

Home Office Serious Violence Duty Funding 2026/27

Subject: Home Office Serious Violence Duty Funding 2026/27

Originator: Head of Policy and Performance

Decision Number: 23 - 2026

Reason for Submission: For Decision

Submitted to: Police and Crime Commissioner

Summary

1. The Suffolk Serious Violence (SV) Duty Partnership formed in late 2022 following the introduction of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. The partnership currently meets bi-monthly to consider applications for intervention funding (provided by the Home Office), agree grant claims and fulfil other responsibilities set out as the Serious Violence Duty within the Act.
2. The PCC has specific functions granted by legislation that permits:
 - a) issuing funding to specified authorities in line with the Home Office Grant Agreement;
 - b) supporting the specified authorities to exercise their functions relating to the Duty;
 - c) monitoring activity by specified authorities in relation to their delivery function under the Duty and reporting its findings to the Secretary of State.

3. The OPCC has a facilitative role and it is the duty holders specifically that agree intervention decisions within the overall grant. The OPCC has taken on chairing the partnership meetings on an interim basis in 2026/27, following the retirement of the previous chair.
4. The PCC has already secured a total of £1,111,690 of SV Duty funding on behalf of the Suffolk Partnership for the period 31 January 2023 – 31 March 2026. This decision report, if agreed, is for the PCC to accept the 2026/27 Grant Agreement for a further £397,285.87 for Suffolk.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Police and Crime and Commissioner (PCC):

1. Notes the previous funding allocations for the period 31 January 2023 – 31 March 2026.
2. Accepts the 2026/27 Home Office Serious Violence (SV) Duty Grant, on behalf of the Suffolk Serious Violence Duty Partnership, and authorises the PCC's CFO to sign the grant agreement once it has been received from the Home Office and reviewed.
3. They continue to fulfil the PCC's obligations under the Serious Violence Duty as set out in paragraph 1.6.

Approval by PCC

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signed: Tim Passmore



Signature:

Detail of Submission

1. Background and introduction:

- 1.1 Serious violence has a devastating impact on victims and their families, instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society. Incidents of serious violence have increased in England and Wales since 2014, and all Local Authority areas have challenges and opportunities in preventing and responding to it.
- 1.2 Following public consultation in July 2019, the Government announced that it would introduce new legislation placing a Serious Violence Duty on public bodies to ensure relevant services collaborate to share data and knowledge and target interventions preventing and reducing serious violence. The Serious Violence Duty was enacted on 31 January 2023.
- 1.3 The partnership is comprised of specified authorities (duty holders) represented by: Suffolk Constabulary; Suffolk County, District and Borough Councils; Suffolk Youth Offending Teams; Probation Service; Integrated Care Boards and Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service. Duty holders consult with relevant authorities (education, prison and youth custody) in the preparation and refresh of the Suffolk Serious Violence Response Strategy.

Suffolk's response to Duty requirements

- 1.4 Suffolk formed a partnership in late 2022 involving all statutory duty holders. The partnership initially convened to establish a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) and Suffolk Serious Violence Response Strategy 2024-2027 which was submitted to the Home Office by 31 January 2024.

- 1.5 The partnership currently meets bi-monthly to consider the award of grant funding to interventions which support the solutions within the Suffolk Strategy, and to fulfil the terms of the Grant Agreement through annual review of local data which informs the SNA and local strategy response refresh and grant funding intentions.
- 1.6 The PCC has specific functions granted by legislation that permits:
- a) issuing funding to specified authorities in line with the Home Office Grant Agreement;
 - b) supporting the specified authorities to exercise their functions relating to the Duty;
 - c) monitoring activity by specified authorities in relation to their delivery function under the Duty and reporting its findings to the Secretary of State.
- 1.7 The OPCC has a facilitative role and therefore it is the duty holders specifically that agree intervention decisions within the overall grant. The OPCC has taken on chairing the partnership meetings on an interim basis in 2026/27, following the retirement of the previous chair.

2. Police and Crime Plan and strategic aims supported:

- 2.1 In April 2025, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) published the new [Police and Crime Plan for 2025-2029](#). This plan emphasises a strong commitment to supporting children and young people, reducing re-offending, and ensuring statutory responsibilities in relation to the Serious Violence Duty within Suffolk partnership arrangements are fulfilled.
- 2.2 The 2026/27 Home Office Serious Violence Grant Agreement is aligned with these elements in the Police and Crime Plan as well as fulfilling the Serious Violence Duty statutory obligations.

- 2.3 The Suffolk Serious Violence Response Strategy, based on the Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA), highlights that young people are disproportionately affected by violence when compared to Suffolk's population as a whole, and there are strong links to areas with deprivation, poverty, poor educational attainment, and school exclusions. Ensuring funded interventions are aligned to this is a mechanism to demonstrate that the requirements set out in the Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010) are being considered and enacted.

3. Financial implications:

Previous SV Duty Grant Agreement and funding

- 3.1 The allocation of duty partnership costs (formerly known as labour costs) is for the costs incurred by the partnership to develop the Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA), the Suffolk Serious Violence (SV) Response Strategy, and attendance at SV Duty Partnership meetings. The allocation for interventions (formerly known as non-labour costs) is toward interventions supporting the Suffolk strategy. The partnership was not permitted to move funding between financial years or between specific Home Office agreed duty holder and interventions allocations.
- 3.2 The OPCC has previously executed a Grant Agreement on behalf of the Suffolk partnership and secured the following funding for the period 31 January 2023 – 31 March 2026:

Period	Allocation	Amount Allocated	Actual Year-End
31 Jan 2023 – 31 March 2023	Labour	£30,000	£11,378
	Non-labour	£0	£0
1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024	Labour	£180,000	£112,636.86
	Non-labour	£107,118.42	£107,114.82
1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025	Labour	£96,302.13	£96,004.71
	Non-labour	£300,983.74	£300,983.74

1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026	Labour	£96,302.13	£96,302.13
	Non-labour	£300,983.74	£299,852.06
Total allocated and expenditure to-date:		£1,111,690.16	£1,024,272.32

2026/27 Grant Agreement and Funding

- 3.3 In early 2026, the Home Office announced that it intended to award grant funding to Suffolk for 2026/27 at the same rate as 2025/26 (£397,285.87), subject to the partnership's acceptance and the Suffolk OPCC applying for funding on behalf of the partnership.
- 3.4 Following Home Office approval of the Suffolk delivery plan, the PCC is now invited to consider and accept the 2026/27 Home Office Serious Violence Duty Grant Agreement in order for the Suffolk partnership to fulfil its obligation to deliver against its local Serious Violence Response Strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence in Suffolk. The total Home Office agreed 2026/27 allocation of £397,285.87 will be utilised. This includes £51,989.87 for partnership and administrative costs and £345,296.00 for intervention costs and evaluations.
- 3.5 The OPCC intend to enter into an agreement with the Suffolk Community Foundation (SCF) to administer and manage the Suffolk Serious Violence Prevention Fund in 2026/27 on behalf of the Suffolk Partnership, further detail will follow in a subsequent PCC decision paper. The SCF grant management fee is afforded partly through SV Duty costs, and partly through partnership match funding, allowing more of the SV Duty funding to be utilised directly toward intervention delivery. The remaining match funding has been utilised to bolster the total funding allocated to interventions.

4. Other implications and risks:

- 4.1 The OPCC fulfils the Home Office Grant Agreement financial stipulations around onward payments of funding. There is a potential risk to the OPCC because of the delay between the OPCC being requested to make payments to duty holders and reimbursement from the Home Office. However, to mitigate this initial financial risk, interventions commence delivery only once the OPCC has executed the Grant Agreement or at the providers' own risk. Ongoing risk is mitigated through the grant monitoring processes and financial analysis based on intervention delivery.
- 4.2 The Home Office awards grant funding for a single financial year. If the Home Office reduces or withdraws the level of funding for future years, this would put at risk ongoing delivery of interventions which support the Duty and the Suffolk Serious Violence Duty Strategy (2024-27). To mitigate this risk, the OPCC will enter only into a 12-month grant agreement with SCF until the Home Office confirms funding for the following year.
- 4.3 There are no other major implications or risks associated with this decision paper.

Originator Checklist (must be completed).

Please state 'yes' or 'no'

Checklist Item	Yes / No
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	Yes
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered, including equality analysis, as appropriate?	Yes
Have human resource implications been considered?	Yes
Is the recommendation consistent with Police and Crime Plan objectives?	Yes
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	Yes
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	Yes
Have environmental factors been considered?	No
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	Yes
Is this report a Confidential Decision?	No

If yes, please state reasons below:

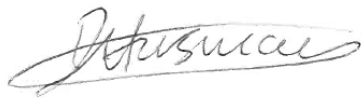
In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

Approval to submit to the decision-maker

Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report, that the recommendations have been reviewed and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.

Signed: Darren Horsman



Signature:

Date: 18/06/2026

Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

I certify that:

- a) there are no financial consequences as a result of this decision,
Or
- b) the costs identified in this report can be met from existing revenue or capital budgets,
Or
- c) the costs identified in this report can be financed from reserves
And
- d) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

Signed: Colette Batson



Signature:

Date: 18/06/2026

Public access to information: Information contained within this submission is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and wherever possible will be made available on the OPCC website. Submissions should be labelled as 'Not Protectively Marked' unless any of the material is 'restricted' or 'confidential'. Where information contained within the submission is 'restricted' or 'confidential' it should be highlighted, along with the reason why.