


DECISION-MAKER:	Local Outbreak Engagement Board		
SUBJECT:	Covid-19 Marshals		
DATE OF DECISION:	8 December 2020		
REPORT OF:	Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director for Communities, Culture and Homes	
	Name:	Mary D’Arcy	Tel: 023 80
	E-mail	Mary.d’arcy@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Policy & Strategy Manager	
	Name:	Felicity Ridgway	Tel: 023 8083 3310
	E-mail	felicity.ridgway@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>On 22 September the Prime Minister announced that £60 million will be made available across the police and local authorities for compliance and enforcement activities. Of this £30 million has been allocated to local authorities and the remainder has been allocated to police forces. This funding is ringfenced for covid-secure compliance and enforcement.</p> <p>Southampton City Council was awarded funding of £153,929 for 4 months of covid-secure compliance activity. This paper sets out Southampton City Council’s approach to delivering this activity including the deployment of Covid-19 Marshals.</p>			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	To note the update on Covid-19 Marshals.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To ensure that the Local Outbreak Engagement Board is aware of progress on the delivery of the Covid-19 Marshals project and associated communications and engagement activity.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	No alternative options considered.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	In October 2020 Southampton City Council received notification of an award of £153,929 to deliver Covid-secure compliance activity. This funding will be used to deliver activity which will encourage compliance with Covid-19 compliance across the city until the end of March 2021.		
4.	<p>Activities eligible for funding within the government guidelines include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical support to aid and encourage compliance, such as dedicated staff in public areas, business support, or support for individuals: 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ COVID-19 secure marshals, or equivalents such as wardens, stewards or ambassadors (further guidance is set out below). ○ Any staff costs, training or overtime costs associated with this activity, including any staff from the forthcoming Environmental Health Officer register. ○ Associated administrative costs. ● Measures to aid public and business awareness and understanding of regulations and guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dissemination of the COVID-19 guidance, including where additional local restrictions are in place. ○ Promotional activity, e.g. sharing of good practice, signage, advertising. ○ Educational campaigns. ○ Engagement or tailored communications to sectors or groups. ● Any activity associated with enforcement of COVID-19 regulations or guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any staff costs, training or overtime costs associated with the work of local authority compliance and enforcement functions. ○ Any ancillary or additional costs associated with issuing prohibition notices, fixed penalty notices or taking forward criminal proceedings 						
5.	<p>A task and finish group was established w/c 12th October. The task and finish group has developed a public health based approach to the Covid-19 secure marshal programme using the primary, secondary, tertiary model. The task and finish group included GO! Southampton and Police.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-top: 20px;">  <table style="border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Primary</td> <td>Behavioural change comms campaign</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secondary</td> <td>Covid Business Champions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tertiary</td> <td>Covid-19 Marshals Enforcement Activity</td> </tr> </table> </div>	Primary	Behavioural change comms campaign	Secondary	Covid Business Champions	Tertiary	Covid-19 Marshals Enforcement Activity
Primary	Behavioural change comms campaign						
Secondary	Covid Business Champions						
Tertiary	Covid-19 Marshals Enforcement Activity						
6.	<p>A behavioural change campaign will be delivered with GO! Southampton across the city and district centres, including digital billboards, lamp-post signage and bus stops. This will be supported by social media and press engagement to remind people of the key hand, face space messaging and encourage compliance.</p>						
7.	<p>The Covid Community Champions Campaign will be extended to include a focus on businesses, establishing a network of champions to encourage a 'grass-roots' business compliance responsibility. Covid Business Champions network branding will be developed to enable businesses to demonstrate their participation.</p>						
8.	<p>The majority of the funding will be allocated to the deployment of Covid-19 Marshals who will advise and encourage local businesses and members of the public to comply with covid safety guidance. Additional funding will be set aside to meet some of the costs of potential enforcement activity.</p>						
	<p>Covid Marshals</p>						

9.	The Southampton Covid-19 Marshals will patrol the city centre and local district centres across Southampton over the winter months, providing non-police support but co-ordinating closely with police colleagues. They will promote social distancing in public areas where people might congregate such as parks and high streets and play their part in supporting businesses by providing advice to ensure that they are covid-safe. Following a procurement exercise the Covid-19 Marshals will be supplied by a local SIA agency.								
10.	<p>The role of the marshals will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging, explain and encourage members of the public to follow COVID-19 guidelines • Directing pedestrians and support businesses to manage queues and one-way systems • Helping prevent mixing between groups in public spaces • Reminding members of the public to wear a face covering where required (unless exempt) and provide advice on how to wear face coverings • Visiting businesses; to review COVID-19 safety compliance • Providing advice aligned to Government guidance and signposting businesses to this guidance • Reviewing and promote visibility of COVID-19 Secure messaging in business premises 								
11.	Marshals will not have enforcement powers, but will engage and encourage businesses and members of the public to follow guidelines including social distancing and face coverings. Marshals will therefore play a key role in delivering the first 3 'E's' of the policing 4 E's approach: engage, explain, encourage and enforce. Where escalation to formal enforcement action is required this will be through the Police or the council's Environmental Health Officers.								
12.	A new reporting tool is now available to gather intelligence and inform the deployment of Covid-19 Marshals. To report a Covid compliance concern members of the public can visit our Covid-19 Marshals web page .								
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS									
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>									
13.	<p>Funding of £153,929 has been awarded to Southampton City Council by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for this activity.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="331 1621 1430 1832"> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 1621 880 1675">Communications Campaigns</td> <td data-bbox="880 1621 1430 1675">£35,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 1675 880 1729">Covid-19 Marshals</td> <td data-bbox="880 1675 1430 1729">£100,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 1729 880 1783">Administration and support costs</td> <td data-bbox="880 1729 1430 1783">£14,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="331 1783 880 1832">Prosecution costs</td> <td data-bbox="880 1783 1430 1832">£5,000</td> </tr> </table>	Communications Campaigns	£35,000	Covid-19 Marshals	£100,000	Administration and support costs	£14,000	Prosecution costs	£5,000
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<u>Property/Other</u>									
14.	Covid-19 Marshals will be provided with equipment including uniforms and body-worn cameras. This equipment will be supplied by the contracted SIA firm and is included within the cost of the contract.								

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
15.	Under Section 2B of the National Health Service Act 2006, the Council has an obligation to take such steps as it considers appropriate for improving the health and people in its areas.
16.	Guidance to support local authority compliance and enforcement activity, including COVID-19 secure marshals or equivalents published 08 October 2020: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-local-authority-compliance-and-enforcement-grant/guidance-to-support-local-authority-compliance-and-enforcement-activity-including-covid-19-secure-marshals-or-equivalents
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
17.	Legal requirements including adherence with GDPR requirements are included in the council's contract terms with the contracted SIA agency.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
18.	The service provider will have in place the necessary liability insurance policies and will indemnify the council in respect of loss, damage or injury arising from the actions of its employees whilst delivering the service.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
19.	The delivery of the Covid-19 Marshals and associated communications and engagement activity will support the delivery of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Safe City Strategy (Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy (S.5 and 6 Crime and Disorder Act 1998) • The Health and Wellbeing Strategy (S.116A Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007)

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	None
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	Yes
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	Yes

Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None