583.30	Hotspot Patrol Grant – Notts Police
Domestic Abuse & Sanctuary Scheme	To provide safe accommodation, provide support and help safeguard survivors of domestic abuse through various interventions including providing security measures in residential properties across the District in order to improve safety and reduce levels of risk	£74,397	Notts CC and DLUHC

In addition to the above, the report includes a recommendation to accept £216,094 to assist the delivery of the Safer Streets 5 initiatives being undertaken on the ‘Carsic’ estate in Sutton-In-Ashfield. The funding has and is being used to deliver burglary reduction, community engagement, environmental improvement and other security measures in the area. This funding was awarded last financial year, but delivery will continue to take place in 2024/25.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The delivery of these initiatives will support the Council’s safer & stronger, and cleaner & greener priorities; and the vision of ensuring the foundations for a good quality of life are in place through place enhancement, increased surveillance, and reduced vulnerability.

Legal:

The Council’s Legal Team actively support and advise where required. The grant funding must be spent and delivered as per the conditions of the grant funding agreement. Failure to do so could result in recovery of the grant.

The use of the grant must comply with subsidy control rules, both in terms of direct receipt of funds and intended use/expenditure of those funds. Legal and Finance teams will provide advice and assistance to ensure the transactions are formalised by way of the correct legal documentation. [RLD 16/08/2024]

Finance: [PH 15/08/2024]

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	Revenue costs are set out in the table above and will be fully funded by the external funding in 2024/25.
General Fund – Capital Programme	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	For the Council to continue to use the HRA revenue account budget for match contribution of £20,000 to support delivery of the Sanctuary Scheme.
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	N/A

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Failure to deliver and spend the funding by 31 st March 2025	A Project Board will be established which comprises of key officers from the Council, Police, Partners and OPCC. In addition, a performance framework has been developed to ensure the projects are delivered within tolerance and in accordance with the funding stipulations.

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications contained in the report, however, the projects relating to the funding may have a HR implication which would be identified in subsequent reports.

Environmental/Sustainability:

All projects delivered will be reviewed to ensure they are sustainable and viable.

Equalities:

Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken to support delivery of the funding. The Council's equalities principles incorporated within the Council's Corporate Equality and Inclusion will be adhered to and the various initiatives are to be undertaken in accordance with Section 149 Equality Act 2010.

Other Implications:

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

Equality Impact Assessment

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