

AGENDA ITEM 7

Essex Police and Crime Panel	EPCP/11/13
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Progress on allocating Community Safety Grants 2013/14

Report by the Treasurer of the PCC to the Panel

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Purpose of report

To provide the Panel with an update on the progress of the PCC in allocating community safety grant monies. The Panel is requested to discuss the report providing the PCC with any views that may be appropriate.

Background information on the allocation of grants

Section 9 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides the PCC with the power to provide a crime and disorder reduction grant to any person. Moreover, the act specifies that a crime and disorder reduction grant is a grant, which in the opinion of the PCC, will secure or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Essex. The grant may be made subject to any conditions that the PCC thinks appropriate.

The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011 requires information as to each crime and disorder reduction grant made by the PCC, including any conditions attached to the grant, the recipient of the grant, its purpose and the reasons why the PCC considers that the grant would secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Essex to be published.

2013/14 PCC budget and allocation of Community Safety Grants

In total £2.528m was allocated in the 2013/14 revenue budget for community safety funding. This budget has been increased to £2.845m as further amounts of community safety grants made by the Force have transferred to the PCC. The progress to date made in the PCC deciding to allocate funds is shown in Appendix 1 alongside the budgeted amounts contained in the Police and Crime Plan.

To allocate all funds available the PCC needs to make a decision on the following items:

1. Wave 2 bids with £139k available
2. Amounts previously allocated to Safer Essex amounting to £180k

3. Net balance of funds available amounting to £33k largely spent on one-off items of support in the previous year.

A comparison of the grant monies allocated against the budget included in the Police and Crime Plan is shown in Appendix 3

The first wave of bids for the New Initiatives Fund attracted 131 bids totalling over £2.3m. In short, the total value of bids was almost five times the budget allocation of £500k. This was the first time that bids were invited for an allocation from this fund to support innovative community projects. Given the large interest shown the process of sifting the bids took longer than expected. However, the process was supported by the CSP Managers and professional advice from the Reference Group. The Reference Group consists of:

Domestic Abuse	-	Janice Logie /Alan Ray – ECC
Youth Offending	-	Tania Gillet, Head of Essex YOS
Re-Offending	-	Alex Bamber, Essex Probation
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	-	Ben Hughes, Essex DAAT
Victims	-	Victims Alliance
Roads	-	Casualty Reduction Board

Despite the large number of bids a robust approach was adopted in order to ensure that monies allocated met the criteria. As such, only £116k has been allocated to date although there is further work being undertaken on a range of bids submitted around domestic abuse. A provisional sum of £120k has been set aside for this purpose.

Given that only a small proportion of wave 1 bids have to date been successful it is useful to highlight the reasons for not taking forward applications for funding at this stage:

- Some bids simply did not address the priorities within the Police & Crime Plan
- Concerns that some bids reflected the bidding organisations core business
- That the bid duplicated existing arrangements
- That the bid was not sufficiently targeted or the need was not evidenced
- The bid was not innovative
- The activity not felt to be sustainable; and
- That while the bid maybe a good idea, the PCC NIF is not the most appropriate route e.g. bid for capital projects may be better suited to funding from the Proceeds Of Crime Act

It is hoped that feedback that is being provided to unsuccessful applicants does not discourage them from future attempts if they have a worthwhile initiative. Considerable knowledge and expertise on the grants process has been gained over a short period of time. To assist the entire process of application and selection of initiatives in the future points of good practice and areas to improve are being noted. A strategic Autumn conference is being planned which, in part, will also provide an opportunity to both explain

the intentions of the PCCs community grant awards and also to receive feedback from applicants in order to improve future grant allocation processes.

There are plans to support a number of initiatives in addition to the ones highlighted above. These initiatives are currently being examined and include:

- i) Crime Stoppers. Last year the Force supported the running costs of the 24/7 Bureau and made a contribution to the Eastern Region Manager's costs totalling a contribution of almost £37k. This resource will transfer from the Force. In addition, the PCC may provide a further contribution of £60k from the New Initiatives Fund.
- ii) Special Constabulary policing. £40k for rural crime & building stronger communities
- iii) A community messaging system in order to enhance the communication between Police and neighbourhood community groups. The plan is to share the £40k cost on a 50/50 basis between the New Initiative Fund and Proceeds of Crime Act monies.
- iv) 'Only Cowards Carry' knife crime initiative £5k.

Wave 2 bids for the New Initiatives Fund have begun with a closing date of 1st August. Based on activities to date the amount available for wave 2 is highlighted below:

New Initiative Fund Budget	£500k
Less:	
- Funds allocated	-£116k
- Provisional set asides:	
o Domestic Abuse bids	-£120k
o Crime Stoppers	-£60k
o Specials	-£40k
o Community messaging system	-£20k
o Only Cowards Carry	-£5k
Amount available for Wave 2	£139k

Integrity of Process

The processes followed for the complete cycle of grant awards comply with all legislative requirements. All grant awards are publicised and funding agreements are in place with recipients. Mechanisms for the monitoring of the use of grant monies are being implemented

Progress made to date in the allocation of grant monies

Appendix 1

Fund	Budget £'000	Recipients	Allocation £'000
Community Safety Fund Plus reinstatement of CSF shortfall	1,246 130	14 Community Safety Partnerships Victims Support Essex Drug & Alcohol Action Team (EDAAT) – Westminster drugs project EDAAT – Choices contract Drugs Intervention Programme – Southend Drugs Intervention Programme - Thurrock Positive Future youth engagement programme Youth Offending Service (YOS) - Essex YOS – Southend YOS – Thurrock Amounts to be allocated: - Previously Safer Essex - One off in 2012/13	268 222 268 131 54 49 45 85 19 19 180 33
Community safety total	1,376		1,373
Whole Essex Community Budget	290	Reducing re-offending Strengthening Communities Domestic Abuse Strategic Resource Pool	110 71 92 17
Whole Essex total	290		290
2012/13 Force grants brought into the PCC	362	CSP's YOS – Essex Police YOS – Southend YOS – Thurrock	41 168 91 62
Neighbourhood Watch	7	Neighbourhood Watch	10
Crime Stoppers	37	Crime Stoppers	37
Sexual Assault Referral Clinic (SARC)	88	SARC	88
Essex/Southend/Thurrock Safeguarding Children's Board and Vulnerable Adults Protection Committee	175	Children/vulnerable adults	175
Victims Support	10	Victims Support	10
Force grants to PCC total	679		682
New Initiative Fund	500	See Appendix 2 Earmarked amounts provisionally set aside Amount available for Wave 2	116 245 139
New Initiative Fund total	500		500
Grand Total	2,845		2,845

Note: Items shown in 'red' represent decisions that are currently being processed.

In Principle Agreed Applications

Appendix 2

Applicant	Idea	Amount
YOUTH OFFENDING		
Essex Youthbuild	To provide a short 5 week taster maintenance course to young offenders or those at risk of offending	£10,906
Essex Boys & Girls Club	Deliver 4 diversionary boxing projects aimed at 11-19 year olds who are NEET (not in employment, education or training) or at high risk of becoming NEET	£8,550
Family Solutions – West Essex	Pilot Family Boot Camp Day at Lamburne End where ASB is a major factor. Parents and children involved in workshops to those families currently in the Family Solutions Service	£4,000
Only Cowards Carry	Training programme on weapons awareness and the consequences targeted at primary, secondary schools & young adults via presentations, videos and printed literature.	£5,000
Wakering Young People's Community Project	Activities for young people during school holidays.	£10,000
Witham Boys Brigade	Pilot to run a sports engagement programme for young people. Build self-confidence, engagement and create routes into education	£6,044
ALCOHOL & DRUGS		
Essex DAAT	RiskAvert Programme for young vulnerable people from complex families	£18,040
57 West	Fund a community worker to train volunteers, co-ordinate weekly activities e.g. drop in for young people, offer educational awareness of drug/alcohol	£10,895
CRIME PREVENTION		
Maldon CSP	Project targeted for 60 young people for 12 weeks. Diversionary activities to address ASB	£5,640
Epping Forest CSP	'Operation Home Safe' pilot initiative targeting estate agents/burglary dwelling hot spot areas. Circulate Home Safe packs to estate agent to give out to new home owners on completion of sale	£1,485
Epping Forest CSP	'Crucial Crew event for older people focussing on crime prevention in and out of their home.	£2,800
Castle Point & Rochford CVS	'Befriending Service-Safer Homes, Safer Lives. Up skill existing volunteers, funding for additional training	£6,653
Basildon Borough Council	Organise 3x1 day seminars for 90 community safety practitioners outlining new tools/powers for ASB	£2,985
Saffron Walden Street Pastors	To establish a Street Pastor group in Saffron Walden	£1,250
VICTIMS		
Southend Association of Voluntary Services	10 month pilot programme 'Safe as Houses' home visits targeting elderly vulnerable residents following a series of incidents. Achieve safer neighbourhood	£18,685
DOMESTIC ABUSE		
Braintree DC	'Pilot Domestic Abuse 'Cut it Out' campaign in hairdressers/beauty salons for female victims and their children. Deliver a series of training events plus posters, information cards and contact details	£3,290
Total		£116,223

New PCC community safety commissioning

Appendix 3

PCC Priority Area	Location	Provisional Allocation £'000	Actual £'000	Notes
Ensuring local solutions meet local problems	All Essex	10	0	No funding has been allocated through the New Initiatives Fund. Funding has already been allocated to Community Safety Partnerships to support localised projects and initiatives.
Victims of crime	All Essex	80	18	One bid has been approved from the PCCs New Initiatives Fund.
Youth offending and re-offending	All Essex	50	45	6 bids have been approved from the PCCs New Initiatives Fund.
Drugs and alcohol	All Essex	50	29	2 bids have been approved from the PCCs New Initiatives Fund.
Crime prevention	All Essex	30	21	6 bids have been approved from the PCCs New Initiatives Fund.
Road Safety	All Essex	20	0	0 bids were successful to the PCCs New Initiatives Fund.
Building research capacity	All Essex	40	0	No funding allocated to date. The Safer Essex Research Network has met twice and will be putting research proposals to the PCC in the Autumn.
Safer Essex Partnership	All Essex	60	0	Funding has been allocated to Safer Essex Partners through existing routes, including CSPs, the three Drug and Alcohol Action Teams and the three Youth Offending services.
Southend	Southend	10	0	No funding has been allocated through the New Initiatives Fund. Funding has already been allocated to the Southend Community safety Partnership to support localised projects and initiatives
Thurrock	Thurrock	10	0	No funding has been allocated through the New Initiatives Fund. Funding has already been allocated to the Thurrock Community safety Partnership to support localised projects and initiatives
Criminal Justice	All Essex	50	0	No funding allocated to date. This funding was intended to support criminal justice initiatives, particularly restorative justice, swift and sure justice, witness and protection care.
Whole Essex Community Budget	All Essex	290	290	Funding has been allocated to support the WECB work around Domestic

(WECB)				Violence, Reducing Reoffending and Strengthening Communities.
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