

Community Safety Development Fund

Round 1 evaluation

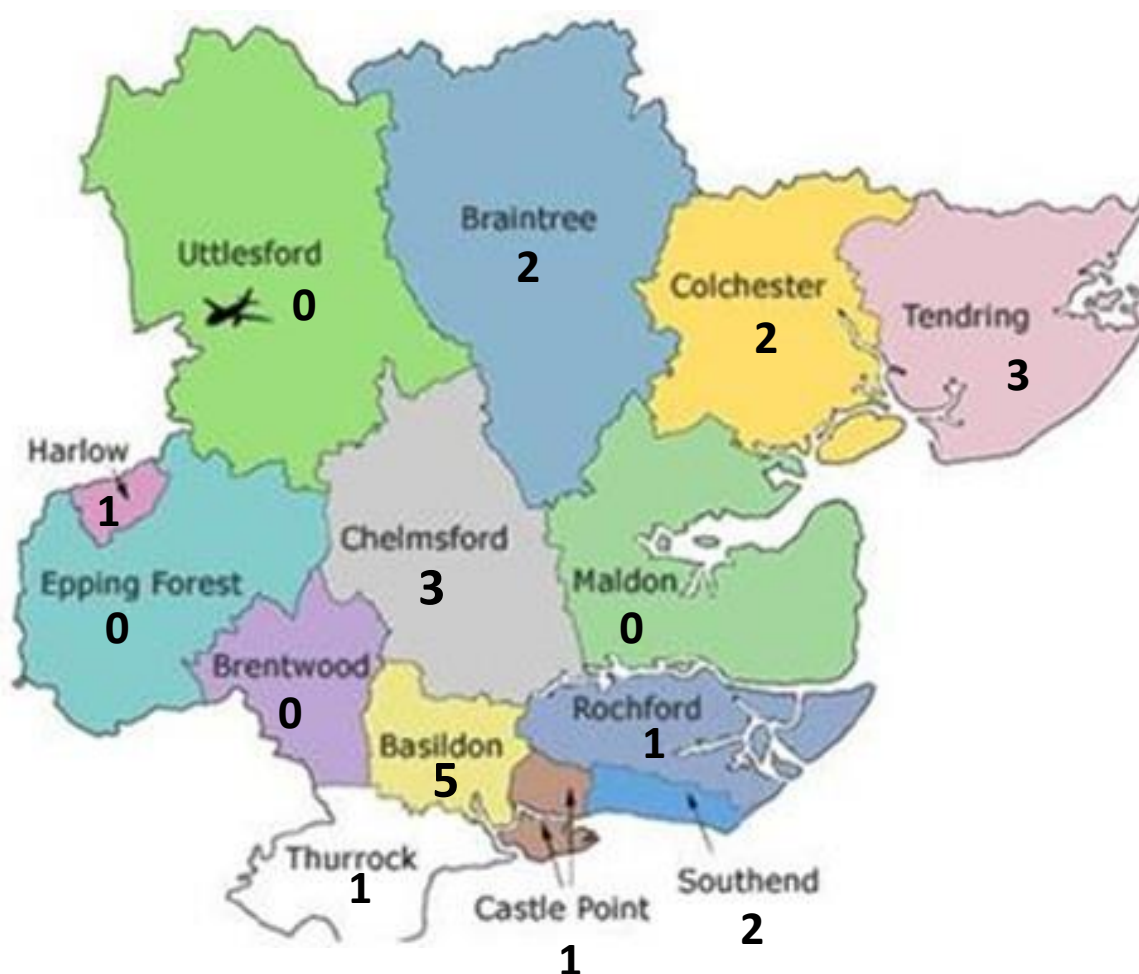
Background

The Police and Crime Commissioner vision for Essex is to ensure that safe and secure communities are the bedrock on which we build success and wellbeing for all. To support this the Police and Crime Commissioner has created the Community Safety Development Fund. This fund offers grants of up to £20,000 for community projects that help to prevent and tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in Essex.

The county has a huge number of voluntary and community sector groups who help to build safe and secure communities. By empowering them and supporting innovation we believe it can help achieve practical results at a grass roots level.

Summary of applications

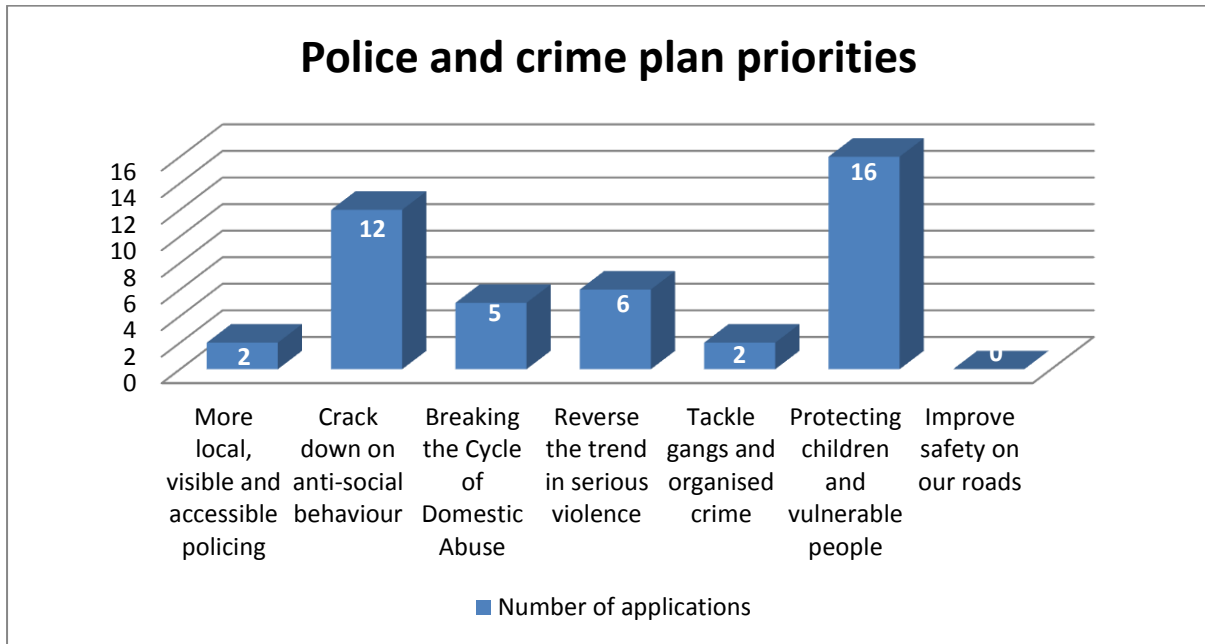
The first round of funding closed on the 1st September. The fund received 43 applications from across the county. The below map demonstrates the volume of applications that targeted support to individual districts.



There were also applications that targeted the whole county and multiple districts, with 14 Countywide bids and 8 relating to more than one district

There were no specific bids received for the districts of Brentwood, Epping Forest, Maldon, or Uttlesford in the first round of applications.

The main criteria of the fund is for a project to demonstrate a positive impact on at least one of the Police and Crime Plan priorities. Within this round the majority of bids supported priority 2 – *Crack down on anti-social behaviour* and priority 6 – *protecting young children and vulnerable people from harm*.



Successful applications

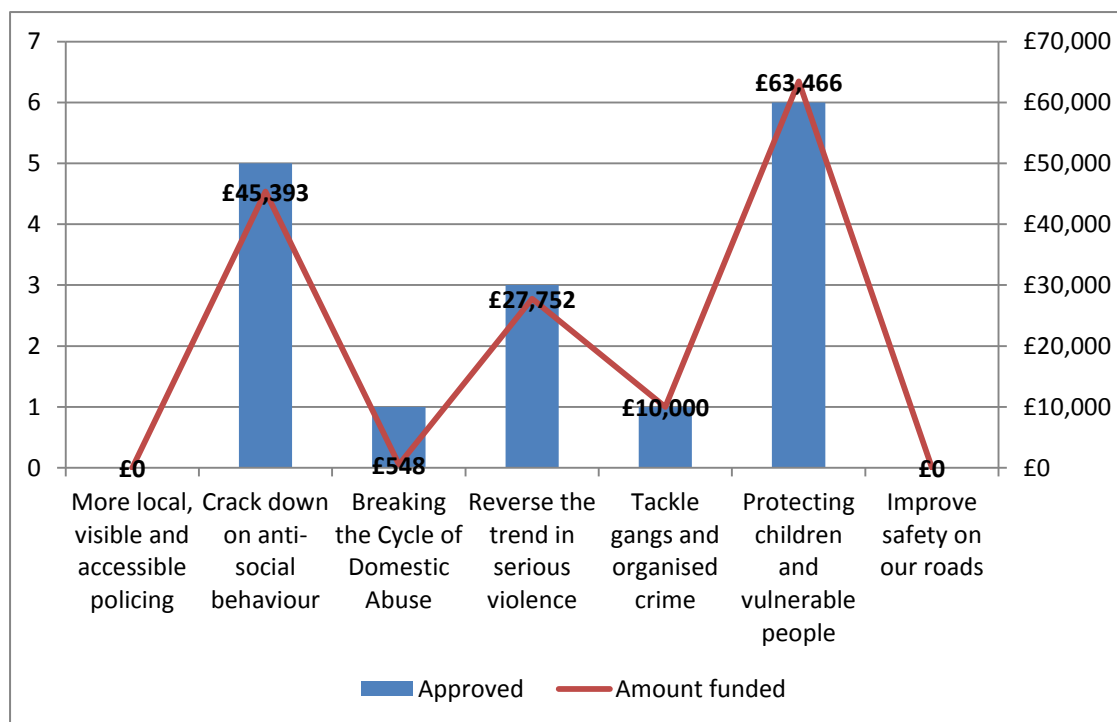
The first round of the Community Development Fund closed on the 1st September 2017. Applications were reviewed by Community Safety Partnerships and evaluated by a panel of independent local representatives.

The standard of the applications was particularly high and a number of bids requested the full funding amount of £20,000 meaning this round was particularly competitive. Each application was reviewed to ensure it met the following criteria;

- Has a positive impact on at least one of the Police and Crime Plan priorities
- Projects should not duplicate or compete with existing activity
- Evidenced support and value for money
- Support from local partners including Police and local Community Safety Partnerships

£147,159 was awarded to 16 organisations. The below tables demonstrates the funds distribution by district-area and across the PFCC's priorities

District(s)	Funding allocated
Basildon, Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping Forest, Harlow, Tendring, Thurrock & Uttlesford	£5952
Basildon, Braintree, Chelmsford, Colchester, Southend, Tendring and Thurrock	£10,000
Castle point, Rochford and Southend on sea	£10,000
Chelmsford & Maldon	£15,862
Chelmsford & Tendring	£11,400
Southend on Sea, Rochford, Castle Point	£10,000
Basildon	£18,375
Chelmsford	£5,691
Rochford	£10,430
Castle Point	£13,502
Southend on Sea	£10,400
Country wide	£25,548



Round 2

Round 2 is open for applications, and will be closing on the 31st January 2018. The fund again is open to all community projects that demonstrate a positive impact on at least one of the Police and Crime Plan priorities.

The PFCC aims to ensure a fair and proportionate distribution of funding across Essex and the unitary authorities of Southend and Thurrock, and between the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan. Following the review of applications received in round 1 and to continue to encourage a fair distribution of funds in round 2 the PFCC would like to see applications that support

- Priority 1 - More local visible and accessible policing
- Priority 7 - Improving safety on our roads
- Applications targeting Brentwood, Epping Forest, Maldon, and Uttlesford.

To maintain the quality of the applications into round 2 the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner requests that applicants continue to seek prior engagement with their local Community Safety Partnerships and Police (where applicable) to gain support. The OPFCC recognise the impact this may have on Community Safety Partnership therefore for round 2 any applications that have a county wide impact can be submitted directly to the OPFCC. Any applications that are targeted at specific districts are encouraged to gain support from Community Safety partnership directly.

Case study

The below case study was an example of best practice from the first round of funding of the Community Safety Development Fund that

- Had support from the Community safety partnership
- Demonstrated support of the project and demonstrated value for money with match funding from other organisations
- Showed clear link to supporting the police and crime plan priorities

Springfield Youth group

Springfield Youth group is a voluntary community group. The purpose of the group is to reduce anti-social behaviour within Springfield, Chelmer Village and Beaulieu Park and provide a safe environment for young people to socialise and get advice about various issues.

The 3 hour youth group every week allows young people to have a safe environment to be with their friends and deter from anti-social behaviour around the local community. The youth group also supports and educates young people in topics that could impact them such as gang culture, knife crime and illicit substances.

Within the Springfield district there was an increase in anti-social behaviour. An online survey was conducted which was directed at parents and the local community. The feedback from the survey showed they wanted a safe place for their children to be during the evening to deter from roaming the streets. The Youth Group co-ordinator worked closely with local partners and the Community Safety Partnership in establishing the group.

The youth group has grown significantly and with the support of the Community Safety Partnership have been looking for funding opportunities. The Community Safety Manager introduced the Community Safety Fund as an opportunity to provide further funding. The Youth group supports the Police and Crime Plan Priority 2 – tackling anti-social behaviour to prevent longer term and more serious crime. The Youth group also supports children and vulnerable people which is in line with priority 6, preventing and intervening to keep children safe.

With the support of the CSP the Springfield Youth group coordinator submitted an application to the CSDF.

The Springfield youth group recently received a record number of attendees and the community has recognised a decrease of anti-social behaviour since the youth group conception.

The funding will support the ongoing development of the group and the OPFCC will be looking forward to monitoring its progress.

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