

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 034/21
Classification Not protectively marked
Title of report: CSP 2020-21 grant carry forward
Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide
Report by: Greg Myddelton
Date of report: 1 March 2021
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1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To seek approval to allow Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to carry forward underspends from their 2020-21 PFCC grants into their budgets for 2021-22.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To approve the decision to enable CSPs to carry-forward unused PFCC grant-funding from 2020-21 into 2021-22.

3. Benefits of the proposal

- 3.1. PFCC funding enables Essex CSPs to have a positive impact on local issues. The funding is used to support the work of CSPs by funding staff, resources, interventions or engagement events.
- 3.2. By enabling the funding to be carried forward we will allow CSPs to deliver programmes and interventions that were unable to be carried out largely due to the restrictions and limitations imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst some CSPs were able to use the entirety of their 2020-21 grant, others were unable to do so as they could not access schools or community groups, and events had to be cancelled or postponed.
- 3.3. It is proposed that £82,042 grant funding is carried forward into 2021-22. This is broken down as follows;

CSP	Grant value (£)	Requested carry-forward (£)
Basildon	25,849.12	8,800
Braintree	17,739.04	8,000

Brentwood	14,106.40	2,000
Castle Point	15,189.68	9,000
Chelmsford	19,191.04	No carry forward
Colchester	22,511.28	6,192
Epping Forest	19,268.48	No carry forward
Harlow	24,361.92	5,800
Maldon	12,526.80	No carry forward
Rochford	12,336.72	10,073
Southend-on-Sea	27,713.84	21,366
Tendring	25,094.08	811
Thurrock	24,976.16	10,000
Uttlesford	11,693.44	No carry forward
Total	272,558.00	82,042

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1. The PFCC provides £272,558 in annual grant funding to CSPs. The standard conditions of this funding include a requirement for it to be utilised within the financial year in which the grant is allocated. This decision would enable CSPs to carry forward unspent allocations into 2021-22 for use against their strategic priorities and to deliver projects delayed due to COVID-19.
- 4.2. CSPs are required to submit proposals for the allocation of this funding at the beginning of the financial year and report back on how funding is used at the end of the reporting period.
- 4.3. The PFCC also arranges annual meetings with each CSP to monitor the use of PFCC funding. Through those meetings in 2020-21 the PFCC's representative has discussed the use of this underspend and is suitably reassured that the funding will be spent as proposed, albeit at a later date once COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease later in 2021. Despite approving this decision sheet the PFCC retains the ability to consider individual proposals for CSP funding on an annual basis.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

- 5.1. The PFCC has the option to claw back this funding, but that would limit the ability of CSPs to delivery local interventions that address their priorities and the objectives in the Police & Crime Plan.

6. Police and Crime Plan

- 6.1. CSPs are obliged to pay due regard to the Police and Crime Plan in the formulation of their local strategic plans. The work of CSPs generally meets the objectives of reversing the trend in serious violence, breaking the cycle of domestic abuse and cracking down on anti-social behaviour.

7. Police operational implications

- 7.1. There are no direct operational implications. Essex Police is a statutory member of each CSP.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1. The PFCC will allow the carry forward of £82,042 in line with the table in 3.3 of this report. This is in addition to the allocation of funding from the 2021-22 Community Safety Fund, which is the subject of decision sheet 008/21.

9. Legal implications

- 9.1. The award of the grant is subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement. The carried-forward monies must be utilised in the financial year 2021-22.

10. Staffing implications

- 10.1. There are no staffing implications. Where funding is used to employ staff, no liabilities will be placed on the PFCC.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

- 11.1. Individual member organisations of Community Safety Partnerships have responsibilities relating to the Equalities Act 2010, including how funding is allocated and in delivery of interventions, events and projects.
- 11.2. The PFCC grant agreement requires that the recipient “shall not unlawfully discriminate within the meaning and scope of any law, enactment, order, or regulation relating to discrimination (whether in race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, age or otherwise) in employment or otherwise.”

12. Risks

- 12.1. There is a risk that CSPs will be unable to utilise this carried-forward funding within the financial year. As a mitigation, the PFCC will request detailed plans for how the funding will be utilised and monitor this through the arrangements outlined in section 4.2 of this report. It is also expected that many projects or events that had funding allocated will take place once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted in the first quarter of financial year 2021-22.

13. Governance Boards

- 13.1. This funding is not discussed at any governance board.

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the OPFCC Chief Executive and Treasurer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DP FCC.

Deputy M.O.

Sign: 
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Darren Horsman
Print:
Date: 16 March 2021
.....

Chief Finance Officer | Treasurer

Sign: 
.....
Print: Julia Berry
.....
Date: 16 March 2021
.....

Publication (double click box to add a tick)

Is the report for publication? Yes No

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). 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 (double click box to add a tick)

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:

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Treasurer/ Chief Executive Sign Off - for Redactions only

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

Sign:

Print:

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: Roger Hirst

PFCC

Date Signed: 16 March 2021

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date Signed: