

PFCC Decision Report

Report reference number: 112/19
Classification Not protectively marked
Title of report: Property marking for machinery and equipment in rural Essex
Area of County/Stakeholders affected: Countywide (with a rural priority)
Report by: Suzanne Harris
Date of report: 30 August 2019
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of £9,200 to purchase two Dot Peen Marking Kits and cases.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. To allocate £9,200 from the 2019-20 Community Safety Fund to purchase two Dot Peen Marking Kits for use across Essex, with a focus on rural areas.

3. Benefits of Proposal

- 3.1. Dot Peen is an overt marking system that acts primarily as a visible theft deterrent. The system is capable of marking plastic, leather, carbon fibre and metal, and can be used for a variety of equipment, including:

- Farm vehicles
- Farm equipment
- Saddles & tack
- Lawn mowers
- Outboard motors
- Gardening equipment
- Bicycles
- Laptops

3.2. Technical Information:

- The equipment proposed is *Telesis NOMAD 2000*, which is a handheld portable system with a 100x25mm marking area. Each kit would also have a *Peli Case*.
- Dot Peen marking machines use a pneumatically driven marking pin to stamp (or peen) a series of very small, closely spaced dots to form straight or curved lines.
- A pneumatically driven and returned metal pin permanently indents the marking surface with either dot matrix or continuous line characters.

- 3.3. The Dot Peen marking system also provides public reassurance and aids identification if property is stolen and retrieved, increasing the chances of property being returned to its rightful owner.
- 3.4. This equipment will assist LPSU, Rural SPOCs and CPTs in engaging proactively with rural businesses and communities.
- 3.5. Use of this equipment will raise community confidence and improve visibility. It is envisaged that, in addition to using the equipment for individual site / crime prevention visits, it can be used at locally organised events, such as farmers' cafés, fetes, coffee with cops and crime prevention days / surgeries.
- 3.6. Training for those who would be using the equipment is free of charge. This will include a selection of Rural SPOCS (PCs), PCSOs and Essex Watch Liaison Officers.

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1. Engagement between the Deputy PFCC and Rural SPOCs led to this equipment being highlighted as desirable. The Rural SPOCs feel that this equipment would benefit their work by improving engagement and enabling them to offer a practical crime prevention service to farmers and other rural businesses.
- 4.2. The Dot Peen equipment has been purchased and used successfully by other organisations, including North Yorkshire Police and the Gardaí. North Yorkshire Police have provided a detailed endorsement of the product including advice for maximising the benefits of using the system.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

- 5.1. The PFCC has the option not to allocate this grant which would mean that the Rural SPOCs would not be able to use it. Farm machinery would be less likely to be appropriately marked, increasing the risk of theft. This has time implications for Essex Police, and cost implications for the businesses.

5.2. [REDACTED]

5.3. [REDACTED]

5.4. [REDACTED]

6. Police and Crime Plan

- 6.1. This project will support the priority of delivering more visible, local and accessible policing by helping Rural SPOCs to engage with rural communities.

7. Police Operational Implications

- 7.1. Purchase of this equipment is proposed following a direct request from operational staff within Essex Police.
- 7.2. There will be a need to market the availability of the equipment and any events that it will be taken to. It is anticipated that this will be achieved through a joint effort from Essex Police's Communications department, LPSU staff, local CPTs, PFCC staff and external partners, such as the National Farmers' Union, Country Land and Business Association, Federation of Small Businesses and Essex Association of Local Councils.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. The PFCC will provide a one-off grant of £9,200 from the 2019-20 Community Safety Fund to enable the purchase of this equipment.
- 8.2. There is an ongoing servicing cost of £400, recommended every four years, which would need to be met from existing police budgets.

9. Legal Implications

- 9.1. The grant will be subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement.

10. Staffing and other resource implications

- 10.1. There are no staffing implications for the PFCC.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

- 11.1. No equality and diversity implications have been identified

12. Risks

- 12.1. There is a risk that the kit could go missing. Measures will be taken to mitigate this, including giving ownership to the Local Policing Support Unit and requiring kit to be signed out for use by a named officer.

13. Governance Boards

- 13.1. There are no direct links to governance boards, but this work would be promoted via the PFCC's Rural Crime Forum.

14. Background documents

- 14.1. n/a

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: Phillip [Signature]

Print: P. Brent - [Signature]

Date: 2 October 2019

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer

Sign: [Signature]

Print: A. [Signature]

Date: 3/10/2019

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:

PARAGRAPHS 5.2 - 5.4 TO BE REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE

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: *J Gardner*
Print: JANE GARDNER

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: 22/11/2019

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

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Sign:
Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: