



Report to: Strategy, Performance and Finance  
Decision Date: 12 June 2025  
Portfolio Holder: Councillor Paul Peacock  
Director Lead: Matt Finch, Director of Communities and Environment  
Lead Officer: Jenny Walker, Business Manager – Public Protection

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open report, non key decision
Report Title	Request to fund Prison Me No Way through the Cleaner Safer Greener Reserve
Purpose of Report	This report seeks approval for £15,000 from the Cleaner Safer Greener Reserve to be used for a further round of the Prison Me No Way programme across our secondary schools.
Recommendations	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Performance and Finance approves the use of £15,000 from the Cleaner Safer Greener Reserve to enable the delivery of the Prison Me No Way Programme.</p>
Alternative Options Considered	None
Reason for Recommendation	To enable a further round of this programme to run across our secondary schools
Decision Taken	<p>As per the recommendations stated above the decision taken:</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Performance and Finance approves the use of £15,000 from the Cleaner Safer Greener Reserve to enable the delivery of the Prison Me No Way Programme.</p>

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 For a number of years, Public Protection have been successful in being awarded Localities Funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. This funding has been used to deliver our diversionary activities and education programmes and sessions through the year.
- 1.2 Over the years the funding has enabled the following activities to take place:
  - Extreme Wheels in both Newark and Sherwood
  - Cooking Sessions
  - Graffiti Projects – multiple locations
  - Safety Challenge – reaching nearly 1000 Year 6 children
  - Access to sports activities
  - DJ Sessions
- 1.3 In last year's locality bid we applied for funding to bring in the Prison Me No Way Programme to our secondary schools. We had already sought funding for some of the Newark schools through the Safer Streets 5 Programme and wanted to ensure the programme would reach all Newark and Sherwood secondary schools. This was in addition other diversionary activities and programmes.
- 1.4 Our funding was successful, and the programme was organised. However, we were advised late on last year that the OPCC couldn't support the Prison Me No Way programme as it clashed with another programme commissioned through the VRP and as such we took the decision to fund it through the Cleaner Safer Greener Reserve. The remaining Locality Funding was diverted to other diversionary activities
- 1.5 The Prison Me No Way programme ran last year at the following schools:
  - Newark Academy – Year 9 & 10 to 420 students
  - Magnus CofE Newark – Year 9 & 10 to 260 students
  - Suthers School (Funded through SS5) – Year 9 & 10 to 250 students
  - Joseph Whitaker, Rainworth – Year 9 to 236 students
- 1.6 The feedback from the schools that took part in the last round was overwhelmingly positive

### **Magnus:**

"I have received lots of positive feedback from both staff involved and year 9 and 10 students about the day and the impact it will have on them. The theme of the Crime Awareness Day was "Choices" and this was made abundantly clear in the afternoon session as the students got to meet some current serving prisoners, hear their life stories and ask them questions. This was a great opportunity to hear how normal people made a bad choice, and its impact on not only their life, but the life of their family, friends and victims as well."

"I just want to say a huge thank you to you for funding these two days. The workshops were so much more powerful than teachers reading off a power point. Hopefully in the future, with your support, we can organise another PMNW day as the day generated a

buzz in year 7 & 8 with many of the younger students asking when it was their turn to take part.”

**Newark Academy:**

“I just wanted to share how incredible the staff and students have found the last two days - staff haven’t even complained that they lost time with Yr11 as they witnessed the quality and impact it was having.

Generally, on a drop down day our students become a little dysregulated and end up being removed from sessions, we had 1 student over both days whereby this happened and he was given the chance to rejoin the sessions the day after.

The impact of the choices session, particularly on Wednesday, was just immeasurable!!!! Cam (I think his name was) was so thoughtful and eloquent for a 23 year old - Carly also sat in on one of his sessions and can attest I am sure.

Thank you for the offer of this programme and if any further funding to tackle the violent and anti social behaviour in our community becomes available we would welcome them back to target the year groups that missed out.”

**Suthers School:**

“I just wanted to reach out to say thank you for allowing us to book Prison Me No Way!

We have just had them in school for the last 2 days delivering a carousel style set of workshops to our Year 9's and Year 10's, and to say the whole experience was inspirational would be an understatement.

Our students were fully engaged in the sessions, captivated by their stories, on the edge of their seats listening to the relatable advice and guidance provided by the ex-prison staff, ex-prisoners and more movingly the current serving Category D prisoners. Their stories were real, honest and raw. No question was too big, and they spoke from the heart. They also managed to steer the student questions to the key positive message about making the right choices, without glamorising life in prison or the reasons why they went to prison”

**2.0 Proposal**

- 2.1 In order to run a round of the programme in the schools w would like to seek £15,000 from the Cleaner Safer Greener Reserve. This would allow for 2 days in each of the Newark schools (Suthers, Magnus, and Newark Academy) based on Newark being our main area for youth-related ASB.
- 2.2 Due to the delays in finding suitable time in the schools to deliver the programme the Sherwood side schools (Maple Project, Dukeries Academy, and Southwell Minster school) are already allocated and booked in from the last years funding. It was not deemed necessary to request a further round for the Sherwood side owing to the length of time taken to get the original dates booked in.

### **3.0 Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendation's officers have considered the following implications; Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability, and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

### **3.1 Financial Implications FIN25-26/5117**

3.1.1 The Cleaner Safer Greener reserve currently holds £26,660 that is presently uncommitted for specific projects. The reserve is available to provide additional funding to support all enforcement activities and mitigations and therefore matches the purpose set out in the body of the report.

3.1.2 This is a one-off request for 2025/26, and any unspent monies at the end of the financial year will be returned to the reserve.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972. Any documents that contain confidential information or personal information about individuals should not be included in this list.