
Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism
Date	24 September 2018
Present	Councillor Ayre

5. Declarations of Interest

The Executive Member confirmed that he had no personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, nor any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests, to declare in the business on the agenda.

6. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the joint Decision Session held on 23 July 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

7. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

8. National Trading Standards

The Executive Member considered a report which provided an overview of the activities of the National Trading Standards (NTS) Regional Investigation and eCrime Team and sought approval for a revision to the distribution of Proceeds of Crime Act monies received under the government's Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme (ARIS).

As well as carrying out regional investigations, City of York Council (CYC) undertook national eCrime investigations / prosecutions as part of a partnership with North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). Cases were often complex and lengthy, with multiple defendants and victims. Prosecutions during 2017/18 had resulted in the imposition of prison sentences totalling 60 years and Confiscation Orders totalling £3,562,840, from which compensation of £287,866 had been paid to victims.

As investigator and prosecutor, CYC received 37.5% of any monies paid under Confiscation Orders. Of this, 50% was returned to NTS, 25% was retained for spending on local issues and 25% was currently paid to the Yorkshire & Humber group of local authority trading standards services (YAHTSG) to fund regional trading standards projects. The recommended proposal (Option A) was to pay the 25% received from eCrime cases to NYCC instead, enabling them to develop and enhance the digital forensics capacity to support the work of CYC's eCrime investigators. Option B was to maintain the current position.

Resolved: That the revision to the distribution of the ARIS monies received from NTS eCrime prosecutions be approved, in accordance with paragraph 13 of the report and Option A in paragraph 15.

Reason: To enable funds to be available to NYCC for development and support of the eCrime function.

Cllr N Ayre, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.37 pm and finished at 5.41 pm].