Police and Crime Commissioner
CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH
Darryl Preston

‘Prevention Fund – Small Grants’

Guidance for Applicants

The ‘Prevention Fund – Small Grants’ was established by the Police and Crime Commissioner Darryl Preston in spring 2025. It delivers against a priority set out in the Early Intervention and Prevention pillar of his new Police and Crime Plan 2025-2028.

The fund’s aim is to provide up to **£5,000** for local initiatives which help to **prevent crime and anti-social behaviour and increase feelings of public safety**.

It incorporates the previously separate ‘Safer Communities Fund’ which was designed to reassure local people that the Community Safety Partnerships were dealing with the local issues of crime and disorder which matter to them.

This new fund has been designed to streamline the process of awarding small grants in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and to enable:

- Local initiatives to prevent crime, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) or anti-social behaviour
- Pro-active work with children and young people who are, or are at risk of becoming, involved in criminal or anti-social activities
- Activity within specific community locations which demonstrate visible responses to local crime and disorder issues
- The empowerment of local communities to contribute to preventing crime and anti-social behaviour and increasing feeling of public safety

Application Guidance

Applications will be accepted from:

- **Community Safety Partnerships** – where endorsed and developed by the local Problem-Solving Group, or equivalent, and linked to their work.
- **Voluntary and community organisations** based in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough – where endorsed by a Community Safety Partnership or supported by a member of Cambridgeshire Constabulary (officer or police staff) or an employee of one of the agencies who make up the Community Safety Partnerships in their professional capacity. This includes: Police, Fire and Rescue Service, Probation Service, Local Authority or Health.

Prior to applying bidders should consider if funding is available within their own organisation and if the Prevention Fund is the most appropriate funding stream.

Application Exclusions

The fund is not designed for:

- Activities which were previously, or should be funded, by local authorities or other statutory services
- Contributions to existing service provisions unless it is providing additionality outside of the core role within the spirit of the fund
- Contributions to larger projects
- Work which is intended to be delivered outside of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
- Promoting or lobbying political or religious activities
- Initiatives on private property unless there are specific vulnerabilities
- Providing recurrent funding - bids for the same project will only be considered every three years, unless the bid is for a significantly different purpose or there are exceptional circumstances.
- Funding Speed Indicator Devices, local community groups can apply for funding for these devices through the County Council Local Highways Improvement programme - Local Highway Improvement funding | Cambridgeshire County Council.

Application Process

Bids will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year and can be submitted by completing a brief application form. This will ask for:

- the issue which will be addressed by the funding
- a brief summary of the intended activity
- breakdown of costs
- intended outcomes (linked to the Outcome Framework)
- declaration that if successful the bidder would not be in receipt of duplicate funding.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the funding requested is in line with their organisational policies and that they have corporate agreement.

To apply you need to return a completed form to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) by email – cambs-pcc@cambs.police.uk ensuring it is clearly marked as **'Application to the Prevention Fund – Small Grants'.**

Non-statutory organisations will need to provide contact details of a partnership sponsor, this must be a statutory organisation such as Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Service, Local Authority, Probation or Health and given in a professional capacity. The sponsor cannot be an elected leader or someone related to the organisation in a personal capacity.

Application Evaluation

- Applications will be reviewed on a **monthly basis** by the Police and Crime Commissioner (or any individual whom the Commissioner delegates this responsibility to on their behalf) for eligibility against the criteria set out in this document.
- As part of the evaluation process further details may be requested and applications may be discussed and shared with Community Safety Partnerships and other statutory agencies to ensure they do not duplicate or conflict with work that is already underway or proposed in the area.

- Successful applications from voluntary and community organisations will be subject to **'due diligence checks'** including a reference and checks on policies and insurance before funding can be provided.
- Funding can only be paid to a bank account related to the organisation and must not be an individual's account.
- Any applications received during a pre-election period will be discussed once the pre-election period has ended.

Unsuccessful applicants will be contacted and given feedback on their proposal.
In exceptional circumstances the Commissioner may take the decision to make an award in excess of £5,000.

Application Outcome Monitoring

- Successful applicants will be asked to report on how they have delivered against their intended outcomes through a short form.
- Funding must be spent within 12 months of being received. Applicants who have not done so will need to inform the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Commissioner may choose to extend the time available to spend the funding, or may ask for funding to be returned.

Safeguarding

If applications involve working directly with young people or vulnerable adults, organisations will be required to as a minimum:

- have safeguarding policies in place that are appropriate to the organisations work and the activities funding is being sought for;
- review these policies at least every year;
- complete a rigorous recruitment and selection process for staff and volunteers who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults, including checking criminal records and taking up references;
- check criminal records at least every three years;
- follow statutory or best practice guidance on appropriate ratios of staff or volunteers to children, young people or vulnerable adults;

- provide child protection and health and safety training or guidance for staff and volunteers;
- carry out risk assessments of activities undertaken as part of their project; and
- secure additional insurance cover if appropriate.