



Report of: Reducing Youth Violence Leader

Report to: Chief Officer, Safer Leeds

Date: 18th December 2019

Subject: Youth Violence Reduction Community Grant Programme.

Are specific electoral wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, name(s) of ward(s): Armley Burmantofts & Richmond Hill Chapel Allerton Gipton & Harehills	
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	

Summary

1. Main issues

- Reducing the number of young people involved in violent crime is a priority for the city.
- The Home Office, through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), has awarded Leeds City Council funding of £172,840 to spend on community projects that aim to prevent and reduce youth violence in four priority wards.
- A competitive grant process has concluded and the Reducing Youth Violence grants panel has recommended 26 projects totalling £172,840 be approved for funding.

2. Best Council Plan Implications

- Keeping people safe from harm, protecting the most vulnerable
- Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
- Promoting community respect and resilience

3. Resource Implications

- Grants totalling £172,840 will be awarded to local organisations chosen through a competitive application process.
- The budget is from the Violence Reduction Unit Home Office grant allocated to Leeds City Council by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- All funding must be spent and evidenced by 31st March 2020.

Recommendations

- a) The Chief Officer, Safer Leeds is requested to authorise payment of grants totalling £172,840 through the Reducing Youth Violence Community Grant Programme to 26 organisations chosen through a competitive application process.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek authority from the Chief Officer, Safer Leeds to award 26 grants through Reducing Youth Violence Community Grant Programme, selected through a competitive application process.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Funding to reduce youth violence has been allocated to Leeds City Council via the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for 2019/20. The budget has been distributed to various projects across Leeds including deploying more resources into the Early Help and Front Door safeguarding hubs, providing peer advisors to young people vulnerable to exploitation and, creating a new youth hub in the Nowells area.
- 2.3 Additional work in communities with the highest levels of youth violence is a priority for this funding.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 A grant brief and application form was agreed by a working group of officers from Safer Leeds, Children and Families, Public Health and the Communities Team. The application window opened on 13th November 2019 with a three week window for submissions.
- 3.2 The opportunity was widely advertised through community contacts, Yortender and Voluntary Action Leeds. A total of 42 applications were received by the deadline.
- 3.3 The evaluation panel met on 13th December 2019 to consider the applications and agree a portfolio of projects that best met the grant brief and provided a variety of activities in each of the four priority wards.
- 3.4 The final list of organisations receiving funding through this programme is attached at Appendix 1.

- 3.5 Monitoring information will be submitted at the end of the programme along with quality assurance visits and regular informal updates.
- 3.6 Organisations who were unsuccessful during this process will be signposted to support through Voluntary Action Leeds and funding opportunities through the Breeze Culture Network.

4 Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 Consultation has taken place with the Executive Member for Communities, Ward Members from the affected wards and wider stakeholders through the Violence Reduction Partnership Group.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

- 4.2.1 All four target areas have ethnically diverse communities and some of the highest levels of deprivation in the city.
- 4.2.2 The grants will increase the capacity of community based organisations to engage with local residents and foster community cohesion through projects that bring people of different backgrounds together.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

- 4.3.1 The programme supports the following Best Council Plan priorities:
- Keeping people safe from harm, protecting the most vulnerable
 - Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Promoting community respect and resilience

Climate Emergency

- 4.3.2 The grant recipients shall consider the impact of their proposals on the environment and take steps to mitigate their impact on climate change, in line with the Council's climate emergency declaration.
- 4.3.3 During mobilisation they will be asked to demonstrate how they will reduce their carbon footprint, including making best use of technology and sustainable transport in their day to day operations.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

- 4.4.1 Funding for the grants programme is from the budget allocated to the Council by the OPCC and meets the priorities set out by the Home Office.
- 4.4.2 Value for money was determined by an analysis of the budget form submitted by grant recipients and will continue through close monitoring of project delivery.
- 4.4.3 A report will be submitted to the OPCC on the success of the funded projects at the end of the financial year.

4.4.4 The allocation of funding through grants meets the criteria for grant funding under the Council's Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.5.1 This is a significant operational decision and will not be subject to call-in. There are no grounds for keeping the contents of this report confidential within the Council's access to information rules.

4.5.2 The grant application round and evaluation was overseen by the Children and Families Commissioning and Market Management Team to ensure compliance with legislation and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules

4.5.3 Grants will be awarded through a grant agreement.

4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 The project team is working closely to manage the risks associated with the programme, and a risk register will be kept. As part of the application process, bidders were asked to identify risks and mitigating actions for their project.

5 Conclusions

5.1 Funding for community led projects that aim to reduce knife enabled serious youth violence has been made available to Safer Leeds through the Home Office via the OPCC.

5.2 Due to the time constraints on the funding available, a competitive grants process that invests in community based projects was the most effective method of allocating the budget and ensuring measurable outcomes and benefits are achieved.

5.3 Funding will be allocated to the three wards of the city that currently have the highest level of knife crime and an area of low reporting but suspected high prevalence.

5.4 Grants have been allocated by a panel of officers to ensure there is a mix of high quality projects funded through this programme.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The Chief Officer, Safer Leeds is requested to authorise payment of grants totalling £172,840 through the Reducing Youth Violence Community Grant Programme to 26 organisations chosen through a competitive application process.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Appendix 1: Organisations and Grant Value

LED Community Foundation	£5,851
Youth Service	£2,980
New Wortley Community Centre	£4,080
Barca Leeds	£8,000
Trailblazer Fitness CIC	£4,870
Tribe Youth Group	£4,755
Damasq	£6,000
Sport Works	£5,137
The Youth Association	£8,000
Canopy Housing	£8,000
Hamara	£11,495
One Formation	£5,000
CFYDC	£7,500
Luv Jesus Ministries	£5,000
Youth Service	£4,000
Junior Sports HUB	£4,500
Gipsil	£9,500
Radio Asian Fever	£7,354
Getaway Girls	£9,000
Street Team Leeds	£5,000
Catch	£10,000
LEEP 1	£4,698
Active Leeds	£10,000
West Yorks Fire Service	£3,120
Black Health Initiative	£10,000
Life Experience	£9,000