

A. 2005/06

1.1 The Stronger, Safer, Communities Fund is one of the 4 service blocks within the Local Area Agreement (LAA) initiative, piloted from 2004/05 and to be implemented in Salford from April 2007. The other three blocks being Children and Young People, Healthier Communities and Older People, and the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI).

1.2 From April 2006 two new funding streams will be available for inclusion in SSCF Agreements and LAA's to support SSCF outcomes, these being the Neighbourhood Element and the Cleaner Safer Greener Element. These will be focused upon tackling deprivation and targeted at the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, identified from information in the Index of Multiple Deprivation, using Super Output Areas (SOA's) as a geographical basis.

1.3 SOA's are within the 3% most deprived areas nationally, excluding those areas that are in receipt of Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder, New Deal for Communities or Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder areas. In Salford, the areas that meet this requirement consist of two situated in the Little Hulton ward, and three situated in Winton ward.

1.4 For 2005/06 the Government Office awarded Salford a total allocation of £1,267,497 SSCF – consisting of £790,066 Home Office funding and £477,431 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister funding.

1.6 The Home Office funding relates to activities predominantly undertaken by SCC's Community Safety Unit and Greater Manchester Police. The types of activities included are:

- working with young people involved in anti-social behaviour, so as to reduce the incidence and perception of anti-social behaviour;
- providing a graffiti removal team so as to help communities feel safer by improving/ enhancing their environments;
- undertaking of Police proactive operations to address incidence of major crime or drug activities.

1.7 While 2005/06 is being considered a transitional year, due to bringing together different funding streams with already agreed delivery plans/ programmes, future years will need to be substantially reviewed to take account of future developments, i.e. the roll out LAA's.

B. 2006/07 Allocations

1.1 In July 2005 the Government announced the allocation of new resources targeted on the most deprived areas of England. In addition to NRF, there were the two new funding streams forming part of SSCF, the Neighbourhood Element (NE) and the Cleaner Safer Greener Element (CSGE).

1.2 Salford's allocations for these funding streams from April 2006 are:

SSCF	2005/06	2006/07
NE	0	£412,800
CSGE (capital funding)	0	£970,000
ODPM-Community Empowerment	£477,431 (via Salford Community Empowerment Network, operated through their Single Community Programme – including £200,000 for Community Chest grants)	£191,225 (to cover core Salford Community Empowerment Network costs – ring-fenced, and for community engagement activities by them only)
Home Office funding	£790,066	Expected to receive amount consistent with 2005/06 level
TOTAL	£1,267,497	£1,574,025 and Home Office element

1.3 GONW have indicated that there will be further announcements concerning the Home Office funding element of SSCF in January 2006, with the message being to plan for a similar level of funding as for previous years.

C. HEADROOM/ ELIGIBILITY

1.1 It is anticipated that there will be £1,382,800 available as 'headroom' to allocate for delivering the SSCF for 2006/07. This consists of £412,800 under the Neighbourhood Element, and £970,000 under the Cleaner Safer Greener Element.

1.2 Neighbourhood Element activities will need "to improve the quality of life for people in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods and ensure service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs and improve their delivery" – however, activities in line with LAA's, need to be outcome driven and that the funding will only be paid on the outcomes being met.

1.3 The recommended approach for delivering the Neighbourhood Element is a neighbourhood management based model (supported by 4 years funding to allow local authorities to develop/ expand their neighbourhood management models), Salford's already has a strong foundation via its 'community committees'.

1.4 Cleaner Safer Greener Element activities will need to focus on public spaces and to achieve sustainable improvements, by:

- "creating attractive and welcoming parks;
- improving physical infrastructure;
- making places greener and maintaining them better;
- making places safer and tackling anti-social behaviour;
- engaging and empowering people and local communities;
- catering for children and young people".

1.5 Cleaner Safer Greener Element funding is predominantly capital funding designated to improve the physical environment and public spaces. This can either underpin work funded by the Neighbourhood Element or be used in adjacent/ separate areas provided the work is targeted at the agreed SOA's, i.e. Little Hulton and Winton.

1.6 The resultant overall SSCF programme for Little Hulton and Winton SOA's will need to address, and thus demonstrate achieving the following National Outcomes:

- **National Outcome 1: Reduced crime, fear of crime, perceptions of anti social behaviour and harm caused by illegal drugs;**
- **National Outcome 2: Cleaner Safer Greener public spaces;**
- **National Outcome 3: Increasing the capacity of local communities to participate in decision-making;**
- **National Outcome 4: Improving the quality of life in the most disadvantaged communities.**

D. APPROACH

1.1 In terms of responding to the required 'neighbourhood management' approach for delivery of the resultant SSCF activities, it is proposed to utilise the Community Action Plans for Little Hulton and Winton SOA's, to review them through more localised focus and residents input, and to apply lessons from the experience of the small area neighbourhood management approach in East Salford.

E. MANAGEMENT OF SSCF

1.1 The LSP will have a central role in determining the use of the SSCF with the Local Authority as the accountable body. Delivery arrangements are under active discussion, following a position report issued at the October 2005 LSP Board.

1.2 A SSCF Partnership of Members, resident's representatives and partners for the two SOA's is suggested to take decisions and progress implementation. Officers/ partners will generate proposals via existing LSP SDP's and existing Neighbourhood Management structures.

1.3 An indicative timeframe for action is as follows:

- preliminary programme work - baseline analysis; summarise relevant Community Action Plans; agree delivery structure; identify outcomes; draft suggested priorities/ actions to SSCF Partnership meeting (by mid-January 2006);
- convene SSCF Partnership meeting (before end of January 2006);
- convene Task Group x 4 (before mid-February 2006);
- submit Action Plan to Government Office (March 2006).