

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE
9 NOVEMBER 2022**

Officer: Helen Ball (Town Clerk)

SAFE STREETS 4 FUNDING

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update the Committee on the submission of a Safe Streets 4 Project funded from the Home Office

BACKGROUND

Officers have previously reported on the success of the Safer Streets 4 Funding bid made to the Home Office by the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner on behalf of Team Shrewsbury.

£548,178 was awarded of which the following sums were awarded to the Town Council to manage:

Lighting of Life Saving Equipment along the River	£43,700
Expansion of the existing Quarry Security to include Taxi Marshal	£168,480

Security provision in the park was increased in August from 30 hours a week to 60 hours a week with 12 hours a week Taxi Marshalling added to the contract to manage the night-time economy.

Officers have also undertaken a tender process to install solar lights to all Throwline Boards and all high profile Lifebuoy Stations along the river; this contract has been awarded and a start date for installation has not been confirmed.

OUTPUTS OF THE SAFER STREETS PROJECT

As can be seen from the Office Manager's Team Shrewsbury Report all activity and incidents reported by the Quarry Security and Taxi Marshalls are fed into the Team Shrewsbury reporting channels and any key stakeholders are notified.

Of particular note has been the number of VAWG issues (Violence Against Women & Girls) that have been raised by Security Staff; these have included potential grooming, indecency, trafficking and general vulnerability from alcohol and drug consumption. In these circumstances Police, Safeguarding & Social Services have been informed to progress action and in some circumstances there are live police investigations.

Youth issues remain a cause for concern and matters have been escalated to the Director of Public Health particularly around the consumption of alcohol and prescription drugs. Quarry Security have been involved in a number of serious incidents in the park.

On the whole the feeling of safety in park has increased exponentially from local residents, users (old and young) and staff. Security staff are engaging well with all.

Ongoing discussions are taking place to effectively monitor the project so that the true value of this project are known by all. This will also be discussed further when the Chief Constable and Police & Crime Commissioner visit in December to review the project.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (I) That the report be noted**
- (II) That Officers continue to report on progress to the Recreation & Leisure Committee**