

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 053/2018 Classification Not protectively marked
Title of report: Essex Police Gypsy, Traveller & Rural Engagement Team (GTRET) drone
Area of County/Stakeholders affected: Countywide
Report by: Kirsty Smith Date of report: 10 th April 2018 Enquiries to: Kirsty.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of £2,500 in the form of a crime and disorder reduction grant from the Community Safety Fund to Essex Police.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of the Community Safety Fund grant to purchase a drone to support the activities of the Essex Police Gypsy, Traveller & Rural Engagement Team.

3. Benefits of Proposal

- 3.1. A drone will be purchase by the Gypsy, Traveller and Rural Engagement Team with the aim of reducing rural crime. The drone will be used to gather evidence and intelligence to combat rural crime, such as agricultural theft and hare coursing. It will also be used to gather evidence in relation to unauthorised encampments providing the senior officer at the scene with the full facts which will assist in the decision making process around the application of S61 CJPOA.
- 3.2. A drone will be a valuable piece of equipment for GTRET, allowing the gathering of evidence where it may not otherwise be available, for example to gather evidence of fly tipping and unauthorised encampments. With regard to rural crime, GTRET officers will use the drone and publicise its use on social media in a bid to deter offenders from committing crime within the county.

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1. Essex Police currently has several drones but they are owned by a specialist team and operational support group. GTRET often borrow drones to assist with operations however the equipment is not always available. The proposal is that GTRET obtains its own drone so that it is immediately available when required.

5. Police and Crime Plan

- 5.1. This proposal supports priority 1 of the Police and Crime Plan, to provide more local, visible and accessible policing.

6. Police Operational Implications

- 6.1. Drone use is regulated by the Civil Aviation Authority. Only trained drone pilots within GTRET will have access to the drone. GTRET undertake to ensure that maintenance of this asset will be undertaken by the drone team at no extra cost to PFCC.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. OPFCC will fund a one off contribution of £2,500 to Essex Police from the 2018-2019 Community Safety Fund.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1. The award of the grant is subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement.

9. Staffing and other resource implications

- 9.1. There are no staffing or resource implications

10. Equality and Diversity implications

- 10.1. There are no equality and diversity implications

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report;

Sign: *J Gardner*.....

Print: *JANE GARDNER*.....

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: *13 April 2018*.....

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: