

Report of the Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Target Hardening Funding allocations 2010/2011

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposed allocation of the 2010/11 Target Hardening fund.

Background

2. The Target Hardening fund is a pool of funding (£40k per annum) held within the Neighbourhood Management Unit which is used to improve performance at Ward level in relation to crime reduction. The process for allocation of the Target Hardening funds and the criteria to be met was determined at a meeting of the Executive Member for City strategy on 26th March 2007 – “Target Hardening Budget Allocation”. Essentially, the Target Hardening budget is used to support physical improvements to reduce crime and not revenue based activities, and it is expected that the application is supported by match funding. There are two ways to access the Target Hardening fund.
 - Ward committees which require financial assistance in developing and implementing target hardening schemes in their area can submit an application.
 - Safer York Partnership task groups are also eligible to apply for Target Hardening funding. If a particular project is local or ward based, then the proposed scheme is first discussed with ward members.

Target Hardening Applications

3. The 2010/11 Target Hardening fund has attracted applications for funding which totals more than the £40k funds available. In previous years there has been sufficient budget to take forward all eligible bids meeting the criteria albeit that on occasion the funding allocated may have been slightly reduced and alternative funding sources identified in order to progress all eligible schemes. Similarly in the current financial year alternative funding sources have been sought in order to try and implement all eligible schemes in order to gain the maximum impact in terms of targeting hardening/crime reduction. This year however, even with match funding from Trading Standards Proceeds of Crime

Awards, Ward Committees, SYP Burglery Task Group and other sources, it has not been possible to balance all the schemes which meet the criteria with the funding available. As such, it is recommended that some schemes are approved, but put on a 'reserve' list should additional funding become available. All Target Hardening fund applications 2010/2011 and corresponding funding recommendations are detailed in Annex One, Two and Three.

- Annex One shows schemes that do not meet the Target Hardening criteria and therefore should be rejected.
- Annex Two shows schemes that do meet the criteria and for which approval is recommended.
- Annex Three shows schemes that meet the criteria but for which it is recommended they are placed on a 'reserve' list following further investigation and should funding become available.

Consultation

4. All potential 2010/11 Target Hardening schemes which meet the criteria have approval from the relevant ward committee.

Options

5. **Option 1** - To agree the allocation of the 2010/11 Target Hardening fund 2010/2011 as detailed in Annexes One, Two and Three including schemes indicated as reserves, to be taken forward following further investigation and should funding become available.
6. **Option 2** - To amend the allocation of the 2010/11 Target Hardening funds.

Analysis

7. Option 1 – The allocation of the 2010/11 Target Hardening fund as detailed at Annex One would facilitate immediate commissioning and as the schemes require external installation, would offer the opportunity to take advantage favourable weather conditions before the onset of Winter. This would also allow maximum benefit to be achieved from the Target Hardening schemes in the current financial year.

Option 2 – Any amendments in allocation would require further investigation, which may cause delays in implementation.

Corporate Priorities

8. The Target Hardening fund contributes to the 'Safe City' element of the corporate strategy. The allocation of Target Hardening funds also contributes to meeting the individual ward committee ambitions of the Ward Neighbourhood Action Plans as 17 out of the 18 ward committees have chosen community safety as a ward priority.

Implications

- (a) **Financial:** There are no financial implications beyond the allocation of the 2010/11 Target Hardening fund.
- (b) **Human Resources:** There are no human resources implications.
- (c) **Equalities:** There are no equalities implications.
- (d) **Legal:** There are no legal implications.
- (e) **Crime and Disorder:** There are no crime and disorder implications beyond the contribution that the Target Hardening makes to the crime reduction agenda.
- (f) **Information Technology (IT):** There are no IT implications.
- (g) **Property:** There are no property implications.
- (h) **Other:** There are no other implications.

Risk Management

- 9. There are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

- 10. That the Executive agree the recommendations for allocation of the 2010/11 Target Hardening fund as detailed in Annexes One, Two and Three.

Reason: To ensure that the budget is effectively utilised to fund community safety projects in the wards, with a view to reducing or minimising the risk of crime or tackling the fear of crime.

Contact Details

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Report Approved

Date 9th September 2010

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Meeting of the Executive member for City Strategy – Target Hardening Budget Allocation Report 26th March 2007

Annexes:

- Annex One: Target Hardening schemes that do not meet the Target Hardening criteria and therefore should be rejected.
- Annex Two: Target Hardening schemes that do meet the criteria and for which approval is recommended.
- Annex Three: Target Hardening schemes that meet the criteria but for which it is recommended they are placed on a 'reserve' list.