

Police Property Act Fund – Round 6

Subject: Police Property Act Fund, Round 6, 2 October 2026

Originator: Head of Governance and Commissioning

Decision Number: 32 - 2026

Reason for Submission: For Decision

Submitted to: Police and Crime Commissioner

Summary

1. The Police (Property) Regulations 1997 state that the Police Property Act Fund can be used to ‘make payments of such amounts as the relevant authority may determine for such charitable purposes as they may select.’
2. PCC Decision Paper 16-2025 set out the process to be followed in Suffolk whereby the PCC and Chief Constable receive applications to the Fund and decide on payments to be made. PCC Decision Paper 27-2026 recommended some changes to the operation of the fund.
3. A meeting between the PCC and Chief Constable in October 2026 (round 6) considered one application to the Police Property Act Fund. This decision paper sets out the detail of the successful application from Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue and the jointly agreed donation of £15,000.

Recommendation

1. The PCC is recommended to approve a payment of £15,000 from the Police Property Act Fund to Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue towards the purchase of a new control van for the charity.
2. The PCC approves the changes to the operation of the fund as set out in this decision paper.

Approval by PCC

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signed: Tim Passmore

Signature: 

Date: 26 October 2026

Detail of Submission

1. Objective

- 1.1 This decision paper provides a summary of the Police Property Act Fund meeting on 2 October 2026 and resulting recommendations.

2. Background

- 2.1 PCC Decision 16-2025 provides background information to the Police (Property) Act 1997 and the Regulations that accompany the Act. In summary the Act provides for the Chief Constable to sell or otherwise dispose of property that has been in their possession subject to certain conditions being met.
- 2.2 Regulations that accompany the Act set out that property (other than money) may be sold with the proceeds kept in a separate account to be called the Police Property Act Fund. The fund can be used to ‘make payments of such amounts as the relevant authority may determine for such charitable purposes as they may select.’
- 2.3 In Suffolk, it has been agreed that donations from the Police Property Act Fund will be jointly determined by the PCC and Chief Constable following an application process. The principal purpose of the fund is for the PCC and Chief Constable to jointly agree on donations to organisations who apply to the fund; with a preference for activity of greatest benefit to the county and/or which furthers the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.
- 2.4 Equality analysis was considered during the set-up of the fund process and are considered as part of the decision-making process.
- 2.5 Of the requests considered favourable at each meeting, the PCC and Chief Constable will decide on the level of financial support they are able to make in each case. The amount requested by the applicant will act as a guide only.

3. Areas for Consideration

- 3.1 One application, from Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue (SULSAR) to the Police Property Act Fund was discussed by the PCC and Chief Constable on 2 October 2026.
- 3.2 The application requested a donation to the purchase and fit out of a new control van for SULSAR which is vital in supporting the charity's work in search and rescue of missing vulnerable people in Suffolk.
- 3.3 Having considered the request from SULSAR and the information provided on the scope and impact of their work and the funding already raised towards purchasing a new control van, the PCC and Chief Constable agreed a donation of £15,000 to SULSAR.
- 3.4 Having reviewed the Fund finances, the PCC and Chief Constable also agreed to reduce the minimum balance held in the fund to £25,000.

4. Other options considered

- 4.1 Other options for funding the control van had been considered before the Police Property Act was proposed as the most suitable route for the request from SULSAR.

5. Strategic aims / objective supported

- 5.1 The fund operates within the requirements of the Police (Property) Act 1997 and the Regulations that accompany the Act.
- 5.2 Applicants to the fund are asked to set out any links to the Police and Crime Plan and / or the Chief Constable's Delivery Plan.
- 5.3 The key strategic aim that SULSAR supports in the Police and Crime Plan is in Theme two where it says the PCC will consider initiatives which reduce the demand on the police. Their work also aligns to the Chief Constable's Delivery Plan area within "Safety" – keeping people safe and protect people from serious harm.

6. Financial and other recourse implications

- 6.1 The Police Property Act Fund balance on 24 September 2026 was £211,818. Accounting for allocations already made for future years and ringfencing, a balance of £18,814 was available for donations.
- 6.2 As outlined in section 3.4 above, the PCC and the Chief Constable agreed to change the minimum balance to £25,000 for future rounds.
- 6.3 The recommended donation of £15,000 is achievable with the balance remaining. The Fund will benefit from additional income (receipts) during the year. The PCC and Chief Constable will review the balance at the next meeting before making any further donations.

7. Environmental Implications

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications to note.

8. Other implications and risks

- 8.1 Donations from the Police Property Act Fund, as set out in this decision paper, are made separately from the PCC's powers through the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and from other grant funding streams such as the PCC's Fund.
- 8.2 There are no other implications or risks to be considered.

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?	Yes
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:

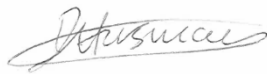
Approval to submit to the decision-maker

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: 22 October 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: 22 October 2026

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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.