

Adults, Health & Public Protection Policy & Scrutiny Committee

Date:	19 June 2017
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Update on Proposals for a Crime Prevention Co-commissioning Fund for London
Report of:	Mick Smith, Head of Community Safety
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Public Protection and Licensing
Wards Involved:	All
Policy Context:	City for Choice / Heritage / Aspiration
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. Following the Deputy Mayor for Policing & Crime (DMPC) decision in November 2016 to award crime and disorder reduction grants for 2017-19 through the London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF), and the allocation of 30% of what was previously borough funding to a new co-commissioning funding pot from 2018/19 onwards, this report gives a summary of discussions to date on the development of that fund and the potential implications for Westminster.

2. Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration

Committee is asked to:

- 2.1. Note changes to the way LCPF is allocated over the next Police & Crime Plan period and the impact on Westminster's current commissioned services for community safety.
- 2.2. Note the development of the co-commissioning fund as part of these changes and the potential for this to meet Westminster's funding gap in 2018/19 and beyond.

2.3. Determine how the Committee wishes to be kept up to date on the development of co-commissioning proposals given the timescales outlined in section 3 below.

3. Background

3.1. In November 2016, the DMPC agreed to continue allocating LCPF to Boroughs through a continuation of the budget for four years from 2017/18 to 2020/21, but to apportion that budget between direct borough funding (70%) and funding for co-commissioned services (30%) starting in year 2 of the fund.

3.2. In allocating borough funding, MOPAC redistributed funds based on a new formula to take into account need and demand. This has resulted in a shift in funds from inner to outer London boroughs and the overall impact of both of these decisions has seen Westminster’s allocation reduce by 56% between 2017/18 and 2018/19 (see table 1 below)

Table 1 Change in direct borough funding from MOPAC

Borough	2013/14	2017/18	2018/19
Westminster	£1,119,006	£1,071,006	£473,766
London	£17,865,840	£19,682,137	£12,725,764

3.3. The loss of direct borough funding over the next two years forces us to review funded provision across the Safer Westminster Partnership including services to tackle gang and youth violence, violence against women and girls, and to support and manage our most prolific offenders.

3.4. We are therefore left with a significant funding gap for 2018/19 and 2019/20. In order to avoid significant cuts to provision, we must identify alternative sources of funding over the next 12-months and one such source could be the co-commissioning fund.

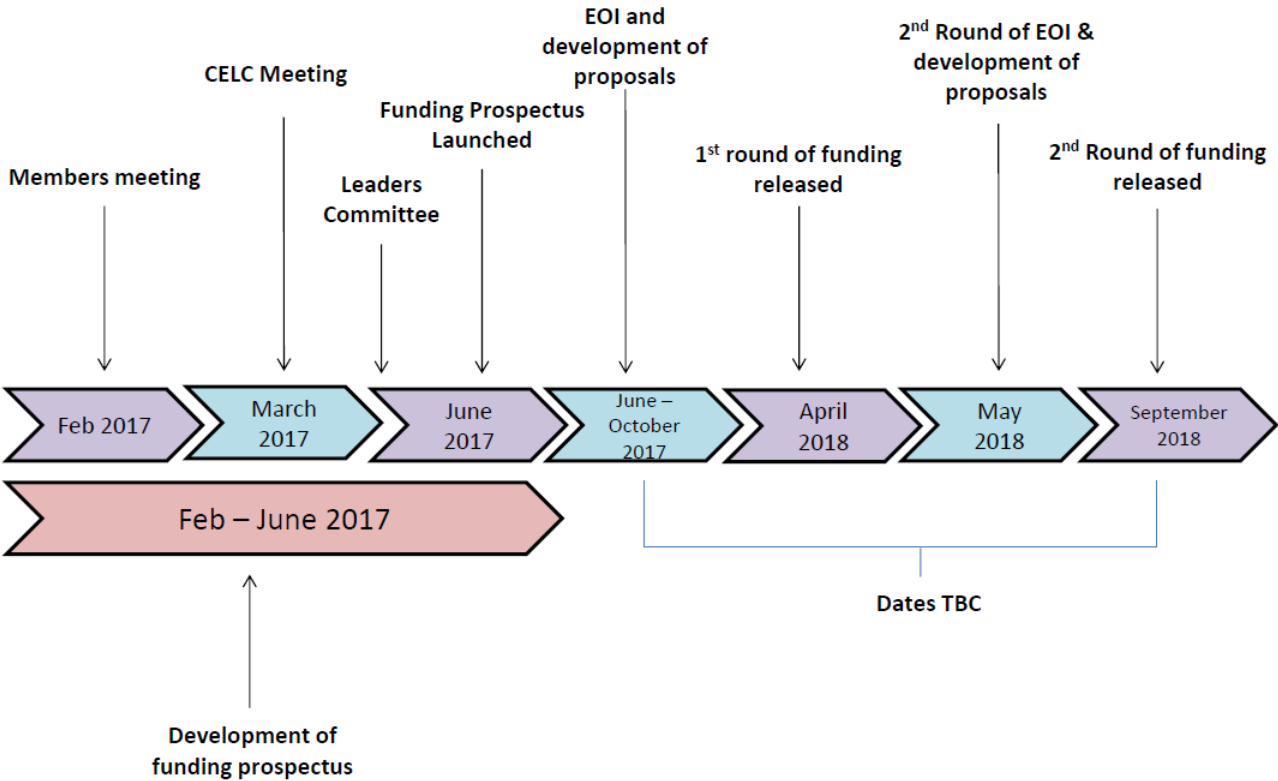
3.5. Figure 1 below sets out a draft an ambitious timetable for the development of and delivery of an approach to co-commissioning community safety services which would see newly co-commissioned services operating in two tranches starting in April 2018 and late 2018 respectively.

3.6. To support the development of the co-commissioning fund and the resulting prospectus, a working group made up of representatives from Local Authority Heads of Community Safety (including Westminster), Association of Directors of Children’s Services, National Probation Service, London Community Rehabilitation Company, NHS England, MOPAC and others

3.7. At this point there have been very few, if any formal decisions made on the specifics of the co-commissioning funding prospectus but a few consistent themes have emerged in the two working group meetings held to date:

- Projects must be based in London and/or be of benefit solely to London
- Only 5-8 projects are expected to receive funding
- Sub-regional projects must cover a minimum of 3 boroughs
- Projects must involve a minimum of 3 partner agencies
- Local Authorities in which the proposal will be delivered must be core supporting partners
- Funding priorities will be identified and set-out in the prospectus and projects must meet one or more of these priority themes
- There must be a clearly identified lead agency who can demonstrate the necessary leadership at a regional and/or sub-regional level

Figure 1 Draft timeline for the development and release of co-commissioning funds



3.8. Beyond this a number of concerns or areas for discussion remain to be resolved at the next working group meeting in mid-June before the Leader’s Committee meets to sign-off proposals

- **Timescales** – there is still a degree of concern over how tight the timescales are given the degree of collaboration required to develop proposals
- **Commissioning** – linked to timescales and given the level of funding involved, local procurement processes would not be responsive enough to commission services within the timescales set-out. MOPAC are looking at ways in which they may be able to support this process to ensure timescales are adhered to
- **Feedback** – truly collaborative co-commissioning bids require a significant amount of investment from lead agencies and supporting partners to discuss, develop and draft proposals. Consequently it is felt that the process should minimise the amount of wasted effort and if only 8 projects are to be funded, as close to 8 proposals as is practical should be encouraged while ensuring the process is fair, and transparent
- **Criteria** – although there is general support for the draft criteria that have been set out thus far, the process for delivering and assessing some of these needs to be resolved. For example, it is not practical for pan-London proposals to obtain individual sign-off from 32 London Boroughs
- **Priorities** – a long list of potential priorities for funding has been circulated for consultation, as well as a short list of four priorities that have been recommended for tranche 1 projects. Boroughs were asked to comment on these ahead of the next working group meeting on 12 June
- **Market Development** – MOPAC are proposing to hold market development workshops for each priority area in early July to bring together partners to discuss needs in more detail and to influence organisations to come together to submit expressions of interest.

3.9. Taking all of the above into account there are five key decision points over the next 12-months which will determine the likelihood for Westminster to meet some or all of its current funding gap for community safety services through the co-commissioning fund.

- **Funding prospectus – 29 June 2017** – the launch of the funding prospectus set-out the funding priorities and enable us to review this against current provision to determine whether there are any opportunities to shift borough spend into co-commissioning
- **Market development sessions – w/c 10 July 2017** – assuming there are opportunities to co-commission sovereign and/or shared services provision, the market development events in early July will bring partners together and allow us to gather support for an approach to co-commissioning which supports a shift in spend from borough allocations

- **Expression of interest – August 2017** – once EOIs are submitted in August 2017, initial feedback from MOPAC will indicate whether we are likely to be successful were we to continue to develop these into proposals
- **Funding decision – November/December 2017** – a final decision on which projects will be support in tranche 1 is expected towards the end of the calendar year. If unsuccessful we will either have to identify other sources of funding, or look to cut services
- **Tranche 2 –April 2018** - between now and the end of the financial year, further decisions are expected on the shape and the priorities for tranche 2 of the co-commissioning fund; if funding priorities in tranche 1 do not support a shift from borough to co-commissioning there may be scope to do so as part of tranche 2; furthermore, tranche 1 priority areas that require more development could also come into tranche 2.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the
Background Papers please contact Report Author:
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