

<b>Approved By:</b>  Greg Myddelton, Assistant Director Commissioning)	<b>Classification of Paper:</b>  Not Protectively Marked
<b>Report to PCC</b>	<b>Report reference number</b> PCC/ 0038/15
<b>Date of Report</b> 25 March 2015	<b>Area of County/Stakeholders affected</b> Southend-on-Sea
<b>Title of report</b> PCC NIF – Rosemead gardening project (NIF)	
<b>Report by</b> Greg Myddelton	
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**1. Purpose of report**

- 1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of £7,725 in the form of a crime and disorder reduction grant from the NIF to Home Group, whose activities will contribute to the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for Essex.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of the NIF grant to Home Group to deliver the *Rosemead gardening project*.

**3. Benefits of Proposal**

- 3.1 The Rosemead Gardening Project will develop a comprehensive, engaging and active approach to tackling crime locally, working with ex-offenders to develop a self-sustaining food gardening service, with an initial focus on utilising the space at the Rosemead Project in Southend-on-Sea. The ex-offenders taking part will all be provided with support to develop the skills they need from Writtle College, and following the initial stage they will then be responsible for supporting new ex-offenders into the project.
- 3.2 The project aims to achieve the following;
- Reduce the rate of crime across Southend, with a particular focus on keeping ex-offenders out of crime and ASB
  - Provide new opportunities for organisations that work with ex-offenders and other vulnerable groups to collaborate on a positive activity to reduce crime and ASB across Southend
  - Provide opportunities for ex-offenders to play a key part in seeing an 'enterprise' grow through their own efforts, and to see how useful the skills

developed and knowledge gained can be for re-integration into wider society and ultimately employment

- Provide an opportunity for ex-offenders to collaborate with each other on a productive project which will deliver tangible results (in this case ground put to use across the borough for productive growing of fruit and vegetables)
- To encourage ex-offenders to develop a healthy approach to cooking and eating by providing the means and support for them to grow fruit and vegetables, and to utilise the excellent kitchen spaces that exist (for example the currently underused kitchen facilities at the Rosemead Project)
- To develop a self-sustaining model for the project where those involved at the beginning learn the skills to support others in relevant skills relating to growing fruit and vegetables, collaborative cooking and promotion of the service they will be providing

#### **4. Background and proposal**

4.1 The Rosemead Project is a well-managed space near the centre of Southend-on-Sea with 10 ex-offender residents at any one time. The core aim of the service is to provide much-needed support for the ex-offenders (the clients) to make their way back into their communities and employment.

4.2 The project benefits from match-funding from South Essex Homes and support-in-kind from Rosemead & Cultural Engine CIC.

#### **5. Police and Crime Plan**

5.1 Supports priorities in the Police and Crime Plan as follows;

- Reducing youth offending and youth re-offending
- Tackling the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse and mental health issues
- Ensuring local solutions meet local problems

#### **6. Police Operational Implications**

6.1 No operational impact

#### **7. Financial Implications**

7.1 The PCC would fund a £7,725 contribution to Home Group

#### **8. Legal Implications**

8.1 The award of the grant is subject to the PCC's standard funding agreement.

#### **9. Staffing and other resource implications**

9.1 There are no staffing issues

#### **10. Equality and Diversity implications**

10.1 There are no equality and diversity implications



**Publication**

**Reasons for non-publication (state 'None' if applicable)**

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Signed/Print name

Report for publication

YES

NO

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.