

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR LEICESTERSHIRE  
DECISION RECORD**

To be completed in cases where a decision is required

**DECISION OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**Date:** 13/3/2024

**Officers present:** Siobhan Peters, Kira Hughes, Lizzie Starr, Claire Trewartha, Sallie Blair, Grace Strong

**Received in OPCC Date:** 25/3/2024

**OPCC Ref:** EXE0021-24

**Title:** People Zones 2024/2025 Budget

**Summary of Issue:**

“The PCC believes that communities play a vital role in creating safe and cohesive neighbourhoods and are well placed to understand and address local issues of concern and identify gaps in provision. The PCC is also accountable to communities and acts on their behalf” (People Zones Theory of Change 2022).

People Zones are locations across Leicester and Leicestershire with a boundary attached, that has been identified through crime and public health data and also by identifying community assets to build upon within those areas. People Zones follow an Asset Based Community Development approach, which focuses on highlighting the assets within an area and how we can support and empower communities to build upon the strengths. The People Zones vision is to “grow safer communities by building on strengths, creating connections and empowering everyone to play a role”.

There are currently three People Zone areas including: Bell Foundry (Charnwood), New Parks (Leicester City), Thringstone & Whitwick (North West Leicestershire).

**Budget**

For the financial year 2024/2025, a budget of £148,000,00 has been approved by the Senior Management Team in the OPCC and is ringfenced as highlighted below:

<b>Description</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
<p><b><u>Grant funding</u></b></p> <p>There will be a dedicated grants funding process which has been designed in collaboration with the Commissioning team. There will be three grant rounds throughout the financial year which will focus on key themes that were identified within each People Zone post research. For example:</p> <p>Bell Foundry themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pride of place</li> <li>➤ Health and Wellbeing</li> <li>➤ Celebrating the People</li> <li>➤ Community Safety</li> </ul>	<b>£120,000.00</b>
<p><b><u>Community Payback</u></b></p> <p>The Community Payback Probation project/partnership has had substantial growth throughout the 2023/2024 financial year with the below projects having taken place or are still ongoing:</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Parks Community Garden</li> <li>• Bell Foundry Planter Project</li> <li>• Bell Foundry Big Autumn Clean Up</li> <li>• Thringstone Community Orchard Project</li> <li>• Thringstone Primary School Sensory Garden Clean Up</li> </ul> <p>The partnership works as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding of materials from the People Zones budget e.g. planters, soil etc.</li> <li>• Architectural materials and community payback service users who are from the local area in a People Zone are provided by Probation</li> <li>• Welfare facilities and venue for the project to take place are provided by community organisation within a People Zone</li> </ul>	<b>£15,000.00</b>
<p><b><u>Events</u></b></p> <p>Some events that require funding include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People Zone pop-up's/stands</li> <li>• Awards evenings</li> <li>• Venue bookings for steering group meetings</li> </ul>	<b>£3,500.00.</b>
<p><b><u>Communications &amp; Materials</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotional materials such as leaflets and flyers</li> <li>• Eco-friendly merchandise</li> <li>• Newsletter printing</li> <li>• Website updates</li> </ul>	<b>£8,000.00</b>
<p><b><u>Other</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff expenses</li> </ul>	<b>£1,500.00.</b>
<b>Budget total</b>	<b>£148,000,00</b>

**Key discussion points**

Throughout the months of February 2024 – Jun 2024, there will be an ongoing evaluation process of the People Zones project to measure its success and any need for developments. Findings of the evaluation will be accessible through a high-level report for each People Zone, produced by the commissioned evaluators, Mapping for Change.

The evaluation process will include a mixed methods approach to engage with residents, stakeholders and community leaders including the use of surveys, workshops, interviews, focus groups, roundtables and pop-up stands. The evaluation will measure the success of the project as well as lessons learned and recommendations for moving forward. The evaluation will be co-produced with the PZ communities who will define what 'success' means to them in the context of success of the project. The PZ steering group members will also be trained on evaluation processes to enable us to work together to consistently evaluate and innovate.

The above budget has been approved on the basis that the results of the evaluation can evidence that the People Zones project is **achieving or on target to achieve the some or all of the below outcomes:**

**Intermediate Outcomes:**

- Creating connections that help to empower People Zone communities to become self-sufficient
- Building on the strengths within People Zone communities
- Increased awareness of the People Zones project and its aims

- Residents report a number of benefits in their communities that were supported by the People Zones project

Longer term outcomes:

- People Zone Communities/residents report to feel more cohesive and safer
- Residents within People Zone communities feel more empowered to take pride in their areas
- There is greater trust and confidence in the Police and OPCC from People Zone communities
- There is a reduced demand on statutory services
- There is a reduction in Crime and ASB in People Zone communities
- People Zone communities have adopted a multi-agency approach in terms of working with partners and in the same direction
- Residents within People Zone communities report to have a better quality of life

**OFFICE OF PCC APPROVAL**

**Chief Executive or Chief Finance Officer:**

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that appropriate advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner

**Signature:**

**Name:** Kira Hughes

**Date:** 9/8/2024

**Publication Scheme**

**Decision of Monitoring Officer:**

As Monitoring Officer for the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire I have determined that:

It is appropriate to publish this record of decision made by the Police and Crime Commissioner : **Yes**

It is appropriate to publish the contents of the report proposing this course of action prepared by either of the senior post holders in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire (i.e. either the Chief Executive or Chief Finance Officer) : **Yes**

It is appropriate to publish details of the decision by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire : **Yes**

**Reasons for any non-Publication (referencing appropriate legislation): None**

**Signature:**

**Name:** Claire Trewartha

**Date:** 9/8/2024

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire**

Having received the advice set out above and reviewed relevant documentation my decision in regard of this matter is: **Supported**

**Signature** Rupert Matthews

**Date:**20/8/2024