



# Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

**REQUEST FOR POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER DECISION - (N° 013/2017)**

**TITLE: Recommendation to Increase amount available through the Property Fund**

## **Executive Summary:**

The Police Commissioner for Cumbria is able to award charitable grants to organisations that deliver community projects that reduce crime, improve public safety or support victims, therefore a recommendation is made to increase the maximum amount that can be claimed through the Property Fund from £1,000 to £2,500. This will allow community and charitable organisations to deliver projects more effectively and efficiently and is in line with the current economic increases.

The Fund is created from money recovered by the Police and the proceeds from the sale of items that cannot be returned to the identified owners, which includes seizures from criminals and is open to applicants on a quarterly basis.

The Property Fund is available to support projects that:

- Helping to keep children and young people active and safe.
- Improving the support for vulnerable people to help them feel safer such as the elderly, victims of crime (e.g. abuse or discrimination), and also antisocial behaviour.
- Bringing together parts of the community that find it difficult to talk to or access each other.

**Recommendation:**

The Commissioner is asked to approve an increase in the amount available through the Property Fund from £1,000 to £2,500. The aim of the fund is to enable local communities and organisations to access grants of value from £0 to £2500. All grants must link in with the Police and Crime Plan to reduce crime and disorder.

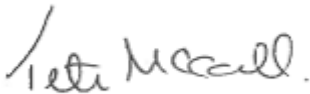
The funding will support the delivery of objectives in the Police and Crime Plan and will support and enhance community based projects that will make a difference to local community schemes, support the needs of victims and the most vulnerable and reduce offending and re-offending.

**Police & Crime Commissioner**

I confirm that I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for Cumbria Police & Crime Commissioner. Any such interests are recorded below.

I hereby approve/~~do not approve~~ the recommendation(s) above

**Police & Crime Commissioner**



**Signature:**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

## **PART 1 – NON CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE PCC**

### **1 Introduction & Background**

- 1.1** Funding will be made available through a grant process; all applicants will be required to submit an application form and applicants/projects will need to meet the criteria stipulated in the guidance documents.
- 1.2** All applications must be sponsored by your local Neighbourhood Police Officer or Police Community Support Officer.
- 1.3** Projects must meet all of the following criteria:
- Your group/organisation must be based and operate solely within Cumbria. We will consider national charities if you can demonstrate your work in our region.
  - Your application must be for a specific project, not a contribution to a general fund or running costs.
  - You must NOT have received a Police Property Fund grant from us within the last 12 months.
  - Your group/organisation must promote equality of opportunity and good relations within the community.
  - Your group/organisation must make reasonable adjustments to any barriers that may prevent protected groups from using your services.
  - Your group/organisation must have a bank account as we will only pay the grant via BACS
- 1.4** Applicants for funding must: Demonstrate support for at least one of the four priority areas set out below:
- To provide early intervention and prevention schemes to reduce incidents of offending and re-offending.
  - That the project will support victims of crime to cope and recover.
  - The project will help to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour within the local community, will managing offenders and reduce offending and re-offending.
  - The project will create opportunities for children and young people to get involved in extra-curricular activities that will help keep children and young people active and safe.
  - Improving the support for vulnerable people to help them feel safer such as the elderly, victims of crime (e.g. abuse or discrimination), and also antisocial behaviour.
  - Bringing together parts of the community that find it difficult to talk to or access to each other
- 1.5** Demonstrate how the project or activity aims to support delivery of local and/or collaborative community safety priorities.

- 1.6 Include a breakdown of costs and where appropriate an explanation of how these have been calculated in order to demonstrate value for money.
- 1.7 Include evidence from your local police sponsor where the activity seeks to reduce issues of crime and/or anti-social behaviour (i.e. crime statistics)

## **2 Issues for Consideration**

The Property Fund will not support:

- Commercially run activities
- Projects run for the sole benefit of one individual
- Politically based activities
- Events or activities for which the principle aim is to fundraise for other organisations
- Marketing costs for existing or planned activities
- Travel costs
- Premises development or refurbishments
- Activities which form a statutory function of an applicant

## **Implications**

### **3.1 Financial**

There are no financial implications, all applications for funding will be dealt with via a grant process and part of a wider financial monitoring and regulations process.

### **3.2 Legal**

There are no legal implications. Risk mitigation will be through the applicant agreeing to the grant agreement terms and conditions prior to any funding being released.

### **3.3 Risk**

There is limited reputational and public confidence risks associated to the OPCC if the organisations or charities applying for funding are found to be fraudulent or financially unviable. Risk will be mitigated through a robust grant agreement process and signing of terms and conditions.

### **3.4 HR/Equality**

In keeping with the Equalities Act of 2010 the OPCC has an Equality and Diversity Policy in place. The purpose of the policy is to help ensure that the Office achieves the promotion of equality and diversity in all that it does.

This policy is one of inclusion and aims to ensure that the OPCC is supportive of all communities in Cumbria and encourages collaborative practices within the OPCC, statutory partners, non-statutory partners and charitable organisations; this policy is inclusive within all commissioning decisions.

### **3.5 I.T.**

There are no I.T. implications due to the utilisation of existing systems and processes out with the OPCC.

### 3.6 Procurement

There are no procurement implications due to funding being awarded via a small grant agreement process and value being under the legal procurement regulations for contracts.

### 3.7 Victims

The property fund will aid projects and initiatives that support victims of crime to cope and recover. The criteria for funding recognises the need to focus on reaching the most vulnerable and protected groups, will seek to reduce offending and re-offending and risks to victims by implementing interventions and programmes that address behaviour in perpetrators and support victims to feel empowered to take control, improve health and well-being and improve outcomes for communities.

#### **Public Access to Information**

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PCC website within 3 working days of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form. Deferment is only applicable where release before that date would not compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

Is the publication of this form to be deferred? NO

If yes, for what reason:

Until what date (if known):

Is there a **Part 2** form - NO

(If Yes, please ensure Part 2 form is completed prior to submission)

#### **ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:**

I confirm that this report has been considered by the Chief Executive and that relevant financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

**Signed: Jo Woof**

**Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

**OFFICER APPROVAL**

**Chief Executive / ~~Deputy Chief Executive~~ (delete as appropriate)**

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner / Chief Executive (delete as appropriate).

**Signature: Stuart Edwards**

**Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017**

**Media Strategy**

The decision taken by the Police & Crime Commissioner may require a press announcement or media strategy.

Will a press release be required following the decision being considered? NO

If yes, has a media strategy been formulated? NO

Is the media strategy attached? NO

What is the proposed date of the press release: