



POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE

DECISION: 2020-38	DATE: 23RD FEBRUARY 2021
TITLE: SAFER STREETS FUND ROUND 2 (21/22)	
REPORT BY: STEFF HULL BRETT BISCOB	

Executive Summary

The Home Office announced a second round of the Safer Streets Fund (SSF) for the 2021/22 financial year with the deadline for submissions at 1pm on Thursday 25th March 2021.

Police and Crime Commissioner's and Local Authorities are able to submit bids however, the Home Office will only accept three bids per PCC area and they have specified that the Police and Crime Commissioner must support and prioritise bids (primary/secondary/tertiary) prior to submission.

As the Home Office stated PCCs must approve and prioritise bids the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner contacted all Local Authorities for expressions of interest to be submitted by Thursday 11th February 2021 to indicate their interest in submitting a bid.

A total of 7 expressions of interest were received from district councils.

Recommendations

The Commissioner is recommended to note and approve the priority order of the three expressions of interest as follows:

1. Blackburn
2. Preston
3. Lancaster

Signature

Police and Crime Commissioner
Date: 24th March 2021

PART I

1. Background and Advice

The Home Office announced there will be a second £20m round of the Safer Streets Fund for the 21/22 financial year.

The second round of the Safer Streets Fund has a targeted focus on four neighbourhood crime types, rather than all acquisitive crime. These are domestic burglary, vehicle theft (theft of and from vehicles), theft from a person and robbery. Bidders can choose to submit a scheme that covers all four-crime types or to focus on one crime type in particular, and can be targeted to residential, commercial and rural areas.

Bidders must be able to demonstrate that their chosen area is persistently and disproportionately affected by the neighbourhood crime they choose to focus on in their bid and therefore the Home Office have set the following benchmark criteria:

Please note there is no benchmark focused solely on theft from a person because the average crime per 1,000 population per year for theft from a person (using police.uk data) is too low and therefore should your project focus solely on theft from a person the area must meet the All Neighbourhood Crime benchmark.

Crime Type	Benchmark crime rate using police.uk data (crimes per 1,000 population per year)
Burglary	7.91
Vehicle Crime	8.74
Robbery	1.16
All Neighbourhood Crime (burglary, robbery, theft from a person, vehicle crime)	18.30

The OPCC wrote to Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and the 12 district councils asking them if they wish to express an interest in the Safer Streets Fund along with information on the area(s) they would like to target.

The OPCC received seven expressions of interest from: Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, Burnley, Preston, Lancaster, Pendle and a joint expression of interest from Chorley and South Ribble.

The OPCC met with representatives from the Constabulary in order to review, evaluate and assess the expressions of interest in order to ensure the potential bids met the conditions set out in the Home Office prospectus.

As a consequence of the discussion which focused on crime data, community impact and advice from Chief Superintendent (Neighbourhood Policing) and Chief Superintendent (Cooperate Development) it was agreed the OPCC should formally support the expressions of interest as follows:

Primary Bid – Blackburn with Darwen (Blackburn Central)

Secondary Bid – Preston (Plungington)

Tertiary Bid – Lancaster (Skerton & Morecambe West End)

Each Local Authority will submit their own application directly to the Home Office.

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

The Safer Streets Fund supports all four of the Commissioner's priorities:

- Protecting Local Policing
- Tackling Crime and Reoffending
- Supporting Victims and Vulnerable People
- Developing Safe and Confident Communities.

3. Consultation

The OPCC wrote to Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and all district councils.

The OPCC met with Lancashire Constabulary to review expressions of interest.

4. Implications

a. Legal

None to consider.

b. Financial

None to consider.

c. Equality considerations

None to consider.



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	 2 nd March 2021.
EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS – As above	
CONSULTATION – As above	
Director to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Monitoring Officer) 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.  Signature: _____ Date: 2 nd March 2021.	