



# Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner

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

**ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING**

**DECISION NUMBER: 16 - 2024**

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION**

**SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**SUBJECT: SAFER STREETS FUND ROUND 5**

## **SUMMARY:**

1. In accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 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.
2. Decision Paper 31-2023 set out the funding allocated to Suffolk by the Home Office for delivery of the Safer Streets Fund and the grants to partners for activity between 1 October 2023 and 31 March 2025 (Year 1).
3. The three proposals submitted address anti-social behaviour, violence against women and girls and neighbourhood crime across Suffolk.
4. On 14 December 2023 the Home Office confirmed that funding for the Year 2 period would be capped at £355,000 per PCC and requested revised delivery plans.
5. This report seeks approval from the PCC to accept the Year 2 grant from the Home Office and for his office to make arrangements for delivery of the proposals through awarding funding to the delivery bodies, namely the local authorities.
7. The funding will enable crime and disorder reduction activity and support the delivery of Objective 2 in the Police and Crime Plan.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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

1. Accepts the grant agreement from the Home Office for £355,000 for Year 2 delivery of the Safer Streets Fund Round 5.
  
2. Awards funding to the following from the funding for delivery of the project in Year 2:
  - i. East Suffolk Council a grant of £110,887 for delivery of Proposal 1 in Lowestoft
  - ii. Ipswich Borough Council a grant of £118,300 for delivery of Proposal 2 in Ipswich
  - iii. West CSP area a grant of £125,813 for delivery of Proposal 3 as follows:
    - West Suffolk Council £121,663;
    - Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils £4,150.

**APPROVAL BY: PCC**

The recommendation set out above is agreed.



**Signature:**

**Date: 22 April 2024**

## **DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) 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.
- 1.2 In July 2023 the Home Office issued the prospectus for the ‘Safer Streets Round 5 Fund; Protecting Public Spaces’ to Police and Crime Commissioners.
- 1.3 The aim of the fund is to support the Government’s strategic approach to cutting crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), reducing the number of victims of crime and making the country safer as set out in their Beating Crime Plan and ASB Action Plan.
- 1.4 Decision paper 31-2023 summarises the Suffolk PCC’s application to the fund and delivery arrangements for the period 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024.
- 1.5 This report seeks approval from the PCC to accept the grant from the Home Office covering Year 2 of the fund (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025) and to disperse the funding to delivery organisations.

### **2. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 Objective 2 in the Police and Crime Plan for the period 2022-2025 sets out the intention to provide services which support victims of crime and invest in initiatives which reduce crime.
- 2.2 Whilst this decision relates to Home Office funding in support of the Government’s strategic approach to cutting crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), it also supports the following activities within Objective 2 of the Police and Crime Plan:
- Support problem solving in local communities by investing in solutions which reduce reoffending, prevent crime and disorder or improve community safety.
  - Consider with the Constabulary areas where investment might reduce non-crime demand on the police.
  - Consider match-funding opportunities with Community Safety Partners where the initiatives meet shared priorities.
  - Reducing re-offending and preventing crime.
  - Consider initiatives which reduce the demand on the police in particular policing the night-time economy, anti-social behaviour and reducing crime and disorder in our towns.
- 2.3 Furthermore, the investment and activity will support Community Safety Partnership (CSP) priorities through actions to reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG) and anti-social behaviour.

### **3. SAFER STREET FUND ROUND 5 (YEAR 2)**

- 3.1 In July 2023, the Home Office announced their intention to directly award funding to each PCC for delivery of ‘Safer Streets Round 5’.

- 3.2 The proposals from the PCC submitted in August 2023 covered the funding period 1 October 2023 – 31 March 2025. The Home Office subsequently allocated funding of £456,023 for the three proposals from Suffolk for delivery between 1 October 2023 and 31 March 2024 and £535,000 for Year 2. A grant agreement was received for Year 1.
- 3.3 The Home Office subsequently confirmed on 14 December 2023 that funding available for Year 2 had been reduced to £355,000 per PCC, reflecting the available budget. PCCs were asked to consider how to adapt the original proposals to meet the funding available.
- 3.4 In Suffolk it was agreed to reduce the scope of the three projects to achieve the required saving. The changes are as follows:
- A reduction in the number of ‘Safer Streets’ funded CCTV cameras and a reduction in scope for youth outreach in the East;
  - Removing the adult outreach element of the ASB project in Ipswich;
  - Removing the training and awareness programme from scope and a reduction in deployable camera funding and youth outreach work in the West.

The revised scope for the three projects in Suffolk will achieve a saving of £180k.

#### Award of Grants

- 3.5 Following receipt of the revised proposals, the Home Office issued the PCC with a grant agreement for the Year 2 funding period, 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025. This decision paper proposes that the PCC accepts the award of a grant of £355,000 from the Home Office and the terms and conditions therein.
- 3.6 Due to the nature of the interventions selected, the main delivery partners in each area are the local authorities with support from Suffolk Constabulary. Third party providers and suppliers will be procured by the delivery partners where necessary e.g., to deliver outreach activities.
- 3.7 Under the provision in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, it is proposed that the PCC enters into grant agreements with each delivery body to disperse the Home Office funding in 2024/25 as follows:
- i. East Suffolk Council a grant of £110,887 for delivery of Proposal 1 in Lowestoft
  - ii. Ipswich Borough Council a grant of £118,300 for delivery of Proposal 2 in Ipswich
  - iii. West CSP area a grant of £125,813 for delivery of Proposal 3 as follows:
    - West Suffolk Council £121,663;
    - Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils £4,150;

#### **4. MONITORING AND OUTCOMES**

- 4.1 Each proposal within the Safer Streets Fund outlines the detail of the interventions, crimes targeted and intended outcomes, rationale, deliverability and sustainability plans following the funding period.
- 4.2 Quarterly monitoring is required by the Home Office and includes:
- Narrative progress report against specified deliverables
  - Risk assessment and mitigation
  - Crime statistics
  - Financial report including match funding

- 4.3 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) will work with the local authorities and police to ensure successful delivery of the projects and required monitoring to the Home Office so that funding can be claimed. It is proposed that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner meets with the delivery partners on a quarterly basis to review progress and risks to delivery for the individual proposals and the overall programme.
- 4.4 Given the countywide delivery of the funding, contribution to shared community safety priorities and the match funding provided by partners it is suggested that the PCC supplies quarterly updates to the Safer Stronger Communities Board and an update to Public Sector Leaders on progress at the end of each financial year.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Home Office originally allocated £991,023 to the PCC for delivery of the three proposals in the Suffolk application to the Safer Streets Fund, Round 5. However, with the decision in December 2023 to cap Year 2 funding at £355,000 revised proposals were drawn up and submitted.
- 5.2 The revised funding arrangements for year 2 are shown below. A grant agreement has been received for Year 2 for £355,000.

<b>CSP area</b>	<b>Y1 1 October 2023 – 31 March 2024</b>	<b>Y2 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025 (revised)</b>	<b>Total</b>
East	163,000	110,887	273,887
Ipswich	155,000	118,300	273,300
West	138,023	125,813	263,836
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>456,023</b>	<b>355,000</b>	<b>811,023</b>

- 5.3 Match funding of at least 50% is a requirement of the grant. Across the three proposals £694,714 has been committed to support delivery for the period 1 October 2023 – 31 December 2025. This includes match funding from the pooled business rates (agreed by Public Sector Leaders) and significant resources from the local authorities. Resources from Suffolk Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner have also been included.
- 5.4 The funding is for time limited delivery of activities without ongoing commitment from the PCC however each proposal has outlined sustainability plans following the funding period.

## 6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 6.1 An assessment of risk in delivery of the service has been undertaken. This assessment has considered the value of the grant from the Home Office and deliverability.
- 6.2 In proposing to award grants to the delivery partners the value of the grants, the duration of delivery and the grant recipient's history of delivery and ability to deliver on similar projects, not least the Home Office Safer Streets funding in recent years, have been considered.
- 6.3 Should there be any risk arising the responsible delivery partner is required to notify the PCC.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

- 1) Accepts the grant agreement from the Home Office for £355,000 for Year 2 delivery of the Safer Streets Fund Round 5.
- 2) Awards funding to the following from the funding for delivery of the project in Year 2:
  - i. East Suffolk Council a grant of £110,887 for delivery of Proposal 1 in Lowestoft
  - ii. Ipswich Borough Council a grant of £118,300 for delivery of Proposal 2 in Ipswich
  - iii. West CSP area a grant of £125,813 for delivery of Proposal 3 as follows:
    - West Suffolk Council £121,663;
    - Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils £4,150.

<b>ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)</b>	<b>PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'</b>
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	<b>NO</b>
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	<b>YES</b>
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	<b>YES</b>
Have human resource implications been considered?	<b>YES</b>
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	<b>YES</b>
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	<b>YES</b>
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	<b>YES</b>
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	<b>YES</b>

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 and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.



**Signature:**

**Date: 19 April 2024**