



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Acting Chief Executive

Date: 20 January 2021

OPCC APPROACH TO COMMISSIONING AND GRANTS FOR 2021/22

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner's (the "Acting Commissioner") approach to awarding funding for Victim Services and Crime and Disorder Reduction; and making awards from the Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve and Youth and Community Fund for the financial year 2021/22.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of this report.

3. Background

3.1 Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Commissioner is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan (the "Plan"). The current Victim Services, Crime and Disorder Reduction, Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve and Youth and Community Fund awards, support the delivery of the key themes and shared outcomes set out in the Plan. A number of funding awards deliver the Commissioner or Constabulary's statutory obligations.

4. Victim Services Awards

4.1 The responsibility for commissioning emotional and practical support transferred to Police and Crime Commissioners from the Ministry of Justice (the "MoJ") in 2014 along with an annual funding pot and strict grant agreement. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (the "OPCC") actively manages the commissioning arrangements for these services in line with a Commissioning and Grants Strategy. This sets out the approach of Understand, Plan, Do Review.

4.2 Cambridgeshire has a mature integrated model of victim support services, as a result the majority of 21/22 awards mirror the previous years. However, in line with 7F

Financial Standing Orders the OPCC is planning to put three services out to tender over the financial year. One of these tenders had been delayed due to Covid and Single Tender Action requests were completed.

- 4.3 During 2020 the Acting Commissioner responded to increasing numbers of referrals to domestic abuse outreach services by bolstering local provision. The OPCC continues to work in partnership with the local authority to understand the future model of domestic abuse services. An overarching Victim and Offender Needs Assessment was completed along with a thematic assessment on Adolescent to Parent Violence (“APV”). The OPCC is now leading partnership work to address gaps in knowledge around APV and what works to effectively support families.
- 4.4 The OPCC awarded £376,247 worth of Extraordinary Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Services funding in 2020. The awards were made to a number of services which had not previously been commissioned by the OPCC but were addressing localised need for help. The continued impact of the pandemic on existing and these specialist services is being highlighted nationally. It is possible the new umbrella ‘Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy’, the new Domestic Abuse Strategy and a new Strategy for addressing sexual violence will come with additional resources.
- 4.5 At the time of writing this report the OPCC had not received details of the Victim Services Grant award for 2021/22 from the Ministry of Justice. This is expected by the end of January 2021. **Indicative Victim Services Awards for 2021/22 based on the 2020/21 funding award are attached at Appendix 1.**

5. Crime and Disorder Reduction Awards

- 5.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 gives the Commissioner the power to award Crime and Disorder Reduction grants to secure or contribute to securing crime and disorder reduction in the area. This includes a number of contributions made on behalf of the constabulary for statutory partnership arrangements for the Youth Offending Service, Safeguarding Boards and the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). It is important to note that central government does not provide any ringfenced funding for these awards. The money comes entirely from the main police grant.
- 5.2 Crime and Disorder Reduction awards are key enablers to the delivery of the strategic outcomes set in a Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan. The elections for a new Police and Crime Commissioner are currently set for May 2021 and it is recognised that a new Commissioner will have the right to set out a direction of travel in line with their public mandate and their new Police and Crime Plan. Therefore, some funding will be reserved for this purpose. In particular this will include money previously allocated to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) as part of a two-year funding award which comes to an end in March 2021. This funding was provided to drive system-wide transformation in specified areas of work, such as housing, child exploitation and community resilience to manage current and future demand. Funding was not linked to individual posts, or small unsustainable project work. A number of CSP areas have experienced delays in progressing their proposals and the Acting Commissioner has agreed the funding can be used into 2021 with a final deadline of September 30, 2021.

However, no new funding requests by CSPs will be considered until the new Commissioner is in post.

- 5.3 The approach taken will ensure the new Commissioner has access to Crime and Disorder Reduction Funding within the first year of office. This will also enable the longer-term grants approach to consider the Covid recovery landscape, emerging co-commissioning opportunities and key strategies which are nearing completion. Particular areas of focus for transformative change include issues relating to early intervention and prevention, vulnerable young people, vulnerable adults; and reoffending.
- 5.4 **The proposed Crime and Disorder Reduction Awards and areas of focus for 2021/22 are attached at Appendix 2.** This includes a carry-over from previous years which can be made available for proof of concept work within the county. A short-term prevention fund which was created in 2020/21 and separate to this recurrent fund will be reported on at a future Business Coordination Board. This has funded prevention posts within the Constabulary within 2020/21. Plans to develop a Constabulary Prevention Strategy to direct the use of this reserve were delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

6. Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve

- 6.1 This reserve was created in 2015 with excess income over expenditure generated by the collaborated Cameras, Tickets & Collision Unit. This surplus is then split out in the agreed Net Revenue Expenditure (NRE) proportion across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire. The funds can only be used on road casualty prevention, educational and partnership development activities.
- 6.2 During 2020 additional resources were provided to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership to develop a new strategy and delivery plan and review the countywide governance of road safety. The short-term contract was won by Agilysis who embarked on comprehensive programme of engagement and consultation. The partnership formally adopted the Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy in July 2020. The strategy commits to a 'Safe Systems' approach and sets out how partners will work together to achieve Vision Zero – that no human should be killed or seriously injured as a result of a road collision.
- 6.3 The strategy recommended the partnership appointed a Vision Zero Partnership Delivery Manager to drive forward the formation of new workstreams, co-ordinate their activity and establish baseline performance indicators. This post is being funded from the Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve for an initial two-year period. The post will support the OPCC on road safety issues and make evidence-based recommendations for future funding allocations. The post will be employed by Cambridgeshire County Council but will report directly to the Vision Zero Partnership Board.
- 6.4 This reserve also provides crucial funding to provide emotional and practical support to victims of road traffic incidents or their bereaved families. **The proposed Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve awards for 2021/22 are attached at Appendix 3.**

7. Youth and Community Fund Awards (small grants)

- 7.1 The Police Property Act allows the funds raised from unclaimed and recovered property to be used for charitable work. In Cambridgeshire this is used to fund local youth and community organisations to progress preventative and diversionary activities. Awards are usually capped at £3,000.
- 7.2 This fund is managed by the OPCC with each award approved by the Acting Commissioner. To date 18 awards have been made totalling £45,675. Its use has been wide ranging from providing care leavers with essential equipment, food hampers and training, which support them when they first leave care and also when applying for jobs; to supporting sports teams in deprived areas to engage young people in meaningful activities thereby minimising the opportunities for them to engage in activities such as anti-social behaviour. Within the past few months a greater emphasis has been put on working with recipients to evidence the outcomes of the funding. The application form and guidance has been refreshed to reflect this.
- 7.3 Previous awards to this fund are available to view on the OPCC website: <https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/accessing-information/money/grants/youth-fund/>
- 7.4 **The value of the fund for 2021/22 will be £103,096.**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document(s)	Various on OPCC website
Contact Officer(s)	Nicky Phillipson, Head of Strategic Partnerships and Commissioning