

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 041-24
Classification: Not protectively marked
Title of report: Community Safety Partnership Funding 2024-5
Area of county/ stakeholders affected: Countywide
Report by: Greg Myddelton
Date of report: 12 th March 2024
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. To approve the annual allocation of core grants from the PFCC's 2024-5 Community Safety Fund (CSF) to the 14 Essex Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and the Southend Essex Thurrock Domestic Abuse Domestic Homicide Review (SETDA DHR) fund.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of £322,724 from the 2024-5 CSF to Essex CSPs and the SETDA DHR fund to support local priorities and deliver against the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan.

3. Background to the proposal

- 3.1. This funding is an annual commitment from the PFCC to the CSPs across the county. The grants support CSPs to deliver against their statutory duties, undertake local activities, projects or initiatives in support of the work of the PFCC, Essex Police & ECFRS. This funding enables CSPs to engage with local communities and residents, and to commission activity to improve local community safety outcomes.
- 3.2. As part of this funding, the PFCC also makes an allocation to the centralised Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse (SETDA) Team to support the costs of the centralised Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) function. Costs associated with this work include coordinating and administering the reviews, funding independent chairs and disseminating learning via partnership events.

4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

- 4.1. The PFCC will provide the following grant funding allocations;

CSP area	£
Basildon	£25,849

Braintree	£17,739
Brentwood	£14,106
Castle Point	£15,190
Chelmsford	£19,191
Colchester	£22,511
Epping Forest	£19,268
Harlow	£24,362
Maldon	£12,527
Rochford	£12,337
Southend-on-Sea	£27,714
Tendring	£25,094
Thurrock	£24,976
Uttlesford	£11,693
CSP "top-slice" to SETDA DHR fund	£37,167
PFCC SETDA DHR fund contribution	£13,000
	£322,724

- 4.2. This funding is used by CSPs to support their core activities and statutory responsibilities, including;
- establish a strategic group to direct the work of the community safety partnership
 - regularly engage and consult with the local community about their community safety priorities
 - set up protocols and systems for sharing information between partners
 - collect and analyse available intelligence and data, including recorded crime levels and patterns, in order to identify need and priorities in an annual strategic assessment
 - develop and publish a partnership plan
 - produce a local strategy to reduce reoffending
- 4.3. The PFCC monitors CSP use of the funding by;
- Reviewing a copy of the CSPs annual strategic assessment and/or partnership plan
 - Receiving a report outlining how funding was utilised in the previous year, including evidence of its impact
 - Requesting and reviewing an outline of how PFCC grant funding will be used, and how that impacts on the priorities of the Police & Crime Plan
 - Attending individual meetings with each CSP manager and Chair to discuss performance, issues, and possible areas for development.
 - Attending partnership meetings such as Safer Essex and Essex Community Safety Network (ECSN)
 - Convening an annual CS Hubs conference
- 4.4. The PFCC has maintained the funding to CSPs at 2023-4 levels but also makes grant funding available to CSPs and local groups via the Community Safety Development Fund, ASB hotspots, Local Safer Streets Programme and other grants. The DHR contribution to the SETDA partnership remains at £13k (reduced from £23k pre-2020)

5. Options Analysis

- 5.1. These are annual grants to CSPs which enable local partnerships to engage with their communities and deliver activities and projects for the benefit of local residents. CSPs also have the opportunity to bid for PFCC funding via the Community Safety Development Fund or Safer Streets programme. If the PFCC chose not to make this investment it would free-up funding to be used elsewhere but would risk CSPs being under-resourced and unable to deliver against local priorities. The PFCC has the option to make this fund available to CSPs via open competition (or by expanding the CSDF), or could decide to allocate the funding to delivery organisations directly. It is felt that this would remove the connection to local areas that CSPs have, which would dilute the value of the funding.

6. Consultation and Engagement

- 6.1. PFCC funding is discussed at the Essex Community Safety Network. The PFCC also undertakes annual meetings with individual CSPs. The PFCC's Senior Management Team discussed this decision report at its meeting on 12th March 2024.

7. Strategic Plans

- 7.1. This funding will enable the PFCC and partner organisations to support the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan including increasing collaboration, protect vulnerable people and break the cycle of domestic abuse, protecting rural and isolated areas, and further investment in crime prevention.

8. Police operational implications

- 8.1. Essex Police is a statutory member of CSPs and as such benefits from this investment.

9. Financial implications

- 9.1. The PFCC will provide annual grants equalling £322,724 to the CSPs and SETDA partnership as listed in section 4.1 above. These grants will be subject to our standard funding agreement conditions. Payments will be made from the PFCC's 2024-5 Partnership Fund and Community Safety Fund. This funding is budgeted for each year. The PFCC's partnership budget is £272,558. The PFCC's Community Safety Fund is a £1,575,352 Fund. Following these allocations, there will be nothing remaining in the Partnership budget, and £299,231 remaining in the 2024-5 CSF.

10. Legal implications

- 10.1. This funding is subject to the terms of the PFCC's standard grant agreement.

11. Staffing implications

- 11.1. The use of this funding to employ staff or sessional workers will be the responsibility of the host organisation. No liabilities, immediate or ongoing, will be placed on the PFCC as a result of this funding.

12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications

- 12.1. The PFCC applies conditions on this funding which include;
- 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.

- The Recipient shall take all reasonable steps to secure the observance of condition set out above by all servants, employees or agents of the Recipient and all suppliers and sub-contractors engaged on the Project.

12.2. The PFCC will use monitoring information, including attending partnership meetings, to track whether any groups are being, or could be, disproportionately or negatively impacted by any actions resulting from PFCC funding.

13. Risks and Mitigations

13.1. There is a risk that PFCC funding is not effectively used to support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan. It is expected that our proposed monitoring arrangements will be appropriate mitigation to prevent this risk occurring. The PFCC is also arranging a session on 21st June 2024 to outline CSP responsibilities to CSP Chairs and Managers to ensure a consistent understanding of the requirements of local Partnerships.

14. Governance Boards

14.1. CSP activity is discussed at a range of forums including Safer Essex and Essex Community Safety Network. The Commissioner receives an annual summary report on the use of CSP funding. This proposal was discussed at the PFCC's Senior Management Team meeting on 12th March 2024.

15. Links to Future Plans

15.1. This funding will support the PFCC to deliver against the priorities in the Police and Crime plan. It will also support the delivery of the Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy and Rural Crime Strategy. CSPs have individual delivery plans which this funding will support the delivery of.

16. Background Papers and Appendices

16.1. 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: 

Print: Darren Horsman - Deputy MO

Date: 19.3.2024

Chief Finance Officer

Sign: 

Print: Janet Perry

Date: 18 March 2024

Publication

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

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

Sign:

Print:

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: Roger Hirst

PFCC

Date signed: 22/03/2024

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: