



## **COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY**

**14 JUNE 2019**

## **CONTRIBUTION TO DARLINGTON PARTNERSHIP**

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### **REPORT OF CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**

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#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To request Members to consider the financial contribution to the One Darlington Partnership for 2019/20.

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. The Authority has provided a financial contribution to the running of the Darlington Partnership of £7,500 per annum since 2011/12. The Darlington Partnership was renamed the One Darlington Partnership in 2015 to align with the Council's vision of "One Darlington, Perfectly Placed".
3. A request has been received from the One Darlington Partnership to continue to provide funding at the same rate of £7,500 for 2019/20. A copy of the request letter is attached as Appendix A.

#### **THE BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

4. The One Darlington Partnership is structured to bring key partners together to develop cross sector understanding of strategic issues in Darlington. The work of the Partnership has been focused on Darlington Borough Council's priorities but also takes account of partner's priorities in agreeing its direction and work programmes.
5. The One Darlington Partnership has also had success in some specific outcomes such as community safety, protecting vulnerable people and a focus on alcohol and smoking reduction. Joint initiatives across all partners have removed duplication of resources and focussed efforts. The aims of the partnership in these areas is linked closely to the Service's aims of protecting our communities in Darlington.
6. The overall budget for the Partnership is £79,000 which covers: the cost of the partnership office, any costs associated with Board and Executive meetings; conferences and assemblies; coordination of Best of Darlington Awards; and any partnership specific projects.
7. In the next twelve months the Partnership will be looking to explore how to narrow the gap between those who are struggling to thrive and the rest.

8. Given the importance the Authority places on collaboration and partnership working, the One Darlington Partnership is an important forum to attend. We can only shape the agenda for Darlington if we continue to contribute to the work of the One Darlington Partnership.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9. Members are recommended to
  - a) **approve** the financial contribution to the Darlington Partnership of £7,500 per annum for 2019/20.

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