

Draft Scoping Document

Name of Review/Project:

Administration of Safer Neighbourhoods Funding System

Terms of reference:

N/ A

To review the administration of the Safer Neighbourhood funding scheme. This review fulfils the requirement for Crime and Disorder scrutiny.

Please provide details of relevant Corporate Plan Themes and Priorities:

Safe and secure theme

Safer Neighbourhoods

Completing ten local area Safer Neighbourhoods projects, using Safer Neighbourhood funding.

Key Issues and Aim(s) of the Review

To review the administration of the Safer Neighbourhoods Funding procedure in particular looking at the following:

Current Application and Guidance Notes

Existing quarterly / Annual deadlines

Maximum amount per project

Match funding requirements

Post Christmas Big Pot

Method of scoring/ approving applications – Who does this?

Quarterly Monitoring- develop new monitoring form

Payments of Grants (in advance or not?)

Should all grants be spent by Financial year end?

Why should the review take place now?

There is a requirement to hold at least one Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting per year that looks at the Crime and Disorder

agenda. After discussions with the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership it was agreed that the Committee reviews the administration of the Safer Neighbourhoods grant process.

Although the Safer Neighbourhoods funding has been a popular and successful community-funding stream and has impacted on reducing crime, anti social behaviour and fear of crime, there are some difficulties with administering the scheme.

Some of the difficulties are:

- Many of the applications come in after Christmas, when less money is available
- Certain areas/organisations are better at submitting applications than others.
- The absence of Parish Councils in the urban core impacts on the number of applications submitted in these areas.
- Quality of applications can be fairly poor
- Difficulty in obtaining Invoices/ evidence of spend

The existing procedure for awarding grants has not been reviewed for nearly 3 years and it is felt by the Partnership team that there are some areas of the grant system that could do with improving.

Potential outcome/s

An improved and more controlled administrative roll out of the Safer neighbourhoods grant scheme, which would encourage applications to be submitted across the year, and to prevent an end of year rush of applications.

What will not be included:

The overall funding allocation at £4,000 per Safer Neighbourhood area. Each project needs to demonstrate that it will impact on reducing crime, Anti Social behaviour or fear of crime.

Risks:

Possibility of putting off applicants if the revised system is too demanding.

Having to implement new system midway through the financial year 2010/11

Members undertaking the Review (if a sub-group is to be used):

All of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Possible co-options:

None

Which policy committee(s) does it relate to?

Key stakeholders/ consultees:

Safer South Derbyshire Partnership Team, Chair of Safer South Derbyshire Partnership.

Potential contributors and research required:

Youth of Hatton Group.

Potential visits:

Previous Project applicants

Are there any Budgetary Implications?

No, the budget of £24,000 per year for the funding stream will remain the same

Officer support required:

Safer Communities Manager, Safer Neighbourhoods Officer

Period for Review:

Start date: March 2010

Approximate meeting dates: 24th March 2010

Proposed completion date: to be confirmed.

Report date(s) to committees: TBC

Publicity (e.g. of recommendations)

Date Scoping Document Completed: _____