PCC

PCC Decision Report

Please ensure all boxes below are completed

Report reference number: 0020/17

Classification Not protectively marked

Title of report: Police Property Act Fund 2017

Area of County/Stakeholders affected

Southend-on-Sea

Report by : Greg Myddelton

Date of report: 16 February 2017

Enquiries to: greg.myddelton@essex.pnn.police.uk

---

1. **Purpose of report**

   To seek approval for the allocation of £6,123 from the 2017 Police Property Act Fund to South East Essex Older People's Advocacy to deliver their advocacy service for older people that are victims of financial abuse.

2. **Recommendations**

   Approve the allocation of £6,123 from the Essex Community Foundation administered Police Property Act (PPA) Fund to South East Essex Older People's Advocacy.

3. **Benefits of Proposal**

   The project aims to prevent financial abuse of older people. The project has been supported by ECF for the last 3 years. Outcomes for the first 3 years of the project saw £889,300 of stolen money returned to individuals. Of 56 cases of financial abuse, 100% of cases saw access from the perpetrator to the victim's finances removed, preventing further financial abuse.

All 56 clients indicate that they are less stressed and more in control of their affairs after advocacy intervention.

The project activities involve: one to one advocacy assessment, attending clients' homes with Locksmiths, meetings with: Police, Social Workers, Safeguarding Officers, Banks, Credit Card Companies, Debtors, family members, Care Companies, and Residential Care Managers.

4. Background and proposal

The number of cases of financial abuse has increased year on year, all of which are complex and require an average of 40 hours from referral to final closure. Each case requires information gathering, advocacy assessments, interviews, report writing and third party data sharing. The Debt and Financial Advocate who leads on this work, has been with the organisation for nearly 15 years and is highly experienced in working with vulnerable clients and liaising with third parties. Referrals are made by the Police, bank staff, social workers, medical professionals, neighbours and from within SEEAFOP. Financial abuse is being more and more recognised amongst local services and businesses. Referring organisations have asked SEEAFOP to provide a conference event to train key staff to help recognise the signs of financial abuse and what to do if they suspect financial abuse..

This request would help meet the circa £32k a year needed for this project; salaries (£23,460), volunteer costs (£700), management, supervision and other overheads (£7,300). The project is currently being funded by the organisation's reserves but larger multi-year funding applications have been made, although decisions can take up to 6 months.

5. Police and Crime Plan

This project will support the PCC to place the victim at the heart of the criminal justice system and will ensure that vulnerable people are protected from harm.

6. Police Operational Implications

No operational policing implications.

7. Financial Implications

8. Legal Implications

No legal implications.

9. Staffing and other resource implications

No direct staffing implications.

10. Equality and Diversity implications

There are no direct equality and diversity implications

11. Background papers
Application form

Police Property Act
Fund - Application for

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the OPCC Chief Executive and Treasurer, prior to review and sign off by the PCC / DPCC .

Chief Executive/M.O   Sign: .... *S.Hancock* ....

Print: .... *S.Hancock* ....

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer   Sign: .... *Charles A Garrett* ....

Print: .... *CHARLES A GARRETT* ....

Decision

I agree the recommendations to this report;

Sign: .... *Jane Gardner* ....

Print: .... *JANE GARDNER* ....

PCC/Deputy PCC

Date signed:

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

....

....

....

Sign: ....

Print: ....

PCC/Deputy PCC

Date signed:

Publication

Report for publication   **YES** ☐

                                                  NO ☐

Reasons for non-publication *(state 'None' if applicable)*

....
....
....
....
....
....

Sign: ....

Print: ....

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