

## DECISION RECORDING FORM

**DECISION:** For Mid Devon District Council to deliver ASB Hotspot street marshalling project in Tiverton during 2025/26 under funding provided under the Home Office 'ASB Hotspot Action Funding' scheme

### **What is ASB hotspot funding?**

The Council have been successful in being awarded £30k of Home Office funding to target ASB hotspots in Tiverton during 2025/26 under the national 'ASB Hotspot Action Funding' scheme. This is being managed through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) locally.

Tiverton is specifically eligible as there are four areas in the town that experienced the highest levels of recorded Knife Crime, Serious Violence, and ASB last year. The Home Office require that our 25/26 Hotspots cumulatively account for 10% of knife crime in Devon and Cornwall in the last year. This means only Tiverton is eligible within Mid Devon with crime rates being much lower across Crediton, Cullompton and rural areas.

Tiverton is classed as a 'Tier 2' ASB hotspot area under the Home Office definition. The funding is strictly ring-fenced for street marshals in a locality and as a Tier 2 area we receive funding for delivery of partner street marshals only, with local policing teams expected to deliver hotspot patrols as part of business as usual wherever possible.

Tier 1 areas have the highest crime rates and/or peak demands and will receive additional funds for police officer hotspot patrols (overtime).

In a communication from the Home Office they have stated "Following the success of previous programmes, it is a Home Office priority to continue to provide hypothecated funding for patrols and problem-oriented policing in the areas with the highest densities of knife crime and anti-social behaviour. The intention is that this continued funding will contribute to the ambitions to halve knife crime and to crack down on anti-social behaviour, as set out in the Government's Plan for Change."

### **Where are the Tiverton hotspots?**

The identified hotspot patrol areas are broadly:

- Westex Recreation Ground
- Southern end of Westex South/Riverside walk/Carpenter Close and edge of Great Western Way
- Moorhayes/Beech Rd area including around Holly Close
- Southern end of Castle Street, Bampton Street and top of the Pannier Market
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### **When will this start and how will it be run?**

The project must go live locally by the start of July 2025 latest and will run through to the end of March 2026.

The minimum requirement is for each identified hotspot to be patrolled for a minimum of 30 minutes, three times per week (across a minimum of 2-days).

Within the funding envelope there is opportunity to assign secondary taskings to the marshals operating in and around these hotspots as long as the minimum criteria is met. The marshals will therefore be able to do some wider patrols to encompass other key areas of the town. As such additional areas will benefit from the presence of marshals and this may have a broader impact on crime reduction (for example reduce acquisitive crime such as shoplifting).

The Council working together with the Tiverton policing team have identified the following additional, secondary patrol areas which link well with the required hotspots.

- Bampton Street/Fore Street/Gold Street (main shopping centre streets)
- Phoenix Lane, the Multi Storey Car Park and Tiverton Bus Station

In terms of delivery, given the anti-social hours, potential staff recruitment and training requirements together with the overall urgency and short-timelines required by the OPCC, the Council have determined there is a need to procure an existing private contractor. As such, the Council have spoken directly with Torridge and East Devon Councils who have received hotspot funding and/or undertaken street marshalling in their areas previously with further funding confirmed for this year. The aim will be to undertake a joint procurement exercise with at least one of these councils.

The successful contractor will need to provide:

- Patrols by 2x Security Industry Authority (SIA) accredited officers
- Full Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) accreditation for all marshal staff (a further scheme requirement)
- 7 hour shifts, normally 2 days per week (on occasions 3 days per week at peak times or if budget allows) across the whole 7-day week period
- Flexible working within a set budget, and can drop weeks/shifts to manage budget and guarantee cover for sickness / absence etc
- To work to a pattern that is specified by the Council and the Police e.g. 2pm – 9pm. It is proposed that one of these days would be a Saturday and the other day being flexible across Monday-Friday
- Walking patrols only – no vehicles
- All insurance, holiday and sickness absence is contractually covered
- PPE / body worn cameras / Personal Digital Assistant devices (PDAs) are provided – with activity/performance software logging all jobs and reporting outputs. The Council and Police are able to dial into view body worn camera footage as required
- Subject to procurement, they must be up and running by 1 July 2025
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The project will link well with the Council's wider work on ASB under its corporate ASB policy and the targeted work of the East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership, More information on this was recently set out at the Community, People & Equalities Policy Development Group meeting of 25 March 2025 see [Committee Report Template](#). This includes linking into ASB Youth Intervention Panels and wider use of ASB powers.

The Council will be working with its members, the PCC, Town Council and Police to develop a launch event and ongoing communications. Overarching management and reporting will come through the CSP with updates provided to members more widely.

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

To enable a grant agreement to be signed with Home Office/OPCC and for the £30,000 grant to be included in a ring-fenced budget for the purpose of delivering the project.

To give delegated power to the Head of Housing and Health to sign the grant agreement in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Quality of Living, Equalities and Public Health.

A delegated decision has been required due to the requirement to commence a procurement process as soon as possible and have the contractor and arrangements in place to enable the project to commence from 1 July 2025 at the latest as is conditional of the funding.

**DECISION BY:**

\* Cabinet Member for Quality of Living, Equalities and Public Health Cllr David Wulff

\* Officer – Simon Newcombe, Head of Housing and Health

*\* Member or Officer as appropriate*

**CONSULTEES**

<b>WARD(S)</b>	Tiverton Castle, Tiverton Cranmore, Tiverton Lowman and Tiverton Westexe
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<b>HAS/HAVE WARD MEMBER(S) BEEN CONSULTED</b>	YES
<b>COMMENTS OF WARD MEMBER(S)</b> <p>Due to timing pressures ward members are being briefed in parallel with the publication of this decision. Any comments received will be responded to directly and incorporated into the delivery of the project, as far as is possible within the grant funding requirements.</p> <p>The Council's Leadership Team and the Cabinet Member for Quality of Living, Equalities and Public Health have been briefed in advance by the officer and are fully supportive of the project.</p>	

**COMMENTS OF OTHER CONSULTEES**

<b>DATE OF DECISION</b>	09 May 2025
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<b>EXEMPT INFORMATION</b>	NO
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\*If yes to either question, state why:

#### **FINANCIAL, LEGAL & EQUALITY ISSUES, IF ANY:**

There are grant conditions that ring-fence the funding for use for street marshals within Tiverton as defined above.

The street marshals will have no direct powers of intervention or arrest beyond those any member of the public or a private security contractor. The marshals will provide a visual deterrence with enhanced evidence recording with the ability to link and work closely with the Mid Devon Police team.

#### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

The ASB Hotspots funding allows the Council to support its efforts to tackle ASB in a key locality within the district (in respect of crime data). It will support the wider overarching Corporate Plan theme of Community, People & Equalities.

The project spend will be managed within the grant funding allocation and there is full support of OPCC, CSP, Police partners to deliver this project. No additional Council budget is required and management of the project / contract will be done within existing staff resources.

Grant conditions will be fully complied with.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / DOCUMENTS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT:\***

None

\*additional means additional to anything containing exempt information

#### **SIGNED:**

Cabinet Member for Quality of Living, Equalities and Public Health.  
(Member or officer taking decision)

DATE: 09.05.2025 (of decision)