

Committee:	Cabinet	Date:	Thursday, 12 July 2018
Title:	PCSO Match Funding		
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Vic Ranger, Portfolio Holder for Communities and Partnerships		
Report Author:	Adrian Webb, Director - Finance and Corporate Services awebb@uttlesford.gov.uk Tel: 01799 510421	Key decision:	No

Summary

1. This report sets out the proposal for the allocation of the Council PCSO match funding monies as agreed in the 2018/19 budget.

Recommendations

2. Cabinet is recommended to agree
 - i. That the Council enters into a two year PCSO joint funding agreement, commencing no earlier than 1 October 2018 with the Stansted, Henham and Elsenham Cluster.
 - ii. That the Council enters into a PCSO one year joint funding agreement, commencing no earlier than 1 October 2018 with Saffron Walden Town Council.
 - iii. That the draft 2019/20 budget is increased to cover the remaining six months funding for a second PCSO.

Financial Implications

3. There are no implications for the District Council's budget in 2018/19. The MTFS will need to be re-profiled to take account of the additional PCSO funding in 2019/20.

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

Impact

Communication/Consultation	All towns and parishes were invited to consider bidding for additional PCSO support
Community Safety	The PCSOs will add to the number already operating in the Uttlesford District which includes the two UDC fully funded PCSOs
Equalities	No specific implications
Health and Safety	No specific implications
Human Rights/Legal Implications	No specific implications
Sustainability	No specific implications
Ward-specific impacts	This will have direct impact on the town and parishes that opt to join the scheme
Workforce/Workplace	No specific implications

Situation

5. In September 2017, as part of the 2018/19 budget setting process, the Council approached Town and Parish Councils to establish whether or not there was interest in joint funding PCSOs.
6. The proposal was that the joint funding would be for two years and the PCSO would be recruited and employed by the Police on a two year fixed term contract. The police will also be responsible for all costs of training the new PCSOs. Continuation of the post on the proposed terms, after that time, would be subject to agreement by all parties.
7. The Council identified a preference for Town and Parish Councils joining together to form a cluster to maximise the benefit that a dedicated PCSO would bring.
8. Initial interest suggested that at least one cluster would come forward and therefore the sum of £20,000 for a 50% share of the salary, including on-costs, of one PCSO was built in to the 2018/19 budget. In addition the Council has allocated the sum of £15,000 for the acquisition and running costs of a vehicle for the PCSO to move around the cluster.
9. Following the promotion of the offer the parishes of Stansted, Henham and Elsenham came forward with a proposal to form a cluster and match fund one PCSO.

10. Subsequently Saffron Walden Town Council submitted a request for a match funded PCSO for a period of one year, dedicated solely to the town on the basis that this is equivalent in area to any suggested cluster.
11. Both bids have merit and it is felt that both could be accommodated in 2018/19 with an additional budget requirement for the following financial year.
12. If agreed, the match funding for both would commence on 1 October 2018. The 2018/19 sum allocated for a match funded PCSO would be sufficient to support both PCSOs as the commencement date would be halfway through the financial year. The budget for 2019/20 would need to be increased to cover the additional six months of the Saffron Walden PCSO.
13. The £15,000 allocated for the purchase and running costs for the vehicle would be allocated to the Stansted, Henham and Elsenham bid as clearly the PCSO will need to move between villages.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
The Police fail to recruit suitable candidates	3 (the Police have experienced difficulties recruiting to time limited PCSO posts)	2 (the commencement of the agreement will be delayed)	The Police undertake a comprehensive advertising campaign and the recruitment process for these roles would start immediately after the Cabinet decision

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.