



COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

11 JUNE 2018

CONTRIBUTION TO DARLINGTON PARTNERSHIP

REPORT OF ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER – SERVICE DELIVERY

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To request Members to consider the financial contribution to the One Darlington Partnership for 2018/19.

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 2018/19. 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 Councils 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.
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 maximise the contribution of the private sector for the good of the community and to improve volunteering across the public sector.

8. Given the importance the Fire Authority, The Fire and Rescue National Framework and HMICFRS place 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.
9. The funding required for the One Darlington Partnership is built into the 2018/19 budget and the MTFP.

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. Members are recommended to
 - a) **approve** the financial contribution to the Darlington Partnership of £7,500 per annum for 2018/19.

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