

MEETING	Decision Making Meeting
DATE	9 March 2021
TITLE OF REPORT	Funding Request for E-Bikes for Safer Neighbourhood Teams
SUBMITTED BY	Supt Willmot – LPC Fleet Lead
PURPOSE OF REPORT	To consider the request for funding for electric bikes for use by SNT officers.
DECISION(S) REQUIRED	To support (or not) the funding of e-bikes for 3 CSPs from the PCC's Prevention and Innovation Fund
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	<i>The cost per cycle, inclusive of marking, essential equipment and a three-year servicing package is £2150. The total cost for the 13 cycles bid for is £27,950 (ex vat)</i>
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	<i>It is not anticipated that any legal implications will be generated by this proposal as cycles are already in use across the Constabulary.</i>
EQUALITIES IMPACTS	<i>This request has no impact on process or policy as such has not been subject to full EIA. It is not anticipated that any equalities impacts would be generated by this proposal as cycles are already in use across the Constabulary</i>
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION EXEMPTION SECTION IF APPLICABLE	<i>No Exemption required</i>

1 INTRODUCTION

Not required

2 BACKGROUND

Last year a trial of electric cycles (e-bikes) was carried out in Dacorum by the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) officers and PSCOs to understand if these would be an effective method of increasing mobility and thus service provision. Eight cycles were purchased and have proven to be successful providing the following benefits:

- Reducing time spent travelling on foot or by traditional cycles both to and from patrol areas and moving between enquiries.
- They are a greener transport solution reducing the organisational carbon footprint
- Reduced reliance on colleagues in patrol vehicles, releasing those colleagues to concentrate on service provision.

- Reducing reliance upon and the inherent limitations of using public transport
- Improving workforce health and wellbeing
- Increasing public visibility and reassurance.

Following discussions with CSP Chief Inspectors three further CSPs have now requested funding for e-bikes based on the successful trial at Dacorum.

In each case these would be spread around the CSP sub stations to increase mobility and visibility of the teams based there as follows:

- Three Rivers - 3 total to be based at Rickmansworth, Oxhey and Abbots Langley
- Watford - 3 total to be based at Watford Police Station
- St Albans – 7 total to be based; 2 at Harpenden, 3 at St Albans, 1 at Redbourn, 1 at Wheathampstead

The cycles would only be used by trained officers and staff who have completed the cycle training carried out by Learning and Development Officer Safety Trainers.

Each cycle conforms to EU e-bike regulations and is limited to 25KPH and only operable under rider generated input for safety reasons. The rider's pedalling motion is enhanced by the motor, it cannot run without this input from the rider and is thus not a scooter or motorcycle and requires no licence.

3 OPTIONS CONSIDERED

During the scoping work for the e-bikes at Dacorum a tender process was run and is summarised in the appended attachment. A suitable supplier was identified offering a competitive price alongside experience in provision of e-bikes to other emergency services and Police forces. This supplier can also provide suitable marking and equipping of the e-bikes as well as a three year inclusive serving package (the only supplier with this capability and experience)

It is intended that this supplier, Havebike, would be utilised for future provision at a cost of **£2150** (ex vat) per unit leading to a total funding request for **£27,950** (ex vat)

The cycles at Dacorum were purchased using a grant from Dacorum Borough Council. This funding route has been considered by other CSPs and has been successful only in Borehamwood at this stage where the council have agreed to fund the purchase of 6 e-bikes utilising the purchasing framework established by Dacorum with Havebike. This option could be further explored in the next financial year should this bid be unsuccessful.

4 PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

The recommendation is to fund the purchase of 13 e-bikes to be allocated as outlined at para 2 above at a cost of £27,950.

Any combination of fewer bikes could be considered and distribution would be based on a needs analysis.



Tender
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