

MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	COMMUNITY SAFETY & PROTECTION COMMITTEE		
DATE:	11TH APRIL 2019	REPORT NO:	CFO/015/19
PRESENTING OFFICER	ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	AM KEEN	REPORT AUTHOR:	SM IAN MULLEN
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	GM RYDER, SM PANG, SM DANIELS, SM HARLAND, SM MULLEN, SM CUNLIFFE, YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TEAM, MIKE BURATTI & JO HENDERSON		
TITLE OF REPORT:	ACQUISITION OF FUNDING FOR CRM ACTIVITIES		

APPENDICES:	APPENDIX A: NIL
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Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of funding obtained within Community Risk Management (CRM) departments during 2018.

Recommendation

2. That Members note;
 - 2.1. That £737,500 in funding has been secured over the past financial year to provide community safety initiatives across Merseyside. This includes £19,000 from MFRA, the net secured funding being £718,500.
 - 2.2. The effectiveness of securing funding for CRM activities.
 - 2.3. The impact of funding on community based activities.

Introduction and Background

3. Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority's (MFRA) Community Risk Management (CRM) Community Safety departments actively engage with stakeholders and partners to promote safer stronger communities across Merseyside.
4. Within CRM Community Safety a number of separate departments have secured funding to provide services. The departments include:
 - Sefton Community Safety Partnership (CSP) – Street Intervention Team
 - Liverpool CSP – Street Intervention Team
 - St Helens CSP – Knife Crime, Street Doctors across Merseyside
 - Knowsley CSP – Street Intervention Team
 - Road Safety - Merseyside Road Safety Partnership
 - Youth Engagement :
 - Fire Cadets in Liverpool, St Helens, Knowsley, Sefton and Wirral
 - Princes Trust – Courses across Merseyside

Partnerships funding

5. MFRA CRM departments have secured funding over the past 12 months as follows:

No	Dept.	District	Amount	Description for use of funding
1	CRM IIT Partnerships	Pan Merseyside	£8k (£6.5 Knife Crime Fund & £1.5 MFRS)	Street Doctors – 40 sessions across Merseyside targeting youth groups who may be exposed to knives.
2	CRM – Partnerships Knowsley	Knowsley	£15K	Street Intervention Teams – New Start-up. Aim to engage with young people in ASB areas, signpost to other activities
3	CRM – Partnerships Sefton	Sefton	£15K	Street Intervention Teams – New Start-up. Aim to engage with young people in ASB areas, signpost to other activities
4	CRM - Road Safety	Pan Merseyside	£241K	Funding is for Merseyside Road Safety Partnership (MRSP) Communications including MRSP Website
5	CRM - Road Safety	Pan Merseyside	£8K	Funding is for Merseyside Road Safety Partnership (MRSP) Communications including MRSP Website – Rollover due to budget underspend
5	CRM - Road Safety	Pan Merseyside	£173K	Funding for Innovations, for e.g. we have used funds to procure Black box Telematics (SATSAFE) and Virtual Reality
7	CRM - Road Safety	Pan Merseyside	£20K	Funding for the Driving for work thematic group – managed through Wirral Council, driving for better business
8	CRM – Youth Engagement (YE)	Merseyside	(£7.5K)	Funding through Princes Trust programme.
9	CRM – Youth Engagement (YE)	Liverpool	£28K (£18K LCC and £10K from MFRS)	Street Intervention Teams – Across Liverpool to engage with young people in communities experiencing ASB and deliberate fire setting.
11	CRM – Youth Engagement (YE)	Princes Trust (Jan 18 to July 18) - St Helens College	£123K	Princes Trust courses for those 16-25 who are facing challenges where attendance on this course could assist in future employment opportunities through skills acquired on the course.
12	CRM – Youth Engagement (YE)	Princes Trust (Aug 18 to July 19) – Wirral College	£82K	Princes Trust courses for those 16-25 who are facing challenges where attendance on this course could assist in future employment opportunities through skills acquired on the course.

13	CRM - Arson Reduction	Liverpool	£1K	Provision of tipper truck for debris removal over bonfire period
14	CRM – Arson Reduction	Liverpool / Merseyside	£1K	Funding for Social Media campaign to promote targeted safety messages on Facebook and Twitter over bonfire period
15	CRM – Youth Engagement	Pan Merseyside	£10K	Fire Cadets – funded through sponsorship
16	CRM - Management	Pan Merseyside	£5K	Funding from Scottish Power for enhancements to child education fire safety book to include electrical safety.
Total Funding			£737,500.00	

6. Use of funding has allowed numerous activities to be undertaken within Merseyside to promote safer stronger communities as follows:

6.1.Reductions in arson and deliberate fire setting over the bonfire period. A 6.6% reduction was recorded when compared to similar dates in 2017.

6.2.Increased interactions with young persons in Liverpool, Sefton and Knowsley at event specific times, dates and locations as part of the Street Intervention Team program.

6.3.Events promoting safer road users have been held in all districts using virtual reality systems.

6.4.Street Doctors commissioned 40 sessions whereby Junior Doctors met with youth groups to promote the dangers of knife crime, actions in an emergency and consequences regarding the need to carry knives.

6.5.Princes Trust programmes delivered across Merseyside for 16-25 year olds aimed at developing young people's skills to strengthen their job prospects.

6.6.Fire Cadets - run in a number of fire stations across Merseyside for 13-18 year olds, at Wallasey, St Helens, Bootle, Southport, Croxteth and Kirkdale.

7. Outcomes from Community Risk Management Activity:

7.1.Arson and deliberate fire setting is used as a weapon by organised crime groups. Fire has been used as part of domestic abuse, as part of hate crimes and also to conceal other crimes. Reducing arson is a key factor in keeping the communities safe as possible.

7.2.Anti-Social Behaviour fires for 2019 are showing a 3% drop from last year, this is despite the spell of warm weather during the summer of 2018.

7.3.A reduction of 22% in incidents have been recorded in deliberate car fires in the current year. This is down to 497 incident from 640 in 2017/18.

7.4. Fires in dwellings that have been deliberately set are showing the biggest reduction from 183 in 2017/18 to 121 this year, or down 33%

7.5. A further reduction through partnership working and funding has been seen in persons killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions (RTC). The figures are showing a 12% reduction with 493 KSI this year, compared to 551 KSI last year.

Title	2018/19	2017/18	2017/16	Percent change from 2017/18 compared to 2018/19
Deliberate ASB fires (small fires)	4095	4220	4158	3% reduction
Deliberate Vehicle fires	497	640	617	22% reduction
Deliberate dwelling fires	121	183	175	33% reduction
Road Traffic Collisions – Killed or Seriously injured	493	551	599	12% reduction

(Figures up to 22/03/2019 – further 9 days data may alter figures slightly)

Equality and Diversity Implications

8. Arson is frequently used to target victims of hate crime, which frequently include individuals with protected characteristics. Anti-social behaviour fire setting can affect various communities however it is more prevalent in the poorer areas of Merseyside.
9. Youth Engagement actively promote service and youth provision in hard to reach areas and offer opportunities for Fire Cadets in Bootle, Southport, St Helens, Kirkdale, Croxteth and Wallasey.
10. RTC Reduction have provided from outreach sessions across Merseyside.

Staff Implications

11. MFRA staff have been utilised as part of their core functions to assist in the delivery of funding campaigns. This included Corporate Communications, IIT, Arson Reduction Advocates, CRM Advocates, Youth Engagement staff and Road Safety staff/
12. External partners have been commissioned to assist in the delivery of some services through the funding such as Junior Doctors from Royal Liverpool Teaching Hospital, Local Authorities (Wirral Council), staff from Merseyside Road Safety Partnerships and Youth Engagement activities from Wirral and St Helens College.

13. Reduction of arson incidents enhances the safety of fire crews through reducing the number of fire related attendances across Merseyside.

Legal Implications

14. Funding is provided through various streams and all have stringent requirements for compliance with numerous legislation. This must be conformed to in order for the funding to be made available. Each funding applicant is responsible for the compliance of the associated legislation.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

15. Funding allows the provision of Street Intervention Teams, Road Safety Initiatives, Targeted deliberate fire setting interventions and education packages for incidents which have a detrimental impact on the communities of Merseyside, such as knife crime.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

16. The MFRA activities under the numerous acquired funding streams substantially reduce risks that would otherwise endanger the lives, property and environment in Merseyside and the safety of fire crews attending fires, road traffic collisions, threats to life and other special service calls.

Contribution to Our Mission: *Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters*

17. The effectiveness of the Community Risk Management departments increases the safety of the community of Merseyside through the reduction of risk from fire; RTC and anti-social behaviour. In turn this reduces the use of MFRA response resources to deploy to emergency incidents across the county allowing them to be available when needed.

18. The positive impact of education, engagement, attendance at community safety events and arson reduction activity significantly increases efficiencies to the public purse and combined with the reduction in fire loss strengthens the local economy.

19. The reduction of arson incidents, education to prevent RTC's and other unwanted events directly increases the safety of firefighters by reducing the number of incidents where fire crews are exposed to risks.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NONE

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CSP Community Safety Partnerships

CRM Community Risk Management

KSI	Killed and Seriously Injured (road traffic collisions)
MFRA	Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority
MFRS	Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service
RTC	Road Traffic Collisions
IIT	Incident Investigation Team
YE	Youth Engagement