

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to:** Executive  
**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
**Report for:** Decision  
**Report of:** Executive Member for Public Safety, Governance & Reform

### Report Title

**Grant funding for the prevention and reduction of serious violence**

### Summary

**Following the announcement by the Chancellor in March this year of a £100m Serious Violence Fund for use during this 19/20 Financial year and the subsequent allocations of these monies to regions, this report sets out the parameters of funding awarded by the Deputy Mayor of GMCA to Trafford Council.**

### Recommendation(s)

**That the Executive approves the proposal to commence implementation of Trafford's Community Safety Partnership Action Plan, utilising the funding detailed in the report.**

### Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Helen Grant, Strategic Manager Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour  
Extension: 2115

Background Papers: None

### *Implications:*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Relationship to Corporate Priorities            | The aims of the funding links to the corporate priorities of successful and thriving places and also children and young people. |
| Relationship to GM Policy or Strategy Framework | The funding is directly linked to the GM Strategy around reducing serious violence.   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Financial  | Trafford's Action Plan was considered, agreed and approved by the GMCA Deputy Mayor and subsequently funding in the sum of £300,000 was awarded to Trafford on 3rd October 2019. |
| Legal Implications:                                | The funding can only be spent in line with the action plan agreed by the funding authority.  |
| Equality/Diversity Implications                    | <i>None</i>  |
| Sustainability Implications                        | The funding is initially short term however some of the projects have incorporated legacy provision.   |
| Resource Implications e.g. Staffing / ICT / Assets | Once approval of the action plan is obtained, there will be separate business cases for the staff recruitment element  |
| Risk Management Implications                       | <i>None</i>  |
| Health & Wellbeing Implications                    | <i>None</i>  |
| Health and Safety Implications                     | <i>None</i>  |

## 1.0 **Background**

- 1.1** On 9th April 2018, the Government published its Serious Violence Strategy setting out a programme of work to respond to national increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide.
- 1.2** On 13th March 2019, the Chancellor announced a £100m Serious Violence Fund for use during the 19/20 financial year to tackle serious violence nationally. Greater Manchester was named as a priority area to which funds would be allocated to.
- 1.3** In Greater Manchester the funding has already been used in the following ways:
- **Establish a Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)** to strategically engage with the underlying drivers of violent crime - £3.37 million was made available to support this objective;
  - **Undertake a 'surge' in local policing** in order to promote an enforcement-based approach to violent crime reduction - £4.8 million was made available to support this objective
  - **Community Safety Partnership action plans** to drive community-led violence reduction, resilience-building and asset-based community development at the level of districts and neighbourhoods, making use of the expertise of partners in the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector wherever possible. £300k was made available for each Local Authority (Manchester City Council received £400k to reflect the different needs in the City).
- 1.4** As a result of a successful bid, Trafford have been awarded funding as detailed in the report. Approval to commence implementation of Trafford's

Community Safety Partnership Action Plan utilising available funding is now sought.

- 1.5 The approval to commence implementation of the Action Plan will allow Trafford to access and utilise the funding already allocated to it so that, its Community Safety Partnership action plans can be used to further drive its existing initiatives around community-led violence reduction, resilience-building and asset-based community development within the Borough.

## **2.0 Bid and Funding Award**

- 2.1 The Safer Trafford Partnership was required to submit an 'Action Plan' in July 2019 to the Deputy Mayor setting out how it would use the funding to tackle serious violence in the Borough over and above the already extensive work already being undertaken in this area.
- 2.2 Trafford's Community Safety Partnership Action Plan is summarised in this report.
- 2.3 Trafford's Action Plan was considered, agreed and approved by the GMCA Deputy Mayor and subsequently funding in the sum of £300,000 was awarded to Trafford on 3rd October 2019.
- 2.4 In line with the criteria for funding, the Action Plan has a focus on prevention, education, engagement, intelligence and diversion. Part of the funding will be used to recruit a Violence Reduction Co-Ordinator, based within Public Health to oversee implementation of the plans, the management of the varying strands and to produce performance information so that the effectiveness of the Action Plan can be evaluated.
- 2.5 In anticipation of the funding award and recognising that the funding has to be accessed and utilised by 31st March 2020, Trafford has been making preparations in order that the Action Plan can be immediately launched.

## **3.0 Summary of Trafford's Community Safety Partnership Action Plan**

### **3.1 Prevention and Educational Approach**

#### **3.1.1 Violence Reduction Awareness Programme**

A school based violence reduction awareness programme would be delivered supported by three local authority training posts. This includes delivery to primary, secondary and college settings.

The programme includes training to staff about early identification, how to support a young person and family at risk and the support services available. The programme includes education in relation to the carrying and use of knives and referrals into key services such as 'Early Help'.

#### **3.1.2 Project Knife Awareness**

Project Knife Awareness is an upscaling of a project already being delivered in Trafford (to 7 identified schools) and the additional funding means that a wider audience of young people can be reached including all secondary schools.

It will allow the project to help educate all parents, teachers and young people in every school in Trafford, about awareness of being a victim and how to report the crime.

Each school would receive 3x community performances and workshops

The schools would be offered performances and workshops – including twilight and evening sessions for parents/carers/teachers

## **3.2 Engagement and Intelligence Approach**

### **3.2.1 Part 1 of detached youth work**

2 Full time Youth Workers would join the new detached youth work team in order to develop informal youth education programmes with and for young people out in the parks and communities, focusing on violence reduction and behaviour change.

### **3.2.2 Part 2 of detached youth work**

Trafford Council would commission 2 x outreach workers three days a week for 26 weeks. This would lead to increased impact by engaging with young people due to the provider being community based and not seen by young people as a public sector intervention by Police or the Council enabling them to build trusted relationships and effect change.

## **3.3 Diversions Approaches**

### **3.3.1 The delivery of sport and physical activity opportunities**

This proposal involves the delivery of sport and physical activity opportunities across the borough via a commissioned provider that engages young people at risk of carrying a knife and knife crime. The programmes of activities would be developed following consultation about what young people would enjoy, for example, basketball, football, street dance. Youth workers would link to these sessions to further engage with the young people.

### **3.3.2 Place based solutions**

It is proposed that £2.5k is assigned to each of the locality areas to provide a small pot of funding that can be used locally to respond to local issues where the aim would be to prevent or reduce violence.

### **Other Options**

The other option would be to not to implement the Action Plan and not to utilise the funding available at all or Trafford could request approval from GMCA's Deputy Mayor, as fund administrator, to only utilise part of the funding awarded. Partial utilisation of the fund is likely to result in amendments to the Action Plan, which would also then need to be approved by GMCA's Deputy Mayor. The Chancellor has made funding available for use during the 19/20 financial year only, the window of opportunity to access and to utilise such funds is therefore limited.

### **Consultation**

There are no formal consultation requirements in respect of this report.

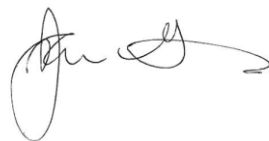
### **Reasons for Recommendation**

It is recommended that the approval to commence implementation of the Action Plan is provided so that Trafford utilise the funding already allocated to it so that, its Community Safety Partnership action plans can be used to further drive its existing initiatives around community-led violence reduction, resilience-building and asset-based community development within the Borough.

**Key Decision** Yes

**If Key Decision, has 28-day notice been given?** Yes

**Finance Officer Clearance** PC  
**Legal Officer Clearance** DS



**CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE** *(electronic)*

To confirm that the Financial and Legal Implications have been considered and the Corporate Director has cleared the report prior to issuing to the Executive Member for decision.