

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Decision to award grants through the Safer Communities Fund grant scheme.
Date of decision:	23 rd February 2024
Decision maker:	Corporate Director, Children and Young People
Authority for delegated decision:	CYP- 23 Overall lead for community safety and the prevent strategy
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	<p>This is a discretionary grant scheme, developed in collaboration with West Mercia Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia.</p> <p>Projects have been appraised by a panel including representatives from Herefordshire Council, West Mercia Police, Healthwatch Herefordshire and the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia.</p>
Decision made:	<p>To award grants to the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hereford Community Farm – Grant award of up to £110,483.40 • St Thomas Cantilupe – Grant award of up to £52,876.29 • Hinton Community Association Ltd– Grant award of up to £33,000 • John Masefield High School - £52,681.30 • Rural Media Charity - £109,111.58
Reasons for decision:	<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia, West Mercia Police and Herefordshire Council are investing £1m into the Safer Communities Grant Scheme in Herefordshire across two financial years, 2023/24 and 2024/25.</p> <p>In making grant offers to the organisations listed above the Safer Communities Grant Scheme will be supporting new and existing projects that focus on early prevention, tackling the root causes of crime, vulnerability, exploitation and anti-social behavior within the county, specifically focusing on children and young people.</p> <p>The Safer Community Grant Scheme fits with the following ambitions set out in Herefordshire’s County Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen communities to ensure everyone lives well and safely together • Ensure all children are healthy, safe and inspired to achieve
Equality Considerations	The grant scheme focuses on early prevention, tackling the root causes of crime, vulnerability, exploitation and anti-social behavior within the county, specifically focusing on children and young people.

	Applicants are required to explain their approach to equality as part of the application process.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>This is a discretionary grant scheme.</p> <p>A legal agreement has been drawn up between the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Herefordshire Council setting out the parameters of the funding.</p> <p>All of the costs associated with the grants outlined above will be met by funding allocated to the grant scheme by Herefordshire Council and West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner for 2023/24 and 2024/25.</p> <p>Successful applicants will be issued with a legally binding grant agreement which will detail any specific conditions that have been applied to their grant offer.</p> <p>Grant payments will be made against actual spend.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	It has been agreed that this funding will be used to make grants. There are therefore no other viable options.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None