

Decision ID:

PCCDJ

000756

2024

Decision Title

Funding Extension for the Safer Communities Fund and Youth Justice Service grants

Executive summary

The current grant funding allocated under the Safer Communities Fund and the Youth Justice Service Fund is due to finish 31 March 2025. Due to a change in Government in 2024, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is not due to hear the Ministry of Justice funding allocation for victims of crime for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight area until at least the beginning of December 2024. As a result the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is unable to make any long term decisions on future funding levels for grants in time to run a grants round for funding to start 1 April 2025. In addition the new Police and Crime Plan has only recently been published in November 2024.

These factors have resulted in a delay to the preparation of the next iteration of the Safer Communities Fund grants round as well as consideration for the Youth Justice Service funding moving forwards.

In order to run a robust, open and competitive grants round it can take up to six months from start to finish, and it is best practise to allow up to a two month mobilisation period for those receiving the funding at the end of the process. If the PCC receives confirmation of funding in December, realistically grant funding would not start until at least September 2025.

The PCC has therefore chosen to extend all eligible (subject to performance) projects under the two grants funds for six months until 30 September 2025.

This will allow the PCC and her Commissioning Team to launch a new grants round for the Safer Communities Fund, in line with the new Police and Crime Plan, early in 2025 for funding to start 1 October 2025. It will also allow time for further consideration to be given to the arrangements for funding to the four Youth Justices Services from 1 October 2025 onwards.

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There are currently 37 projects funded under the Safer Communities Fund and six under the Youth Justice Service Fund. If all 43 projects were extended by six months it would have cost implications of up to £597,808.

Recommendation(s)

That the PCC agrees to approve the **43** project extensions detailed in **Appendices 1 and 2** for a six month period from April 2025 to September 2025.

The allocation of this funding for the period of 1 April 2025 to 30 September 2025 will support victims of crime, prevent youth crime and exploitation, contribute to the reduction of offending and provide support to vulnerable people, to the sum of up to **£597,808**. This is split between the two funds as follows:

37 Safer Communities Fund projects for £419,308.

Six Youth Justice Service projects for £178,500.

Statement on publication

This Decision Record and supporting Decision Request documentation is suitable for publication.

Police and Crime Commissioner Approval

I hereby **approve** the recommendation above.

Signature:



Name: **Donna Jones**

Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire

Date: 28 November 2024

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