

	FULL COUNCIL
Date	11 March 2024
Agenda Item	10

Update on Safer Streets Project

The Safer Streets project is a project for 18 months to improve the safety of the streets in Halstead. This is being managed by a project manager at BDC, with collaboration from the police, Neighbourhood watch, Fusion leisure centre, CARA rape advice service, and various other departments at BDC. Monthly Teams meetings are held to check the progress of the various parts of the project.

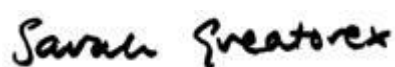
The task for HTC is to recruit a streetwarden and manage the installation of CCTV. The Streetwarden Matthew Farmer has now been recruited and will start working on 1 March. He has uniform and a bodycam, and has done training for the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme, so that he can give out penalty tickets for offences in the community. These tickets will be managed by BDC. He will do 30 hours per week Monday – Friday initially, but is flexible if we would like him to work at other times. He will focus on the area stretching from Ramsey school down the High Street and into the Public Gardens. He is already liaising with police officers, and as the police have asked to use the council offices as a base, he is likely to have frequent contact.

The purchase and installation of the CCTV is well underway. Quotations have been received and forwarded to the Project manager for CCTV in Chapel Street and Rosemary Lane. In Chapel Street, the equipment is very likely to be installed in the Eastlight building in Oak yard, but there will be a delay for a few weeks while the Eastlight teams come to agreement. The Rosemary Lane CCTV will, as is already the case in the Butler Road carpark, be managed from the Empire Theatre building.

As the costs so far have not reached the amount to be given by the project for CCTV, we have requested further CCTV to be installed outside the public toilets, and in the Causeway, to provide coverage for the Royal British Legion and the community fridge area, where there is a great deal of antisocial behaviour. The remaining unallocated surplus can be used to cover this (see separate report).

A grant agreement has been signed, and the first instalment of the grant will be paid in March 2024.

Recommendation: that HTC notes the report.



Sarah Greateorex **Town Clerk**