



**ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF POLICY AND
PERFORMANCE**

DECISION NUMBER: 14 - 2025

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: HOME OFFICE SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY FUNDING 2025/26

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, 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 therefore it is the duty holders specifically that agree intervention decisions within the overall grant.
4. The PCC has already secured a total of £714,404 of SV Duty funding on behalf of the Suffolk Partnership for the period 31 January 2023 – 31 March 2025. The PCC is now invited to consider the 2025/26 Grant Agreement to secure a further £397,286 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 2025, and;
2. Accepts the terms of the 2025/26 Home Office Serious Violence (SV) Duty Grant Agreement, on behalf of the Suffolk Serious Violence Duty Partnership, and continues to fulfil the PCC's obligations.

APPROVAL BY PCC

The recommendation set out above is agreed.

Signature:



Date: 3 June 2025

DETAILS 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.

The Role of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk (OPCC)

- 1.6 The OPCC 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.

2 POLICE AND CRIME PLAN:

- 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 2025/26 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.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Previous SV Duty Grant Agreement and Funding

- 3.1 The labour costs allocation is for the Partnership's costs incurred to develop the Strategic Needs Assessment, the Suffolk Serious Violence (SV) Response Strategy, and attendance at SV Duty Partnership meetings. The non-labour costs allocation is toward interventions supporting the Suffolk Strategy. The Partnership is not permitted to move funding between financial years or between specific Home Office (labour and non-labour) 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 2025:

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
Total allocated and expenditure to-date:		£714,404.29	£628,118.13

2025/26 Grant Agreement and Funding

- 3.3 In early 2025, the Home Office announced that it intended to award grant funding to Suffolk for 2025/26 at the same rate as 2024/25, subject to the Partnership's acceptance and the Suffolk OPCC applying for funding on behalf of the Partnership.
- 3.4 Following the application process, the PCC is now invited to consider and accept the 2025/26 Home Office Serious Violence Duty Grant Agreement in order for the Suffolk Partnership to fulfil its obligation to deliver against its local SV Response Strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence in Suffolk. The total 2025/26 allocation is £96,302.13 for labour costs and £300,983.74 for non-labour (interventions) costs.

4 OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

- 4.1 The OPCC fulfils the Home Office Grant Agreement financial stipulations around onward payments of funding to duty holders. There is a potential risk to the OPCC because of the delay between the OPCC being requested to make payments by 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.

4.2 There are no other major implications or risks associated with this decision paper.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- a. Notes the previous funding allocations for the period 31 January 2023 – 31 March 2025, and;
- b. Accepts the terms of the 2025/26 Home Office Serious Violence (SV) Duty Grant Agreement, on behalf of the Suffolk Serious Violence Duty Partnership, and continues to fulfil the PCC's obligations.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR '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 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

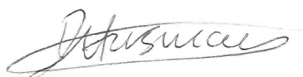
In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER

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: 3 June 2025