

## Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner – Notice of Decision

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<b>DECISION OR INFORMATION:</b>	Decision
<b>DATE RECEIVED:*</b>	24.06.21
<b>REF:*</b> (to be inserted by the OPCC)	2021.064

<b>TITLE:</b>	Late Night Levy funding for Operation GUARDIAN to March 2022
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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

After several years of demonstrably successful operation an opportunity is available to increase the number of monthly deployments of the city centre passive drugs dog operation Operation GUARDIAN from on average one night per month to two nights using funds available through the city's Late Night Levy (LNL).

Funds are available for use through the levy to deliver this increase to the end of the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

### INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF DECISION: (eg report or business case)

Late Night Levies were introduced under the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Levies can only be introduced in single local authority areas and must cover the entirety of each local authority area (a city centre cannot for instance have a levy imposed, in the case of Nottingham it covers the whole city but not county areas).

Levies are intended to raise funds from alcohol licensed premises to support the costs to policing of the effects of alcohol sales in the night time economy (NTE). The funding must be spent on NTE safety and policing in the district in which it is raised. The levy is collected by the local Licensing Authority (in this case Nottingham City Council) and divided between the OPCC and Nottingham City Council through a respective 70:30 split (less administrative costs for the Licensing Authority).

The LNL cost to individual premises is calculated on their rateable value which is used to determine business rates. The Act makes provision for the exemption of certain types of premises

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judged to be of low impact on policing such as bingo halls. Premises of this kind are exempt from the LNL in Nottingham.

The LNL has funded the continuation of the highly successful Operation GUARDIAN use of enhanced policing and passive drugs dogs, the Street Pastors, Drinkaware training, CCTV and more.

Operation Guardian is the successor to Operation PROMOTE which has operated in the city centre since 2013. Operation GUARDIAN utilises passive drugs dogs and a detail of additional police officers, supported by plain clothed spotters to detect and deal with individuals in possession of drugs.

The operation consistently detects weapons and higher-end criminality as well as being demonstrably effective in terms of violence reduction. Deployments consistently and demonstrably reduce violence by around 25% compared to equivalent nights when the intervention does not run.

The city Divisional Commander and City Centre Commander are supportive of an effort to double to number of deployments to two per month which would require LNL funding of £54,000 for a 9 month programme of deployments to the end of the year (31<sup>st</sup> March 2022).

There is clear evidence that this intervention reduces violence and provides a highly visible reassurance to the public and it is recommended that this operation be sustained from April 2022 with further processes being put in place at that time.

Consideration will also be given to the procurement of additional capacity to sustain this operation and make provision for further enhancing the availability of passive drugs dogs for the Force in reflection of the success of this operation. This further consideration will be taken forwards with its own decision record(s).

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION


The cost of a deployment of Operation GUARDIAN in the NTE is £3,000 per night mainly arising from staff costs through the use of overtime to form the team.

Doubling the number of deployments from one to two per month would therefore require £6,000 per month which to the end of the police / financial year 2022 represents nine months starting from July at a total cost of £54,000.

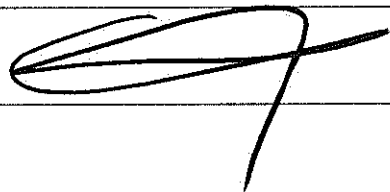
It is proposed therefore that £54,000 of funding from the Late Night Levy be allocated to this activity with the option to continue this funding from the remainder of the Levy from April 2022

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being recommended. A further decision record will be brought forwards for the 2022/23 business year at that time.

<b>Signature:</b> <b>Chief Finance Officer</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	28th June 2021

<b>Is any of the supporting information classified as non-public or confidential information?*</b>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, please state under which category from the guidance**				
<b>DECISION:</b>				
It is requested that the Police and Crime Commissioner approve the allocation of £54,000 of Late Night Levy funds for an increased deployment of Operation GUARDIAN to March 2022.				

<b>LEGAL SERVICES OPINION:</b>	
This is a permissible allocation of funds.	
<b>Signature:</b>	Craig Sutherland 
<b>Date:</b>	25/06/2021

<b>DECLARATION:</b>
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\*\* See guidance on non-public information

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I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and I take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Any interests are indicated below:

The above request has my approval

**Signature:**

**Nottinghamshire Police  
& Crime Commissioner**



**Date:**

20 July 2021