

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Report Title: Safer Streets Fund Round Five

Name of Committee: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 23 October 2023

Report Director: Chief Officer - Regulation and Safety David Burrows, Chief Officer Regulation and Safety

Portfolio: Regulation and Safety

Ward Relevance: Eastlands and Benn

Prior Consultation: Internal, Finance

Contact Officer: Henry Biddington Environmental Health and Community Safety Manager 533607
henry.biddington@rugby.gov.uk

Public or Private: Public

Report Subject to Call-In: Yes

Report En-Bloc: No

Forward Plan: Yes

Corporate Priorities: This report relates to the following priority(ies):
 Rugby is an environmentally sustainable place, where we work together to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change. (C)
 Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits and enables opportunities for all residents. (E)
 Residents live healthy, independent lives, with the most vulnerable protected. (HC)
 Rugby Borough Council is a responsible, effective and efficient organisation. (O)
[Corporate Strategy 2021-2024](#)
 This report does not specifically relate to any Council priorities but

Summary: A joint proposal from Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, Warwickshire County Council and Rugby Borough Council was submitted to the Home Office for the Safer Streets 5 Fund. If approved The Rugby section of the project covers

an upgrade to the Rugby CCTV Network, upgrade to help points in the Town Centre, additional lighting around Millenium Greed and a Community Garden Project in Millenium Green. The Council are awaiting the Home Office decision on the funding.

Financial Implications:

A capital supplementary budget of £0.193m to be financed from the Safer Streets grant will be required and the capital programme for 2023/24 be amended accordingly

Risk Management/Health and Safety Implications:

Risk associated with delay in project delivery meaning part or all of the funding may have to be returned. A risk that the Council do not approve the proposals in the application or Capital budget.

Environmental Implications:

See CCEIA

Legal Implications:

Statutory duty to consider crime reduction in all council activities under Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998

Equality and Diversity:

Positive impact with regard to street safety for women See Appendix

Options:

- A) Subject to Home Office approval, permission to enter a Safer Streets Funding agreement between Rugby Borough Council and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, be approved.
- B) The scheme is added to the capital programme and a supplementary budget of £0.193m be established
- C) Delegated Authority granted to the Chief Officer Legal & Governance to enter into the Safer Streets Funding Agreement and as set out within the report ensure the Council's interest is protected

Or

- A) Subject to Home Office approval permission to enter a Safer Streets Funding agreement between Rugby Borough Council and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner not be approved.
- B) A capital supplementary budget of £0.193m to be financed from the Safer Streets grant not be approved.

- C) Delegated Authority is not granted to the Chief Officer Legal & Governance to enter into the Safer Streets Funding Agreement and as set out within the report ensure the Council's interest is protected

Recommendation:

IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) subject to Home Office approval, permission to enter a Safer Streets Funding agreement between Rugby Borough Council and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, be approved;
- (2) the scheme be added to the capital programme and a supplementary budget of £0.193m be established; and
- (3) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Officer Legal & Governance to enter into the Safer Streets Funding Agreement, as set out within the report, to ensure the Council's interest is protected.

Reasons for Recommendation:

To ensure and improve the safety of residents in Rugby in the Town Centre and the Benn Ward

Cabinet - 23 October 2023

Safer Streets Fund Round Five

Public Report of the Chief Officer - Regulation and Safety

Recommendation

IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) subject to Home Office approval, permission to enter a Safer Streets Funding agreement between Rugby Borough Council and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, be approved;
- (2) the scheme be added to the capital programme and a supplementary budget of £0.193m be established; and
- (3) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Officer Legal & Governance to enter into the Safer Streets Funding Agreement, as set out within the report, to ensure the Council's interest is protected.

Executive Summary

Rugby Borough Council has worked with Partners to get funding from the Home Office under the Safer Streets Fund 5 grant scheme. If approved by the Home Office the funding will provide a required up grade to the CCTV network in Rugby and additional CCTV cameras in and around Millenium Green in Benn Ward. Additionally there will be an upgrade to the Town Centre Help points, improved lighting in Millenium Green and funding to help establish a community group around Millenium Green public gardens. These improvements will help ensure the continued safety of residents in Rugby and assist with crime prevention.

To ensure that the funding, if approved by the Home Office, can be utilised the Council will need to approve the funding agreement and to approve the capital budget to allow the funding be utilised. It is therefore recommended if the Home Office approve the application that the funding agreement is approved and the capital budget is approved.

Section 2 of the report outlines why there is a need to have this funding in place.

If the funding agreement is not approved or the capital budget is not approved then the Council would not be able to utilize the funding and carry out the interventions which will greatly benefit the residents of Rugby.

The funding links into the following priorities of the corporate strategy deliver plan:

- Economy: “Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits and enables opportunities for all residents”
- By improving safety and reducing crime and the fear of crime in the focused area residents will feel safer when visiting the Town Centre and are more likely to utilise local businesses.
- Health and wellbeing: “Residents live healthy, independent lives, with the most vulnerable protected”
- By improving safety and wellbeing and reducing the fear of crime we are addressing outcome 3h to Make sure our communities are safe and this project also feeds into actions within the Town Centre Action Plan and strategic aims of Rugby Community Safety Partnership.

The approval of this Home Office funding will have a huge benefit on the residents of Rugby and the detection of crime. This will allow residents to feel safer in the Town Centre and open spaces.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPPC) submitted a joint funding bid with Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council for funding from Home Office for Safer Streets Fund Round 5. At the time of writing this report the OPPC and the Council are awaiting a decision from the Home Office on approval of the application.

1.2 If the Home Office approve the funding Rugby Borough Council will be allocated £192,759 to complete a full upgrade of the Rugby CCTV Network, an upgrade of the Town Centre Help Points, additional lighting and CCTV around Millenium Green in Benn Ward and a Community Garden project in Millenium Green.

1.3 The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to approve RBC entering into the grant funding agreement with the OPPC and create the capital budget required if the funding bid is successful. This report request that the approval of the grant fund agreement and supplementary capital budget so the Council can utilize the funding at the earliest opportunity and ensure proposed spend is completed by the deadlines set by the home office.

2.0 Background

2.1 The CCTV network in Rugby town centre is in urgent need of upgrading to ensure that it can continue to provide sufficient coverage, provide a deterrent and provide a vital evidence source for crime detection. Without the upgrade no further cameras can be added to the network which would mean that additional cameras required as part of this intervention would not be added. There is also a risk that the CCTV could stop working if the upgrade does not take place putting residents and visitors to the Town at risk and leaving the Police and enforcement agencies vulnerable as CCTV is a vital detection and evidence source. The upgrade will also provide improved picture quality for the new and replacement cameras.

2.2 The importance of CCTV and the evidence base for its need is reflected by data collated by analysts at Warwickshire County Council. This data looks at geographical areas known as Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LOSA). Rugby Town Centre is LOSA E01031173. The data shows it is the 3rd highest LOSA in Warwickshire for reported ASB, and the 3rd highest LOSA in Warwickshire for VAWG related offences.

2.3 In 2021 Rugby Borough Council carried out a survey of residents asking women and girls about how safe they felt and specific incidences of violence and harassment against them in Rugby. We had 670 responses. There was not a requirement to provide a location of incidents, but it was an optional question. There were 34 responses that these incidences occurred in the Town Centre. Interventions suggested in the survey are part of this work with the improvements to CCTV and help points in particular.

2.4 Millenium Green and surrounding areas in Benn Ward are part of Rugby Borough Council's Area Action (multi agency coordinated action to improve areas). It is an area of higher deprivation and has one of the highest crime rates in Rugby. A recent survey of residents in the area showed that of the 75 residents surveyed 89% did not feel safe and the majority of those surveyed stated introducing CCTV would be the most effective intervention.

3.0 Funding Bid

3.1 Safer Street Funding is provided by the Home Office and available to the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner on behalf of the District and Boroughs. The Warwickshire bid was made through partnership with other District and Boroughs to maximise the likelihood of having a successful bid. Safer Streets funding is provided to reduce crime and improve the perception/fear of crime in a particular area.

3.2 There are three main areas of where the grant fund money will be spent.

3.3 CCTV

Intervention	Estimated costings
Upgrade CCTV network to allow additional capacity and ensure continuation of the network	£109,828.00
3x Additional network CCTV Cameras around Millenium Green and Benn Ward	£30,000.00

3.4 ASB and VAWG Hotspots

Intervention	Estimate Costings
Upgrade 2 or 3 Town Centre Help Points	£35,931.00
Install additional lighting columns in and around Millenium Green and add solar path lighting	£15,000.00

3.5 Empowerment

Intervention	Estimate Costings
Provide raw materials and support for a Community Organisation to maintain the community garden.	£2000.00

3.6 The funding links into the following priorities of the corporate strategy deliver plan:

- Economy: “Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits and enables opportunities for all residents”
- By improving safety and reducing crime and the fear of crime in the focused area residents will feel safer when visiting the Town Centre and are more likely to utilise local businesses.
- Health and wellbeing: “Residents live healthy, independent lives, with the most vulnerable protected”
- By improving safety and wellbeing and reducing the fear of crime we are addressing outcome 3h to Make sure our communities are safe and this project also feeds into actions within the Town Centre Action Plan and strategic aims of Rugby Community Safety Partnership.

3.7 If successful the first part of the grant fund money needs to be spent by the end of March 2024 and the second part by the end of March 2025. Any unspent grant fund money at this point would be returned to the OPPC. Once the CCTV upgrade is completed and help points upgraded Rugby First will continue with the repair and maintenance as part of wider Rugby First Agreement. Additional Cameras in Millenium Green maintenance and repair will fall to Rugby Borough Council as per cameras in Caldecott Park and the John Barford. Additional lighting in Millenium Park maintenance and repair will fall to RBC.

3.8 The delivery of the project and use of the grant fund money is dependent on working with our partners. Rugby First provide the CCTV to Rugby Borough and they are a key partner in the upgrade of the system, installation of new cameras and upgrading the help points.

3.9 If there are variances to the budget due to increase costs in suppliers the project will be reduced in size or finances moved from other interventions receiving Safer Street Funding from the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner across Rugby.

3.10 At the time of writing this report, the OPPC and the Council are awaiting confirmation from the Home Office if the application for the Safer Streets Fund Round 5 for Warwickshire has been successful.

3.11 It is noted that any implementation of CCTV will need to take into account existing services, agreements and responsibilities with providers such as Rugby First. This will be duly considered to ensure the Council's interest is protected and importantly continuation of services. On this basis it is recommended that delegated authority is granted to the Chief Officer for Legal & Governance.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 The Safer Streets 5 Grant funding will improve public safety in our Town Centre at a location that has been highlighted as a problem. In addition will help with a public perception that this area is unsafe to walk in and support objectives of reducing incidents of violence against women and girls which links into the corporate strategy as per paragraph 3.6. Likewise it will have a similar impact in Millenium Green and surrounding areas in the Benn Ward.

Name of Meeting: Cabinet
Date of Meeting: 23 October 2023
Subject Matter: Safer Streets Fund Round Five
Originating Department: Regulation and Safety

DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY **YES** **NO**

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Doc No	Title of Document and Hyperlink
1	Equality Impact Assessment Appendix 1 EqlA Safer Streets 5.pdf
2	Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment Appendix 2 Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment.pdf

The background papers relating to reports on planning applications and which are open to public inspection under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972, consist of the planning applications, referred to in the reports, and all written responses to consultations made by the Local Planning Authority, in connection with those applications.

Exempt information is contained in the following documents:

Doc No	Relevant Paragraph of Schedule 12A

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EqIA)

Context

1. The Public Sector Equality Duty as set out under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires Rugby Borough Council when making decisions to have due regard to the following:
 - eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and other conduct prohibited by the Act,
 - advancing equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not,
 - fostering good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
2. The characteristics protected by the Equality Act are:
 - age
 - disability
 - gender reassignment
 - marriage/civil partnership
 - pregnancy/maternity
 - race
 - religion/belief
 - sex/gender
 - sexual orientation
3. In addition to the above-protected characteristics, you should consider the crosscutting elements of the proposed policy, such as impact on social inequalities and impact on carers who look after older people or people with disabilities as part of this assessment.
4. The Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) document is a tool that enables RBC to test and analyse the nature and impact of what it is currently doing or is planning to do in the future. It can be used flexibly for reviewing existing arrangements but in particular should enable identification where further consultation, engagement and data is required.
5. The questions will enable you to record your findings.
6. Where the EqIA relates to a continuing project, it must be reviewed and updated at each stage of the decision.
7. Once completed and signed off the EqIA will be published online.
8. An EqIA must accompany all **Key Decisions** and **Cabinet Reports**.
9. For further information, refer to the EqIA guidance for staff.
10. For advice and support, contact:
Aftab Razzaq
Chief Officer - Legal and Governance
aftab.razzaq@rugby.gov.uk

Equality Impact Assessment

Service Area	Regulation and Safety
Policy/Service being assessed	Spending of Safer Streets Grant Funding
Is this is a new or existing policy/service?	Existing
If existing policy/service please state date of last assessment	21.10.22
EqlA Review team – List of members	Henry Biddington
Date of this assessment	5.9.23
Signature of responsible officer (to be signed after the EqlA has been completed)	

A copy of this Equality Impact Assessment report, including relevant data and information to be forwarded to the Chief Officer - Legal and Governance.

If you require help, advice and support to complete the forms, please contact Aftab Razzaq, Chief Officer - Legal and Governance
aftab.razzaq@rugby.gov.uk

Details of Strategy/ Service/ Policy to be analysed

<u>Stage 1 – Scoping and Defining</u>	
(1) Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the Strategy/Service/Policy (or decision)?	<p>Rugby Borough Council have submitted a joint funding bid with Warwickshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioners Office for funding from Home Office for Safer Streets 5</p> <p>Rugby Borough Council will be allocated if the application is successful £192,759 to complete Improvements to the Town Centre CCTV network and help points, improve lighting and CCTV in Millenium Green improve public safety.</p>
(2) How does it fit with Rugby Borough Council's Corporate priorities and your service area priorities?	<p>Health and Communities Make sure that our communities are safe. Make sure that residents are proud of their community and their borough.</p> <p>ECONOMY Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits and enables opportunities for all residents. Develop and promote our town centre as a place to live, socialise and work.</p>
(3) What are the expected outcomes you are hoping to achieve?	To improve public safety and reduce crime in the project area and reduce the fear of crime and encourage the use of the area
(4) Does or will the policy or decision affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customers • Employees • Wider community or groups 	All

<u>Stage 2 - Information Gathering</u>	As a minimum you must consider what is known about the population likely to be affected which will support your understanding of the impact of the policy, eg service uptake/usage, customer satisfaction surveys, staffing data, performance data, research information (national, regional and local data sources).		
(1) What does the information tell you about those groups identified?	Safer streets aims to help tackle violence against women and girls as there is disproportionately more violence committed against women than men and the improvements planned are aimed at reducing violence and harassment.		
(2) Have you consulted or involved those groups that are likely to be affected by the strategy/ service/policy you want to implement? If yes, what were their views and how have their views influenced your decision?	Yes surveys with women and girls have identified the area as an issue for harassment and assaults and an area to avoid.		
(3) If you have not consulted or engaged with communities that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision, give details about when you intend to carry out consultation or provide reasons for why you feel this is not necessary.			
<u>Stage 3 – Analysis of impact</u>			
(1) <u>Protected Characteristics</u> From your data and consultations is there any positive, adverse or negative impact identified for any particular group, which could amount to discrimination? If yes, identify the groups and how they are affected.	RACE	DISABILITY	GENDER Positive impact to reduce violence against women and girls in an area identified as having a problem
	MARRIAGE/CIVIL PARTNERSHIP	AGE	GENDER REASSIGNMENT

	RELIGION/BELIEF	PREGNANCY MATERNITY	SEXUAL ORIENTATION
<p><u>(2) Cross cutting themes</u></p> <p>(a) Are your proposals likely to impact on social inequalities e.g. child poverty, geographically disadvantaged communities? If yes, please explain how?</p> <p>(b) Are your proposals likely to impact on a carer who looks after older people or people with disabilities? If yes, please explain how?</p>	a) No		
	b) No		
(3) If there is an adverse impact, can this be justified?	N/A		
(4) What actions are going to be taken to reduce or eliminate negative or adverse impact? (this should form part of your action plan under Stage 4.)	N/A		
(5) How does the strategy/service/policy contribute to the promotion of equality? If not what can be done?	Promotes safer streets and equality for women and girls		
(6) How does the strategy/service/policy promote good relations between groups? If not what can be done?			
(7) Are there any obvious barriers to accessing the service? If yes how can they be overcome?	No		

<u>Stage 4 – Action Planning, Review & Monitoring</u>																														
<p>If No Further Action is required then go to – Review & Monitoring</p> <p>(1) Action Planning – Specify any changes or improvements that can be made to the service or policy to mitigate or eradicate negative or adverse impact on specific groups, including resource implications.</p>	<p>EqlA Action Plan</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="875 536 2116 767"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="875 536 1122 612">Action</th> <th data-bbox="1122 536 1368 612">Lead Officer</th> <th data-bbox="1368 536 1615 612">Date for completion</th> <th data-bbox="1615 536 1861 612">Resource requirements</th> <th data-bbox="1861 536 2116 612">Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="875 612 1122 651"></td> <td data-bbox="1122 612 1368 651"></td> <td data-bbox="1368 612 1615 651"></td> <td data-bbox="1615 612 1861 651"></td> <td data-bbox="1861 612 2116 651"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="875 651 1122 689"></td> <td data-bbox="1122 651 1368 689"></td> <td data-bbox="1368 651 1615 689"></td> <td data-bbox="1615 651 1861 689"></td> <td data-bbox="1861 651 2116 689"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="875 689 1122 727"></td> <td data-bbox="1122 689 1368 727"></td> <td data-bbox="1368 689 1615 727"></td> <td data-bbox="1615 689 1861 727"></td> <td data-bbox="1861 689 2116 727"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="875 727 1122 767"></td> <td data-bbox="1122 727 1368 767"></td> <td data-bbox="1368 727 1615 767"></td> <td data-bbox="1615 727 1861 767"></td> <td data-bbox="1861 727 2116 767"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Action	Lead Officer	Date for completion	Resource requirements	Comments																				
Action	Lead Officer	Date for completion	Resource requirements	Comments																										
<p>(2) Review and Monitoring State how and when you will monitor policy and Action Plan</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring of communications and infrastructure changes</p>																													

Please annotate your policy with the following statement:

‘An Equality Impact Assessment on this policy was undertaken on 5.9.2023

Rugby Borough Council

Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment

CONTEXT

In 2019 the UK Parliament set a commitment in law to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Achieving this target will require considerable effort with public bodies, private sector organisations, the third sector and individuals working together to take action. Rugby Borough Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, in doing so committed to:

- To move the Council's operations towards Carbon Neutrality by 2030.
- To establish action to tackle climate change as a key driver of all decision-making.
- To provide community leadership in reducing the impact of Climate Change.
- To take action to mitigate the impact of climate change on a Borough wide basis and beyond, through adaptation.

The Council's Corporate Strategy (2021-24) [link](#) sets ambitious outcomes in relation to Climate Change. These ambitions must now be progressed through the decisions which the Council makes.

It is therefore important that Rugby Borough Council gives due regard to climate change when making decisions. In the context of the Council's business, Climate Change includes carbon emissions, biodiversity, habitat loss and environmental destruction. When putting forward recommendations for decision, officers must assess how these recommendations are likely to influence our climate change commitments by completing the following Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment.

A copy of this Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment, including relevant data and information should be forwarded to the Deputy Chief Executive.

If you require help, advice and support to complete the forms, please contact Dan Green, Deputy Chief Executive.

SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

Portfolio and Service Area	Regulation and Safety Environmental Health and Community Safety
Policy/Service/Change being assessed	Spending of Safer Streets Grant Funding
Is this a new or existing Policy/Service/Change?	Existing
If existing policy/service please state date of last assessment	21.10.22
Ward Specific Impacts	All Wards
Summary of assessment Briefly summarise the policy/service/change and potential impacts.	Rugby Borough Council Submitted a joint funding bid with Warwickshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioners Office for funding from Home Office for Safer Streets 5 The funding will provide an upgrade to current CCTV network and help points plus additional CCTV in and around Millenium Green
Completed By	Henry Biddington
Authorised By	David Burrows
Date of Assessment	05.9.23

SECTION 2: IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Climate Change and Environmental Impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner	Timescales
Energy usage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small amount of additional power for CCTV	Offset by improving lighting using lower energy LEDs		
Fleet usage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sustainable Transport/Travel (customers and staff)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sustainable procurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Community leadership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Biodiversity and habitats	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Adaptation/Mitigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Impact on other providers/partners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

SECTION 3: REVIEW

Where a negative impact is identified, the proposal and/or implementation can be adapted or changed; meaning there is a need for regular review. This review may also be needed to reflect additional data and evidence for a fuller assessment (proportionate to the decision in question). Please state the agreed review timescale for the identified impacts of the policy implementation or service change.

Review date	
Key points to be considered through review	
Person responsible for review	
Authorised by	