

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 062/21
Classification Not protectively marked
Title of report: 2020-21 Community Safety Development Fund outcome
Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide
Report by: Kirsty Smith
Date of report: 20 April 2021
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1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To seek approval to allocate £154,341 in the form of crime and disorder reduction grants from the Community Safety Development Fund (CSDF) to the organisations listed in section 3 below.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of the CSDF grant to local organisations to deliver a variety of community projects that will contribute to delivery of the Commissioners priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan Extension 2020-21.

3. Benefits of the proposal

- 3.1. 12 organisations have been recommended for approval that contribute to the Police and Crime Plan priorities, will have an impact on various locations across Essex and multiple vulnerable groups

Applicant	PFCC contribution (£)	Police and Crime Plan supported	Primary location of project	Who will benefit?
Age Concern Colchester and North East Essex	10,946	Disrupting and preventing organised crime	Colchester	Older people at risk of crime
Building Lives Project CIC	9,875	Tackling gangs and serious violence	Chelmsford – but will also service the surrounding	Young People

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			districts including Basildon and Braintree	
Abberton Rural Training	21,463	Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse	Colchester and Maldon	Victims of domestic abuse
Sanctus	18,330	Crack down on anti-social behaviour	Chelmsford but also services clients from Braintree, Brentwood, Colchester and Maldon	Vulnerable adults
Beacon House Ministries	15,000	Crack down on anti-social behaviour	Colchester	Vulnerable adults
Aspirations Program	13,829	Tackling gangs and serious violence	Southend	Vulnerable Adults
New Life Wood	18,000	Protecting children and vulnerable people from harm	Basildon	Vulnerable Adults
Avenue contact centre	8,738	Break the cycle of domestic abuse	Southend	Victims of domestic abuse
Safer Chelmsford Partnership	9,220	Crack down on anti-social behaviour	Chelmsford	Young People
Outhouse East	8,940	Protecting children and vulnerable people from harm	Colchester	Young people
Southend ATF	10,000	Protecting children and vulnerable people from harm	Basildon	Young people
Open road	10,000	Protecting children and vulnerable people from harm	Tendring	Vulnerable adults

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1. The PFCC invited applications that demonstrated a positive impact on at least one of the PFCC's Police & Crime Plan priorities. 44 applications were received totalling £607k.
- 4.2. Applications were evaluated by an independent panel which included representatives from Essex Police, Essex Fire, Essex Community Foundation, Essex Council for Voluntary

Services (CVS), Essex County Council and a representative for the CSPs. The panel reviewed applications to ensure

- Projects did not duplicate or compete with existing activity
- Application demonstrated how they are sustainable after funding ended

4.3. The evaluation panel have recommended 12 organisations for funding totalling £154, 341

Applicant	Short description of project
Age Concern Colchester and North East Essex	Funding will be used to assist the most vulnerable people in Essex in their later years who have been and who remain impacted by coronavirus with both awareness-raising and assistance to prevent and support victims of fraud.
Building Lives Project CIC	The Base is a space being developed in Chelmsford which will be for the organisation to undertake mentoring sessions, provide 121 support and be a safe space for young people to engage with other activities such as building workshops (to be accessed later in the year), a lounge social area and an active games area with table tennis, pool table and music. The organisation supports vulnerable young people who are deemed at risk of crime, serious violence, and criminal exploitation by providing support and alternative pathways.
Abberton Rural Training	Abberton Rural Training will work in partnership with Next Chapter (domestic abuse support organisation) to support women who are victims of domestic abuse get into a programme of women-centred rustic recovery & growing their own.
Sanctus	Sanctus provides a safe and secure place for vulnerable individuals who predominantly are homeless and provides an opportunity to seek help and also to engage in enrichment activities. Funding will be used to extend its opening times to five afternoons a week in a new building. This additional time will be used to continue to offer an additional range of enrichment activities and drop-in sessions for individuals. This will encourage service users to address any problems they are facing whilst staying safe, warm and away from trouble.
Beacon House Ministries	Beacon House provides services to support people who are homeless. Services include personal care (showering, laundry), health screening service, sexual health clinics, a needle exchange service and a full occupational therapy programme, with two fully qualified occupational therapists, to help people identify aspirational goals and work towards them and a series of structured and informal activities to help people to identify their assets and to develop resilience and self-esteem. Funding will contribute to staff costs for housing and extra nurse hours and occupational therapist hours.
Aspirations Program	Aspirations Program is a new Community Interest Company, established to empower individuals in their journey of recovery from the harmful effects of active addiction. Our services are peer-led, incorporating a user-informed outreach programme and an abstinence day recovery support programme. Through the Carrie's Outreach project, they are building trustworthy relationships with women selling sex on the street who live chaotic, vulnerable and hidden lives, often in active addiction.
New Life Wood	New Life Wood use a wood recycling project to provide volunteering opportunities to help those marginalised people access the job market and vocational training in addition to training and counselling in debt management. Individuals have the opportunity to work in the shop, workshop, on site or on the truck carrying out wood collections. They get the opportunity to experience team working and receive practical training in the use of tools, health and safety, first aid, and also to receive debt and money management training to help them

	manage their money better and reduce their debts. They will also have the opportunity to receive training for CV and Job Application Form writing, job interviews and help with literacy.
Avenue contact centre	Avenue Contact Centre are a contact centre that offer safe contact space for children for parted families. Funding will be used towards core running costs. Around half of the families that utilise the centre allege some form of domestic abuse as a factor in their relationship breakdown. Positive family contact can break the cycle of abuse and it is essential that Avenue Contact centre continue to provide a safe environment for children to have contact with their non-resident parent.
Safer Chelmsford Partnership	Funding will be used to improve central park skate ramps by improving lighting and a covered shelter. Young people who utilise this area migrate to other areas during the autumn and winter months due to lack of lighting. The other locations where young people typically skate in the darker months are predominantly residential which has created tension with residents.
Outhouse East	Outhouse East provides vital support and guidance to the LGBTQ+ population of Essex. Funding will contribute to a service to support young people and those supporting them whether parents, carers or schools. The service provides a 'listening ear' enabling them to access support, guidance and signposting. In addition, young people have access to a specialist counsellor who can support them either at school should the setting allow, or on our premises.
Southend ATF	Southend ATF 'Community Development Project' comprises a 6-step programme customised for targeted cohorts of young people from Pitsea North West and will work with them on an individual and group basis (according to government guidelines) to support the young person in weekly sessions that include sports, arts training and education, health, mental health, physical health and heritage.
Open road	Open Road is looking to continue the Clacton 'Street Drinkers Outreach Project' that has been successfully delivering for the last year. The project works to tackle the issues associated with street drinking around the town.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

- 5.1. The Commissioner has committed to provide funding through the CSDF to support community projects. The PFCC could choose to award funding to alternative projects however the organisations listed in section 4 were assessed in line with the published criteria and by an evaluation panel.

6. Police and Crime Plan

- 6.1. The projects mentioned in section 4 support the following priorities in the Police and Crime Plan
- Crack down on anti-social behaviour
 - Protecting children and vulnerable people
 - Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse
 - Tackle gangs and organised crime
 - Disrupting and preventing organised crime

7. Police operational implications

- 7.1. There are no operational implications

8. Financial implications

- 8.1. The PFCC will provide £154,341 contribution to the organisations identified in section 3 from the CSDF.

8.2. A review is conducted on each organisation to ensure that the CSDF is not being used as a sustainable source of funding. The table below shows the organisations that the PFCC has supported in the last three years

Organisation	Value (£)	Financial year awarded	Project	Rationale to continue to fund
Abberton Rural Training	18,000	2018-2019	Funding supported a project to support young people who were not in employment or education.	Proposed funding is supporting a new initiative in line with the CSDF criteria
Sanctus	25,000	2017-2018	Funding was provided to support core funding in order to support the running of Sanctus café	Sanctus are continually seeking funding from grant funders. Funding provided by the PFCC is not in consecutive years and not to the same value demonstrating there is not a reliance on PFCC funding for sustainability
Beacon House Ministries	10,000	2018-2019	Funding contributed to core funding in order to support the running costs of the Beacon house building	Proposed funding is for an occupational therapist a new initiative and in line with the CSDF criteria.
New Life Wood	19,520	2018-2019	Funding contributed to the wood recycling project	New Life Wood demonstrated £82k of match funding from other contributors. Funding provided by the PFCC is not in consecutive years and not to the same value. The application demonstrated that there is not a reliance on PFCC funding
Safer Chelmsford Partnership	There is an ongoing contribution to Chelmsford to support the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) from other PFCC funding			The application from Safer Chelmsford Partnership is a one-off project which is outside of the planned arrangements that is submitted by the CSP. The application demonstrated evidence of need for this project
Southend ATF	10,000	2018-2019	Sports based project engaging young people in Southend who were known within the criminal justice system	Southend ATF application is for a new project and targeting a new area of Essex.
Open Road	17,781	2019-2020	Funding provided to support the street drinkers project	Funding is being supported consecutively for the same project. The CSP provided endorsement for this project and shared the significant impact the project is having in the area. To this end the CSP manager is

				<p>providing a contribution and funding is being provided by other partners therefore it was recommended that a smaller contribution is provided by the PFCC. This will provide the organisation further time to seek longer term alternative funding and to develop further conversations with the local authority.</p>
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9. Legal implications

9.1. To ensure funding is awarded responsibly and that it will be of good value to taxpayers’ due diligence has been successfully conducted on each recommended applicant that includes:

- Finance check ensuring there are no irregularities within accounts that have been submitted and show sound financial health and a positive cash position
- Social media/news search
- Review check against companies’ house and the charity commission (where applicable)
- Review of governing documents including review of trustees, board and committee members
- Robustness and likely effectiveness and efficiency of the application
- Sustainability of the organisation without this funding
- The PFCC may seek the views of key partner agencies to qualify any statements or statistics quoted within an application e.g. Police, local authority and strategic commissioned providers.
- Robust safeguarding procedures in place
- Robust GDPR processes in place

9.2. The award of the grant is subject to the PFCC’s standard funding agreement.

10. Staffing implications

10.1. There are no PFCC staffing implications.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

11.1. Every applicant described the target audience, evidence of need and how they will make their project accessible within the application. The projects recommended for funding will be supporting individuals with the below protected characteristics

- Gender reassignment
- Age
- Sexual Orientation
- Sex
- Disability

12. Risks

12.1. With any grant funding there is a risk to the PFCC that the organisations do not deliver against expected outputs. This risk is low and within appetite as the successful organisation listed in section 3 has gone through a due diligence and evaluation process.

Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only

If redaction is 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: Jane Gardner

~~PFCC~~/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: 3 June 2021

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: