

## PCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<b>Report reference number:</b> 0024/17
<b>Classification</b> Not protectively marked
<b>Title of report:</b> Safe as Houses continuation (CSDF)
<b>Area of County/Stakeholders affected:</b> Southend-on-Sea
<b>Report by :</b> Greg Myddelton
<b>Date of report:</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2017
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- 1. Purpose of report**  
To seek approval for the allocation of £13,215 in the form of a crime and disorder reduction grant from the 2016-17 Victims' Fund (CSDF) to Southend Association of Voluntary Services (SAVS).
- 2. Recommendations**  
Approve the allocation of the grant from the 2016-17 Victims' Fund to SAVS.
- 3. Benefits of Proposal**  
The Safe as Houses project, delivered by Turning Tides, provides support, advice and information to older people across Southend at risk from fraud and door-step scams. The project targets those individuals identified by Essex Police as being vulnerable to financial abuse from scams and mail fraud.

The project supports those that have been victims, and empowers them to identify scams and prevent further incidents.

As well as in-person advice and support, volunteers also provide those visited with an information pack comprising information from Think Jessica, Essex Police, Trading Standards, and Crimestoppers, as well as a safety pack which includes purse chains, panic alarms, and cold call stickers. The packs will help make these vulnerable people more resilient to scams as well as keeping them safer at home.

**4. Background and proposal**

This is the continuation of a project funded in 2015-16. Over the last year 492 households were visited to talk about scams. 24% of those visits identified individuals that were receiving scam mail or phone calls on a weekly basis, and 12 households were actually being scammed. It is anticipated that this continuation funding would allow 528 visits to be conducted over the next year.

As a result of this project, we would expect:

- A reduction in the number of victims targeted by fraud across Essex
- Victims having increased awareness about scams, with increased confidence reporting those committing fraud
- The local community being more resilient and informed about scams, which will reduce the likelihood of new fraud victims

**5. Police and Crime Plan**

This project will support victims and will impact against the “protect children and vulnerable people from harm” and “tackle gangs and organised crime” priorities.

**6. Police Operational Implications**

No operational implications

**7. Financial Implications**

The PCC would make a £13,215 grant from the 2016-17 Victims' Fund to SAVS

**8. Legal Implications**

The funding will be subject to the PCC's grant funding agreement.

**9. Staffing and other resource implications**

No staffing implications

**10. Equality and Diversity implications**

There are no direct equality and diversity implications.

**11. Background papers**



Report for publication

YES

NO

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

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**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.