

Safer Communities Fund- Grant making principles

The Vision: Creating Safer Communities for Cheshire

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire wants it to be a place where, regardless of where people live:

- People can feel safer in their local community
- People can play a full role within their local community and feel included
- All individuals can help to make their local community safer and reduce in localised crime
- People have the ability and opportunity to share their views and ideas on how local provisions can be improved
- Local policing is at the heart of the local community ensuring issues and challenges are addressed quickly and efficiently.

To achieve this, the Police and Crime Commissioner endeavours to:

- Understand the local needs and aspirations of people in Cheshire, recognising the priorities for communities
- Ensure the grant programme remains flexible and responsive to local need
- Ensure that any grants made have maximum impact and deliver value for money for the people of Cheshire
- Work strategically with other organisations, where appropriate, making links across sectors working proactively to have maximum impact
- Try hard to create a legacy and more rounded grant making approach for all groups
- Consult on the police and crime plan on a regular basis

The Police and Crime Commissioner wants to fund initiatives:

- Which achieve the vision to create safer communities for Cheshire, for everyone
- That demonstrate strong community links
- Which are based on local need and insight
- Which are well planned, realistic and have aims which are achievable
- Will make a lasting difference to the people within the local community
- Evidence strong links with the local policing units through officers and/or PCSOs
- Address the priorities set out in the Police and Crime plan

The Police and Crime Commissioner wants to fund organisations:

- That understand clearly the needs of the local community and how the grant will make a real difference
- That address the local policing priorities and reduce crime
- Who are able to work positively with wider community groups to share resources and create sustainable change
- That can demonstrate their ability to fulfil the aims set out in their original application
- Who are willing to share learning and seek wider opportunities to achieve success
- Involve and address issues important to local communities
- Are competent and can evidence how they can make initiatives sustainable, where relevant

What the Police and Crime Commissioner will and will not fund

The Police and Crime Commissioner will look to fund those organisations:

- Who work primarily to benefit the people living within Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Warrington
- Regional and national organisations may be considered but only if they can demonstrate that they are the best organisation to tackle the particular issue or need in the area and there is no local organisation able to do this
- That are 'not for profit' such as charities, friends of groups, neighbourhood groups, social enterprises and community groups. All organisations must demonstrate a clear community benefit within their constitution or governing document.
- If the bid is a consortium or partnership bid, the expectation would be that local groups/ organisations would be the lead applicant if working with regional or national organisations.

The Police and Crime Commissioner will not fund those organisations:

- Who have not engaged with their local policing unit via officers and/or PCSOs
- Whose work does not support people living within one of the local authorities; Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Warrington.
- Who do not have the correct governing documents in place in order to manage the grant effectively
- Who do not have two unrelated cheque signatories and for community interest companies, those who do not two unrelated directors.
- Who do not have an active Safeguarding policy in place for children and vulnerable adults (where relevant)
- For multiple awards. Organisations can be named as a partner agency but cannot be the lead applicant for more than one application per year.
- Organisations requesting funding towards reserves

The Police and Crime Commissioner will not fund:

- Projects taking place outside of the local authorities; Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Warrington.
- Political promotion, including political party activity
- The support or promotion of religious beliefs in a particular faith, beyond basic religious/ cultural awareness raising.
- Retrospective or deficit funding
- Activities which a statutory body is responsible for
- Multiple awards from the same organisation in the same application round. Organisations may be named as a partner organisation in other bids but cannot be the lead applicant for more than one project/application.
- Applications which seek investment solely for capital projects may not be funded. Capital items such as equipment, are fundable items when coupled with a wider project of engagement. All capital must clearly evidence impact.
- Full cost recovery- only direct costs associated with the delivery of the initiative can be funded
- Activities which do not meet one or more of the priorities set out in the Police and Crime plan

Decisions

- Applicants should make contact with the Community Development and policy Officer to obtain an application and discuss their idea to check eligibility.
- Each application will be reviewed by the Community Development and Policy Officer to check eligibility.

- Each application will be reviewed and scored against the criteria by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, additional checks with partner agencies may be sought.
- Recommendations on each application will be made and put forward to the Police and Crime Commissioner. The recommendations made are just recommendations not a final decision.
- The overall decision on all applications will be made by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- Decisions made by the Police and Crime Commissioner are final.

Re-application following an unsuccessful application

- All applicants will be given feedback as to why their application was not successful
- In some cases, the Police and Crime Commissioner may have received a high volume of applications and therefore re-submitting the application later in the year may be encouraged.
- Applicants are encouraged to read through feedback and make changes, where appropriate, before re-submitting. Please note, this does not guarantee you will receive funding in the next round but ensures the application is as strong as possible.
- The process is setup not to deter you from applying but to support you to understand where improvements need to be made for future applications and other funding applicants to other bodies.
- The Community Development and Policy Officer is there to work with you and support you to understand how to make the application as strong as possible.
- Applicants can apply in future windows in the same financial year, given the feedback has been addressed.

Criteria

Headline Criteria

Applications will be scored against the following criteria:

- Applicants for funding must be able to demonstrate their ability to spend the grant in the allocated financial year, namely 2019-2020.
- Address or show synergy to the priorities listed within the Police and Crime Plan.
- The maximum grant award available is £5,000. There is no minimum. Usually grants of between £2,000 and £3,000 are favourable.
- The applicant should clearly demonstrate match funding opportunities whether this be financial or in-kind support where applicable
- All successful applicants may be required to attend a photo presentation at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- All successful applicants will be required to complete and return a monitoring form and a case study template.
- The funds are to be solely used as 'seed' funding. Funds cannot support continuation of existing activities and must clearly show additionality.
- Funds cannot be used to fund the installation of CCTV.
- Evidence that applicants have involved the Local Policing Unit and PCSOs in their application

Additional Criteria

Applications will be scored against the following criteria:

- Level of investment- How much is required? Is the SCF the only funding stream or is there additional match funding? Is the funding proportionate to the priorities it addresses? Does the project show good cost per head value?
- Evidence of need- How does the applicant know the project is needed? Are the local community aware of the project and its aims? Have the community been consulted on the project?
- Community links- Does the project seek to work with other community groups? How will the project look to cross-refer or add value? How does the applicant intend to involve the local community in the project?
- Confidence in the ability to deliver- Are the timescales realistic? Have the relevant resources be allocated to fulfilling all aspects of the project? Previous experience in delivery?
- Sustainability- Is the project sustainable? What measures are in place to ensure the project continues post funding? Does the applicant need support to develop and sustainability plan?
- Monitoring and Evaluation- Does the project have the ability to monitor and evaluate the impact of the project? Does the project look to measure success and challenges? How will the organisation record and capture the views of the beneficiaries.