1. **Purpose of report**

1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of £16,000 in the form of a crime and disorder reduction grant from the NIF to Nurture Dogs CIC, whose activities will contribute to the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for Essex.

2. **Recommendations**

2.1. Approve the allocation of the NIF grant to deliver the project at Dedham Community Farm.

3. **Benefits of Proposal**

3.1. The project will include the appointment of a part-time Therapy Assistant helping and assess clients at Dedham Community farm and also provide an outreach service in local hospitals, schools, dementia units, adolescent mental health units, forensic units and learning disability homes.

3.2. The second element of the project will include the purchase of a small tractor which will be employed at the farm for training purposes as well as general farm duties.

4. **Background and proposal**

4.1. The occupational therapists work closely with each individual client. Their behaviour and integration within the project is evaluated, logged and discussed at team meetings. Changes, where appropriate, are made to accommodate their varying and individual needs. A number of Nurture Dog clients have offending histories and Nurture Dog’s input into their rehabilitation
facilitates early return to the community and, by helping them to manage their behaviour, lessens the likelihood of re-offending.

4.2 Many of the young people Nurture Dogs work with have a narrative that suggests a trajectory that could well lead to them developing similar offending histories. These may relate to arson, drugs and sexual offences.

4.3 The project benefits from £4,000 match-funding from Colne Community Builders.

5. Police and Crime Plan
5.1 Supports priorities in the Police and Crime Plan as follows;
   - Tackling the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse and mental health issues
   - Improving crime prevention
   - Reducing youth offending and youth re-offending
   - Ensuring local solutions meet local problems

6. Police Operational Implications
6.1 No operational impact

7. Financial Implications
7.1 The PCC would fund a £16,000 contribution to Nurture Dogs CIC

8. Legal Implications
8.1 The award of the grant is subject to the PCC’s standard funding agreement.

9. Staffing and other resource implications
9.1 There are no staffing issues

10. Equality and Diversity implications
10.1 There are no equality and diversity implications
Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the Chief Executive and CFO and the PCC Solicitor where legal implications arise.

Chief Executive/M.O

Chief Financial Officer

PCC Legal Advisor ........................................ (As necessary)

Decision

I agree the recommendations to this report

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PCC/Deputy PCC

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because

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PCC/Deputy PCC
Publication

Reasons for non-publication (state ‘None’ if applicable)


Signed/Print name

Report for publication

YES ☐

NO ☐

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.