



**ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING AND  
GOVERNANCE AND STAFF  
OFFICER TO THE CHIEF OFFICER  
TEAM**

**DECISION NUMBER: 20 - 2025**

**REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION**

**SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (PCC)**

**SUBJECT: POLICE PROPERTY ACT FUND ROUND 1 MARCH 2025**

**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.
3. A meeting between the PCC and Chief Constable in March 2025 considered four applications to the Police Property Act Fund. This decision paper sets out the details of those applications and the jointly agreed donations which total £72,333.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. The PCC is recommended to approve payments from the Police Property Act Fund to the following organisations:
  - a. Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue (Sulsar) £37,500
  - b. Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch (SNWA) £11,650

- c. Care of Police Survivors (COPS) £1,500
- d. Crimestoppers £21,683

**APPROVAL BY PCC**

The recommendation set out above is agreed.

**Signature:**



**Date: 30 June 2025**

## DETAILS OF SUBMISSION

### 1. POLICE PROPERTY ACT FUND

- 1.1 [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.
- 1.2 [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.'
- 1.3 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 registered charities who apply to the fund and with a preference for activity of greatest benefit to the county and / or which furthers the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan
- 1.4 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 required by the applicant will act as a guide only.
- 1.5 The first applications were discussed at a meeting on 13 March 2025 and donations to four organisations, totalling £72,333, were agreed by the PCC and Chief Constable.
- 1.6 This decision paper provides the detail of the applications and funding agreed and recommends that the payments are made to the successful organisations.

### 2. POLICE PROPERTY ACT FUND – ROUND 1 FUNDING DECISIONS

- 2.1 Four applications to the Police Property Act Fund were received and discussed by the PCC and Chief Constable on 13 March 2025. Brief details of each application and the agreed funding are set out below.

Organisation	Purpose of funding	Amount Requested	Amount Agreed
Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue (Sulsar)	Requested annual contribution of £12,500 a year for three years towards the running costs of the charity including building and vehicle running costs, insurance, team kit and equipment. Sulsar works closely with Suffolk's Police Search Advisors, supporting with the search and rescue of high-risk missing people. In 2024 Sulsar had 87 active members who were called out to 43 incidents by Suffolk Constabulary. The volunteers give their time freely and are trained and equipped to support search and rescue through a variety of means including Foot Team, Dog Team, Drone Team, Water search. Over 14,000 volunteer hours were delivered in 2024 demonstrating clear value for money.	£37,500	£37,500
Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association (SNWA)	Towards increased activity of SNWA over the next 2 years. The focus will be on generating new schemes and membership and increased support to existing schemes supporting crime prevention and community safety.	£11,650	£11,650
Care of Police Survivors (COPS)	Donation requested to support the work of the charity in 2025/26, primarily providing peer support to the families of police officers and staff who have lost their lives while on duty.	£1,500	£1,500
Crimestoppers	Contribution towards the operation of the national contact centre in 2025/26. The centre receives anonymous calls from the public from which intelligence is disseminated to Suffolk Constabulary. Crimestoppers also offers enhanced rewards and targeted campaigns. 'Amount Agreed' reflects the finalised Suffolk contribution post meeting.	Approx £26,000	£21,683
			<b>£72,333</b>

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

- 3.1 The Police Property Act Fund balance on 24 February 2025 was £268,000.
- 3.2 The recommended donations from Round 1 of the Police Property Act Fund total £72,333.
- 3.3 This leaves a balance of £196,000 within the Police Property Act Fund to be used for future donations. However, 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.

### **4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 There are no other implications or risks to be considered.

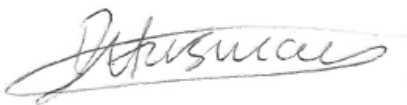
<b>ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)</b>	<b>PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'</b>
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	Yes
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	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: 17 June 2025**