



# Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner

*Making Suffolk a safer place to live, work, travel and invest*

**ORIGINATOR: POLICY OFFICER (LH)**

**DECISION NUMBER: 24-2016**

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION**

**SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**SUBJECT: AWARD OF CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION GRANT – STREETWATCH**

## **SUMMARY:**

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:  
a) secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;  
b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour.  
This is in accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. In applying this provision, the PCC will ensure that the services commissioned are also consistent with the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2013 – 2017.
2. This report seeks approval to award a Crime and Disorder Reduction Grant to Streetwatch for £600 for work in the Babergh district of Suffolk.
3. The funding will enable engagement with the community to reduce crime and minimise anti-social behaviour supporting Police and Crime Plan objective 3 in particular.
4. The original application is included alongside this decision paper.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the PCC approves a Crime and Disorder Reduction grant of £600 for the period 1 April 2016- 31 March 2017.

## **APPROVAL BY: PCC**

The recommendation set out is agreed.

**Signature**

**Date 20 MAY 2016**

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

*for PCC*

## **DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is able to utilise his resources to commission services from anyone who can provide the community safety related services that they believe will contribute to their police and crime objectives including secure, or contribute to securing crime and disorder reduction.
- 1.2 This report seeks approval to award a Crime and Reduction Disorder Grant of £600 to Babergh Streetwatch. This decision paper should be read alongside the original application included at Appendix A.

### **2. STREETWATCH**

- 2.1 Streetwatch was developed as a police initiative and is the only fully regulated model for civilian street patrols that exists in the UK that involves the whole community. The scheme encourages residents to adopt a new working partnership with police in patrolling their own communities – in this case the Babergh district of Suffolk, namely Hadleigh, Cornard and Sudbury.
- 2.2 The Home Office Policing Strategy: 'Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting police and the people,' supports the concept of civilian street patrols and outlines the necessity for community empowerment and the role of the police in this. The government agenda on the 'Big Society' states: 'We want every adult in the country to be an active member of an active neighbourhood group.'
- 2.3 Street Watch volunteers (35 volunteers committing 2 hours patrolling per month) are given a high visibility tabard to wear and they then patrol in pairs their local areas and communities. They are required to have a mobile phone on them at all times to report any incidences. When they see something that affects their community they are encouraged to "do something, not nothing" whether that entails confronting someone if safe to do so, taking notes, or simply observing. Being a Streetwatch volunteer gives them the support and empowerment to assist where before they may not have done.
- 2.4 Through engaging with the community increasing confidence by providing visibility and re-assurance Streetwatch will support delivery of the Police and Crime Plan objectives through preventing and reducing crime. In particular the activity will :
- Support effective community safety or crime prevention activity
  - Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
  - Engage with businesses to impact on business crime
  - Improve trust and confidence in the criminal justice system
- Streetwatch Volunteers also provide a valuable source of intelligence to the police.
- 2.5 Babergh Streetwatch has a strong track record of delivery and, with the support of previous PCC funding (£1,860 in 2014), has:
- Ensured volunteers are covered by insurance
  - Developed the website to support patrol co-ordination, awareness and recruitment
  - Promoted Streetwatch
  - Recruited new members
  - Purchased winter jackets for increased visibility and identification
  - Purchased notebooks to contribute to better information recording
  - Received the Babergh Community Award (Group Category)

Examples of recent activity and outcomes are included in Appendix A.

- 2.6 In addition to the outcomes set out in the application, it is expected that Streetwatch will monitor report to the PCC on the outcomes of the project as set out in the application (see appendix A) and include monitoring of:
- The number of volunteers and patrols
  - Record of incidents and outcomes
  - Qualitative feedback from volunteers, police and communities on the impact of Streetwatch.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

- 3.1 Funding of £600 is being requested to cover insurance, website hosting, equipment and a contribution to fuel costs. Contributions totalling £1,135 had been secured from Sudbury Town Council, NISA retail charity and the Waitrose Community Fund to support the scheme.
- 3.2 Evidence of spend will be made available together with outcomes as part of the monitoring process

### **4. CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

- 4.1 The following conditions will apply should a grant be awarded.
- (i) The fund will be allocated to projects, initiatives or events in Suffolk which support the objectives set out in the [Police & Crime Plan](#);
  - (ii) All grants are one-off payments that can be used to pump-prime a project or pay for a one-off event;
  - (iii) The PCC is not be responsible for any on-going costs associated the project/initiative;
  - (iv) In normal circumstances the funding will not be made available to support staff salaries, core business activities, overheads/costs associated with business administration or capital projects of the recipient;
  - (v) Projects approved under this process should be completed in the financial year 2016/17 and only in exceptional circumstances will a carry-forward be agreed;
  - (vi) The award must only be used for the purpose set out in the application or as approved in writing by the PCC. The PCC must be notified as soon as reasonably practicable if the organisation ceases operation, the project does not go ahead, or if an underspend is forecast. All underspends must be returned to the PCC;
  - (vii) By accepting the award the recipient makes a commitment to acknowledge the PCC's support publically and must acknowledge the PCC in all promotional work, as well as display the PCC's logo in all publicity associated with the initiative;
  - (viii) All recipients of funding will be expected to provide information on outcomes, including a written summary on how the project supported objectives in the Police & Crime Plan (a monitoring form will be made available to help with this process). The PCC also reserves the right to hold the recipient to account at the Accountability & Performance Panel;
  - (ix) The award may not be used to support or promote political or religious activity.

### **5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

- 5.1 There are no major implications or risks associated with this decision paper.

<b>ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)</b>	<b>PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'</b>
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	Yes
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?	N/A
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	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 all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	Yes

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** (this approval is required only for submissions to the PCC).

<p><b>Chief Executive</b></p> <p>I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the (add decision-maker's title e.g. the PCC).</p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Date 20/5/16.</p>
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## **CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION GRANTS**

### **Introduction**

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) can award Crime and Disorder Reduction grants where he believes it will secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk and delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.

The Safer Suffolk Fund has been created by the PCC to support the work of voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations that help to make Suffolk a safer place in which to live, work, travel and invest. The fund is administered by Suffolk Community Foundation (SCF) on behalf of the PCC. For more information and guidance on how to make an application please contact SCF on 01473 602602 or go to: <http://www.suffolkcf.org.uk/grants/safer-suffolk-fund/>

In exceptional circumstances the PCC may also award grants direct from his office (e.g. where the applicant does not satisfy the criteria for the Safer Suffolk Fund). Applications for grants under £3,500 can be made using the application form below. Awards of £3,500 and over will need to be supported by a full business case. Bids from statutory partners will need to be match funded. Further information can be obtained from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to discuss. Tel: 01473 782773 /e-mail: [spcc@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:spcc@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

### **APPLICATION FORM FOR CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION GRANT UP TO £3,500**

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	Streetwatch _____
<b>Project/event</b>	Streetwatch _____
<b>Date of event (if applicable)</b>	Ongoing _____

**DETAILS OF GRANT APPLICATION****What are you seeking to achieve from undertaking this project/event?**

Street Watch has been developed as a police initiative and is presented as the only fully regulated model for civilian street patrols that exists in the UK that involves the whole community. The scheme encourages residents to adopt a new working partnership with police in patrolling their own communities. In fact, other Police Forces – including West Yorkshire and Thames Valley - have been in contact with Suffolk Streetwatch to gain insight into how the scheme works, was set up and continues to run successfully, with a view to setting up similar schemes in their own areas.

Street Watch volunteers are given a high visibility tabard to wear and they then patrol in pairs their local areas and communities. They are required to have a mobile phone on them at all times to report any incidences. When they see something that affects their community they are encouraged to “do something, not nothing” whether that entails confronting someone if safe to do so, taking notes, or simply observing. Being a Streetwatch volunteer gives them the support and empowerment to assist where before they may not have done.

It is important to note that Street Watch is independent of the police, but working in partnership with the police. The actions of Street Watch volunteers can make a significant impact in their community with little additional demand on Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the area.

Despite falling crime rates nationally, the public still holds a disproportionate fear of crime. This disproportionate level of fear, particularly around young people, can cause communities to become over reliant on the Police to resolve all of their low level community issues. High expectations are created and when these cannot be met, public confidence in the Police and local partnerships are likely to reduce.

The concept of civilian patrols can reverse that trend. It empowers residents to take back control of their open spaces, to set community standards and to engage more positively with young people.

The Home Office Policing Strategy: ‘Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting police and the people,’ supports the concept of civilian street patrols and outlines the necessity for community empowerment and the role of the police in this. The government agenda on the ‘Big Society’ states: ‘We want every adult in the country to be an active member of an active neighbourhood group.’

**How does this project/event support the objectives set out in the PCC’s Police & Crime Plan?**

Street Watch fits perfectly into the Police and Crime Commissioners crime plan for Suffolk, of minimising crime and anti-social behaviour and maximising confidence and satisfaction whilst maintaining financial stability. Streetwatch also supports the aim of increased use of volunteers in the community. The cost for each scheme is minimal. For comparison purposes, the cost of one PCSO would fund 800 Street Watch volunteers.

Our priorities are to engage with our community, reduce crime and minimise anti-social behaviour (objective 3 of the PCC’s police & crime objectives). By empowering the community to monitor themselves, they will help us to help them to achieve these priorities. They will provide the police with another intelligence resource and enable us to act quickly and more effectively by working with the community for the community.

Street Watch empowers communities to work in partnership:

- To prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.
- To increase confidence.
- To reduce the fear of crime.
- To provide visibility and reassurance.
- To appropriately challenge low level anti-social behaviour and take back ownership of public spaces.
- To develop community cohesion and improve standards through good citizenship.
- To improve environments by identifying trigger factors that give rise to the causes of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Streetwatch supports the Police in preventing and reducing crime. Volunteers walk their local areas in pairs being a visible presence in their community offering assistance to all members of the public and helping with any given situation. They are a constant link between the Police and the public, sometimes passing on intelligence that they've seen or heard, as well as providing that low level support to members of their communities. Streetwatch volunteers are requested on occasion to carry out their patrols in areas of concern to the Police and in areas that have been adopted as an SNT local priority. Volunteers are never asked to put themselves at risk but provide a mutual unprejudiced account of incidences. They report back issues which are dealt with swiftly.

Streetwatch supports making Suffolk a safer place by being a pro-active visible version of NHW. Volunteers whilst out on patrol can detect issues such as ASB, graffiti, littering, criminal activity as well as supporting the vulnerable and elderly members of the community. Sometimes members of the public also feel more able or comfortable to tell a Streetwatch member information or issues rather than a uniformed Officer.

Examples of recent Streetwatch activity include:

- Engaging with young people in Belle View park, Sudbury
- Assisting the SNT with specific tasks – there is currently an issue with street drinking and urination in a public garden, which the Streetwatch volunteers have been asked to pass by on their patrols when possible, and report to 101 any activity of this nature. Streetwatch volunteers also attend the monthly SNT market day engagement to help promote the use of 101, talk with local residents about Streetwatch & encourage recruitment, and show support to the SNT on local issues.
- Assisting SNT officers with crowd control during the major fire in Sudbury in September 2015. Volunteers offered assistance immediately.
- Support for local businesses – talking with store staff regarding levels of theft of goods and the modus operandi, purse thefts and descriptions of offenders, and submitting this information as part of their patrol reports, as well as encouraging the staff to report on 101 or 999 as appropriate.
- The Sudbury and Great Cornard groups are supporting the Hadleigh group with a recruitment drive in April 2016, utilising the Sudbury Town Council community bus as a base in Hadleigh on a busy Saturday.

Streetwatch volunteers have access to the Suffolk Streetwatch Website [www.suffolkstreetwatch.co.uk](http://www.suffolkstreetwatch.co.uk) which was set up following the collapse of the National Website and which volunteers requested in order to assist and aide their work. As such volunteers can log their patrols on a live calendar and link in with other volunteers this way. The website is also a portal for new volunteer enquiries, requests for information from other Forces, organisations and agencies, gives links to partners and sponsors/grant providers, and links to Suffolk Streetwatch features & publicity in the press.

Streetwatch won a Babergh District Council Babergh Community Achievement Award in February 2015.

**When do you expect to complete this project/event and what are the expected inputs/outputs?**

There are three schemes in the Babergh District at present; Hadleigh, Cornard and Sudbury. There is the hope that supportive funding for these schemes will allow them to grow in membership and therefore be more widely spread and well known throughout the areas they patrol. By increasing membership to each scheme, it boosts morale, gives members an increased sense of worth and allows the schemes to grow into a more fruitful and functioning scheme. The schemes are all ongoing and have so far been supported by the Police with a funding applications being made and approved through Sudbury Town Council, Waitrose Good Community fund, and the NISA retailers Making A Difference Locally (MADL) charity.

The funding applied for in this application will allow the schemes to function for the next year and enable them to grow and as such be more productive. It also ensures the volunteers feel more supported by partner agencies and connected with them. It will encourage members that their roles as volunteers are very worthwhile and supported. The funding goes towards providing all the schemes with a year's personal and accident insurance as well as website hosting and maintenance for the next financial year, purchasing additional personal equipment (winter jackets, etc.), expenses incurred by using the Sudbury Town Council community bus (fuel cost contribution).

**There is an expectation that all grants awarded must deliver clear and measurable outcomes. Please set out below the expected outputs and outcomes and how you will measure them. Outcomes should be aligned to the Police and Crime Plan and demonstrate change as a result of the funding.**

- **Output:** insurance cover is essential to protect the volunteers and provide public liability insurance, in order for the group to function at all. **Outcome:** without insurance cover, this volunteer group cannot operate, and therefore the impact it can continue to make on the community would be lost.
- **Output:** the website provided a central location for patrol logs, sharing of information, and as a portal for public information regarding Streetwatch, as detailed above. **Outcome:** Streetwatch is a recognisable organisation, not only providing the public with information on its work and how to volunteer, but also providing volunteers with a communication hub (between each other and with Suffolk Police).
- **Output:** provision of branded safety/protective equipment is essential to ensure that volunteers are identifiable by the public, Suffolk Police and other organisations, and also to ensure that volunteers are equipped to carry out patrols in all weather conditions. **Outcome:** volunteers carry out patrols on a regular basis because they feel valued and are clearly identifiable with the Streetwatch brand, allowing more opportunities for engagement with members of the public, including those that are vulnerable, in need of assistance, or just wish to speak with someone other than a uniformed officer.
- **Output:** Ability to use the Sudbury Town Council community bus means that groups can attend events to promote Streetwatch and encourage the importance and value of volunteering in such a way in the community; support their sister groups with events and recruitment. **Outcome:** an increase in volunteer group members and increase in publicity of Streetwatch and the role it has to play in the community.



**Amount applied for: £ 600**

(NB: this figure takes into account funding already received from the organisations listed below to assist with covering the breakdown of costs given)

**Please provide a breakdown of costs:**

Insurance: current premium is £426 per year, covering all 3 schemes

Website updates/design/hosting: £500 per year

Personal equipment – estimated to be: further winter jackets with Streetwatch logo 15 @ £40 each = £600;

Use of Sudbury Town Council community bus to attend SNT, Streetwatch & other events: £150 (estimate)

**Please provide details of any partnership / match funding.**

Sudbury Town Council: £500

NISA retailers MADL charity: £250

Waitrose community fund (green token scheme): £385

