

## PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<b>Report reference number:</b> 078/18
<b>Classification</b> Not protectively marked
<b>Title of report:</b> Only Cowards Carry Weapons Awareness
<b>Area of County/Stakeholders affected:</b> Countywide
<b>Report by :</b> Kirsty Smith
<b>Date of report:</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Kirsty.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk

**1. Purpose of report**

To seek approval for the allocation of £25,000 from the 2018-19 Community Safety Fund to Only Cowards Carry.

**2. Recommendations**

Approve the allocation of an £25,000 from the PFCC's 2018-19 CSF to Only Cowards Carry to support the organisation in preventing and raising awareness of Knife Crime in Essex.

**3. Benefits of Proposal**

Only Cowards Carry Weapons Awareness have 19 amnesty bins across North Essex Districts. The campaign has collected over 19000 potential weapons so far with the amnesty bin initiative.

They have educated over 40,000 young people on the dangers of carrying weapons across Essex.

Only Cowards Carry Weapons Awareness have a strong public media presence and are able to have a wide reach in promoting weapon awareness and preventing further harm from weapons in Essex

**4. Background and proposal**

Only Cowards Carry Weapons awareness are a registered charity formed in 2012. It was established by local community members in response to the fatal stabbing of Jay Whiston in September 2012. The aims of the charity is to educate and raise awareness of the dangers and consequences of knives and weapons as well as other subjects including gang culture, drugs and alcohol misuse and bullying that can lead to the development of violent crime,

particularly amongst young people for the benefit of wider communities and public safety.

The charity has successfully launched a Knife Amnesty Campaign that has seen Amnesty Bins placed around Essex. There are knife amnesty bins placed in 19 different areas of the North Essex Districts.

The charity also has many volunteers that support the delivery of educating young people in Essex by attending school assemblies and attending community events.

Caroline Shearer the CEO has also completed a lot of work publicly often appearing on mainstream media channels to promote weapon awareness and prevent further harm.

The proposal is to provide funding to Only Cowards Carry to be allocated towards

- the Chief Executive to continue to grow and build partnerships across Essex raising awareness on weapons in Essex and identify funding opportunities
- a Project Manager who will be supporting the management of the amnesty bins, the management of education and develop applications for further funding opportunities.

**5. Police and Crime Plan**

This project will support the PFCC's priority to protect reverse the trend in serious violence particularly delivering education and community programmes to help prevent knife crime.

**6. Police Operational Implications**

No direct operational implications however the use of the amnesty bins is also used by Essex Police in disposing of weapons in Essex.

**7. Financial Implications**

The PFCC will allocate a one-off grant payment of £25,000 from the 2018-19 Community Safety Fund to Essex Community Foundation.

**8. Legal Implications**


The grant is subject to the PFCC's Standard funding agreement. Performance will be measured by the office of PFCC tracking progress against the grant.

**9. Staffing and other resource implications**

No staffing implications.

**Report Approval**

The report will be signed off by the OPFCC Chief Executive and Treasurer, prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC

Chief Executive/M.O Sign: 

Print: David Lawson

Date: 18 May 2018

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Sign: 

Print: .... ASBCC Treasurer .....

Date: .... 22/5/18 .....

**Publication**

Is the report for publication? YES   
NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (state 'None' if applicable)

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

**Redaction**

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet YES  NO  2. Of Appendix YES  NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

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.....

Date redaction carried out: .....

**Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only**

If redaction is required, Treasurer or Chief Executive are to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign: .....

Print: .....

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Date signed: .....

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: ..... 

Print: ..... *R. C. Hester*

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

Date signed: ..... *24/5/18*

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

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

Sign: .....

Print: .....

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

Date signed: .....