



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

DECISION 2015/54	DATE: 12 OCTOBER 2015
TITLE: REQUEST FOR FUNDING – BURNLEY COUNCIL – COMMUNITY INITIATIVE	
REPORT BY: LOUISE FAIRCLOUGH - CRIME, REOFFENDING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE OFFICER	

Executive Summary:

An application for funding has been received from Burnley Council with a view to enhancing community engagement.

The application offers a potential new approach including revitalising and refreshing existing PACT meetings including sessional work, new communications plan, develop and deliver a training programmed and encourage communication through events.

Recommendation:

The Commissioner is recommended to approve the proposed funding as outlined in the proposal below.

Signature

Police and Crime Commissioner

Date

1. Background and Advice

The Commissioner has indicated his intention to work in partnership to support the delivery of his priorities and outcomes in particular in respect all objects but this would work stronger with tackling reoffending and championing the rights of victims The allocation of this funding supports this intention and demonstrates the Commissioner's commitment to work pan-Lancashire with all local authorities and other key partners.

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

The proposal links directly to the Police and Crime Plan in particular the aim to work together with partners to deliver better services and ensure that resources are used effectively.

3. Consultation

N/A

4. Implications

- a. Legal
- b. Financial
- c. Equality considerations

5. Background Papers

None

6. Public access to information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation.

Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PCC website within 3 working days of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form.

Officer declaration	Date
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS – As above	
CONSULTATION – As above	
<p>Director to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Monitoring Officer)</p> <p>I have been informed about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire.</p> <p>Signature.....Date.....</p>	

FUNDING PROPOSAL TO THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE

October 2015

Rationale and background

Burnley Council would like to carry out a range of work to **increase and develop community capacity in our borough.**

The council's ability to carry out proactive and effective community engagement work has been affected over the last years by reductions in funding.

This has had negative knock in effects in terms of the **Council's role as a driver, enabler and encourager of community capacity**, and of **effective dialogue, partnership and shared problem solving work** between community representatives and key agencies, including the Police.

Burnley Council's management has now identified a range of current needs / opportunities:

- To build the capacity of residents to engage with the council, the Police and other agencies
- To build the skills and confidence of residents to address their own issues confidently and effectively, including through problem solving at community level
- To make use of the capacity of local councillors and local community volunteers

A potential new approach

By carrying out a 'task and finish' period of work over the next period, Burnley Council could develop a new approach to building community capacity.

This would directly support effective liaison between residents and the Council, Police and other agencies.

Key themes of the approach would be

- **Burnley council getting more involved in communities**
- **Refreshing and revitalising PACT meetings at local level, complementing Police input**
- **Facilitating resident engagement with the council, the Police and other agencies**
- **Supporting and developing community members, including through piloting a 'community champion' approach**
- **Providing a focus for dialogue, discussion and information sharing about community issues – in particular those to do with crime and anti-social behaviour**

The approach would have a series of positive 'ripple effects'

- Encouraging and sustaining pride in the borough
- Promoting ambition for members of communities to succeed
- Developing links and good relations between different parts of the borough's communities
- Celebrating individual successes – the key to a good and healthy community

Key elements of the new approach

Key elements of the new approach could be

- Confirming all existing 'community engagement' initiatives run by / supported by the Council – e.g. Friends of Parks, funding support to CAB, CVS

- Establishing a small network of ‘community link’ officers in the council. One would be allocated to each of the fifteen wards. These council officers would have the role of liaising with the NPT, the local councillors and local voluntary and community organisations.
- Working with the Police on re-energising PACT panels where appropriate, and more generally, enhancing and developing contacts between residents, the Council and the Police
- Each Community Beat Manager in the Neighbourhood Policing Team would know of the key council ‘link worker’ for their area. In turn, the council link worker would be in touch with / aware of developments with local councillors, community groups etc. This would add value and richness to the communications coming into the NPT
- Piloting a ‘Burnley community champion’ pledge which local councillors and residents could sign up to: this would mean agreeing to work in a spirit of partnership with other residents, with the council, the Police and with other agencies; to endorse a set of aims and values; to report local issues to the council online; to report local issues to the Neighbourhood Policing Teams; promote information through organisations, networks, friendship and family circles; and to support individuals by signposting them to the relevant organisations
- This new approach would be linked to the positive activities already carried out through parish councils
- Publicising news and information to ‘community champions’ through a regular e-newsletter
- Arranging get together sessions for champions from groups of wards, bringing people together from different areas and building relationships
- Organising a well-publicised borough wide ‘Question Time’ style event, in late February 2015, which builds on all the above activity, and which will provides a platform for the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chief Superintendent, and other key figures to engage directly with members of the public to promote accurate information and set out their perspectives, approaches and ambitions
- Evaluating the programme through surveys and narrative interviews.

Resourcing the new approach

The menu of funding needed is set out below. We very much hope that it will be possible for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to support this work.

PCC support would, of course, be acknowledged in press releases and social media activity generated by the work, and in each edition of the proposed e-newsletter.

Area of work	Outcomes	Timescale	Funding needed
Co-ordination, development	Part time officer to, set up, launch, co-ordinate and establish new approach: <i>funding needed to ‘back fill’ current duties so that additional work can take place</i>	November 2015 – March 2016	£ 3400
Sessional work by neighbourhood link workers	Additional work over and above existing council duties by neighbourhood link workers, e.g. attending evening meetings, weekend events etc. <i>funding needed both to ‘back</i>	November 2015 – March 2016	£ 5000

Area of work	Outcomes	Timescale	Funding needed
	<i>fill' current duties and to pay for additional hours</i>		
Production of webpages / publicity / e-newsletter	Webpages., leaflet and e-newsletter for community champions PCC support will be acknowledged	November 2015 – March 2016	£ 1200
Development and delivery of training programme	Training programme for council link officers and community champions, run in partnership with third sector organisations: funding will be split with third sector organisations. This training will lay the basis for the work to be sustained after March 2016.	December 2015 and January 2016	£ 2600
Organisation and promotion of Question Time style event	This would include awards to the community champions and a short presentation to mark the achievements of the scheme, including through a professionally produced video. This would be available for the Police, the PCC and the council to use in publicity.	February 2016	£ 2100
Evaluation		March 2016	£ 500
TOTAL			£ 14 800

Louise Fairclough
Crime, Re-offending and Criminal Justice Officer