



## RECOMMENDATION REPORT

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| <b>DECISION: 39/2025</b>  | <b>DATE: 16/09/2025</b> |
| <b>TITLE:</b><br><b>EXPANSION OF WEST VIEW DIVERSIONARY ACTIVITIES.</b>   |                         |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b><br><b>BETH WILLMOTT – POLICY AND PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT OFFICER</b>   |                         |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b><br><b>STEVE HANLEY – POLICY AND PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER</b>  |                         |
| <b>Executive Summary</b><br><br>The proposal seeks £9,900 in funding to extend a successful youth diversion programme at West View Leisure Centre in Preston until January 2026. The initiative targets vulnerable young males (ages 11–16) in areas affected by serious youth violence, organised crime, and deprivation, particularly within the Clear, Hold, Build zones of St Matts and Fishwick Wards. |                         |
| <b>Recommendation</b><br><br>The Commissioner is asked to approve the allocation of £9,900 to Preston United for the expansion of West View diversionary activities.  |                         |

## **PART I**

### **1. Background and Advice**

The programme was initially funded through the Police Prevention and Problem-Solving Innovation Fund (PPIF) and demonstrated strong engagement, with up to 75 attendees per session and 95% retention. It aligns with the Police and Crime Plan 2024–29, supporting objectives under “Tackling Crime and ASB” and “Getting Tough on Serious Violence.” The pilot revealed high levels of weapon carrying among youth and a lack of positive role models, highlighting the urgent need for sustained intervention.

The 15-week extension will provide weekly evening sessions involving sports, mentoring, and meals, delivered by youth workers, police officers, and coaches. The programme aims to reduce exploitation by organised crime groups (OCGs), foster community cohesion, and prepare participants for transition into The Vault Youth Zone, a long-term youth provision partner.

### **2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan**

Supports the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan priorities Tackle Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour and Get Tough on Serious Violent Crime.

### **3. Consultations**

N/A

### **4. Implications:**

#### **a. Legal**

None to Consider

#### **b. Financial**

Funding will be sourced from the Violence Reduction Network Grant.

#### **c. Equality Impact Assessment**

Equality data is currently gathered through the OPCC.

#### **d. Data Protection Impact Assessment**

There are no direct Data protection implications in the making of this decision

### **5. Risk Management**

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             |
|---|------------------|
| <b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – As above</b>  |                  |
| <b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – As above</b>  |                  |
| <b>EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS – As above</b>   |                  |
| <b>CONSULTATION – As above</b>  |                  |
| <b>Author</b><br><br>Signature: Beth Willmott   | Date: 21/10/2025 |
| <b>Sponsor</b><br><br>I have read the above report and confirm this is factually correct.<br><br>Signature: Steve Hanley  | Date: 21/10/2025 |
| <b>Section 151 Officer for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner</b><br><br>I have read the above report and have considered the financial implications. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate (financial) request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire.<br><br>Signature: Steve Freeman  | Date: 21/10/2025 |
| <b>Chief Executive (Monitoring Officer) for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire</b><br><br>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.<br><br>Signature: Anna Hopkins | Date: 21/10/2025 |