

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 9
23 November 2022	Public Report

Report of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

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POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S APPROACH TO COMMISSIONING AND GRANTS

1.	PURPOSE
1.1	The purpose of this report is to share with the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel (the “Panel”) details of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) approach to commissioning and grants.
2.	RECOMMENDATION
2.1	The Panel is recommended to note the contents of this report.
3.	TERMS OF REFERENCE
3.1	Item 6 – to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner’s functions. Item 8 - To support the effective exercise of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
3.2	This paper also seeks to highlight any future anticipated risks to service provision.
4.	BACKGROUND & LEGISLATION
4.1	The Commissioner is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan (“the Plan”) which sets out how he will deliver against his statutory role set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the “Act”) and the responsibility to put in place support services for victims of crime.
4.2	The Plan sets a number of objectives which enable him to deliver his statutory role in a way which reflects the local landscape and the views of the people who live and work in the county.

4.3	The approach taken to commissioning and grants has to enable the Commissioner to award funding, from a range of sources, in an agile and responsive way to organisations which help him achieve these objectives. This is also particularly important when the Commissioner acts as 'grant sponsor' on behalf of partnership bids to central government funds and receives the funding. The approach allows the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) staff to ensure it is quickly awarded to the recipients named in the bid with the appropriate outcome monitoring and governance in place.
4.4	The approach has been developed within the broader framework of the 'Financial Regulations for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioners' (including Contract Standing Orders) which was revised in August 2022.
4.5	<p>The Act states that a Police and Crime Commissioner can provide crime and disorder reduction grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to any person • for securing, or contributing to securing, crime and disorder reduction • and can make grants subject to any conditions.
4.6	Police and Crime Commissioners were given responsibility for commissioning support services for victims of crime in 2014 along with an annual grant. An amendment to section 56 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 and the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 allows for this.
4.7	A recent Internal Audit undertaken by RSM Tenon provided ' substantial assurance ' on all aspects of the commissioning and grants function. The OPCC is currently managing 53 different providers (excluding small grants).

5.	THE APPROACH
5.1	<p>The Cambridgeshire OPCC take a 'commissioning approach' which is underpinned and guided by the four stages in the Commissioning Cycle. This continuous cycle of action and improvement is followed, in a proportionate manner, for every funding award made. For example, this process may take up to six months for a £1m contract but may be a few conversations for a £2k Youth Fund Award.</p> <div data-bbox="660 517 1043 898" data-label="Diagram"> </div> <p>There are key actions to be carried out within each phase of the cycle which are detailed below.</p>
5.2	<p>UNDERSTAND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will develop a clear evidence-base of need - through local needs assessments, engagement with the public, potential service users and partners and mapping of existing provision to prevent duplication. • We will clearly set out the outcomes to be achieved and consider if a new service is required or whether an existing service could be re-commissioned or enhanced to deliver the same outcomes. • We will work in partnership with other agencies trying to deliver the same outcomes and explore if a co-commissioning arrangement with a pooled budget could lead to a more joined up service provision and deliver economies of scale. • We will consider how a new service or provision might be co-dependant on other agencies and will ensure there are seamless pathways between them. • We will ensure all support services for victims of crime are victim-focused and led and responsive to their needs. • We will support and encourage early intervention and preventative ideas. <p>PLAN</p>

- We will ensure **equitable countywide provision** of services (unless funding is being awarded to a small area to respond to a bespoke local need).
- Where possible we will provide opportunities for service users, potential providers and partner agencies to **co-design** services or feedback on service specifications and will support innovation.
- We will develop **outcome measures** in consultation with the provider to enable them to show they are meeting the identified need and delivering the required outcomes.
- We will proactively seek to enhance local service provision by leading/ supporting applications to new funding streams.

DO

- We will support the use of **local suppliers** and recognise the added value provided by local third sector service providers.
- We will adhere to the local Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders in cases where multiple providers could deliver a pre-planned for service. This sets out:
 - £0-£5,000 – one written quote
 - £5,000 - £50,000 – three written quotes
 - £50,000 and above – competitive tender
- We will ensure equality of opportunity **by transparently** advertising all open funding opportunities on our website on the EU Supply Portal where the contract value exceeds £50,000. The funding envelope and quality vs cost split will be clearly shown.
- We will hold **Market Engagement** events where they add value.
- We will only use **Single Tender Agreements** - where a single provider has been proven to deliver the best outcomes for the service or where a bid has been developed in partnership.
- We will ensure an independent member sits on all **tender evaluation** panels. Service users will be invited to engage in the process where possible.
- We will endeavour to **award multi-year contracts** recognising that short-term funding destabilises providers and makes it challenging to recruit into posts.

REVIEW (Contract Management)

- We will ensure outcome reporting is **proportionate** to the size of the funding awarded – as a minimum all recipients will be required to submit a six-monthly monitoring return to demonstrate how the funding is delivering the agreed outcomes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will invite all recipients of funding over £10k to a six-monthly monitoring (three monthly for victim services) meeting and maintain two-way dialogue so emerging issues on either side can be flagged and collaboratively addressed before they impact upon the delivery of outcomes. • We will listen to and consider the views of service users and partners. • We will support all victim support services to share learning and best practice by arranging regular Provider Forums. • We will de-commission services which are shown not to be meeting their outcomes or the needs of service users. This will be done in partnership with the provider and appropriate risk assessments will be carried out. <p>Funding is awarded as either a grant, contract, or contribution to a co-commissioned contract or through a paid invoice.</p>
6.	THE RESOURCES
6.1	<p>The Commissioner has access to a number of funding streams from which awards can be made which contribute to the delivery of the objectives within the Plan. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an annual grant from the Ministry of Justice to fund services for victims of crime (this is often bolstered by bid-for funds in-year); • additional bid for funding from the Home Office – such Safer Streets Funding and the Devolved Rape Support Funds; • a Crime and Disorder Reduction Fund – this has to be taken from the main police grant and funds Cambridgeshire Constabulary’s statutory contributions to partnership working. From 23/24 these statutory contributions will be made direct by the Constabulary therefore they will retain the funding previously allocated to the Safeguarding Boards, Youth Offending Service and MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements). Many of the other awards are historic in nature and fund ongoing services which need to be regularly reviewed. Difficult decisions have to be made based on whether they are proven to reduce crime and disorder, contribute towards delivery of the Plan and/or reduce police demand. Every single penny we award through crime and disorder grants is another penny not available for policing. This is why we follow the approach – we ask for evidence of how something is making a difference; we ask for proof of the ‘so what;’ we bring recipients in show the difference they are making. • a Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve – which can only be used for activities which prevent road crashes and promote road safety; and

- a **Youth Fund** and a **Communities Fund** – which is available to Community Safety Partnerships.

Details of all awards made from each of these funds are available on the Commissioner's website (see links below for ease) and will be shared in the Commissioner's Annual Report.

Victim Services: [The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire | Supporting victims and witnesses of crime \(cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/supporting-victims-and-witnesses-of-crime)

Crime and Disorder Reduction: [The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire | Crime and Disorder Reduction \(cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/crime-and-disorder-reduction)

Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve: [The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire | The Casualty Reduction and Support Reserve \(cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/casualty-reduction-and-support-reserve)

Youth Fund Awards: [The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire | Funding available from the Police and Crime Commissioner \(cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/funding-available-from-the-police-and-crime-commissioner) (Scroll down this page)

7	ENHANCED RESOURCES in 2022/23			
7.1	The OPCC has led successful bids to central government worth £1,787,658 since April 1, 2022. This equates to more than the cost of the OPCC Office. This has included:			
	Funding stream	Amount secured in 22/23	Work delivered	Narrative
Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Fund	£311,836	Interventions for (and support for victims):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult perpetrators of domestic abuse • Young perpetrators of child to parent/carer violence • Stalking intervention 	Evaluation of the first year of delivery has shown reductions in violence for those attending the programmes and better management of the risk posed by those delaying stalking behaviour.
ISVA/IDVA Fund	£526,843	Funding secured until March 2025 for an extra:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 ISVAs • 6.4 IDVAs 	A further 2.4 staff were secured in the latest round of funding. We currently have the highest number of ISVA and IDVA posts ever.
Community based domestic abuse and sexual violence support	£295, 887	Community based domestic abuse and sexual violence support services		Funding secure for three years' worth £887,661 This enables grass roots charities to provide locally based support.
Male Rape Support	£18,807	This provides therapeutic support for male victims of sexual violence		At the time of writing 11 service users have accessed such support.
Safer Streets 4	£634,285 for 15 months delivery	This provides funding for environmental improvements and proactive responses to crime and disorder in areas of Peterborough and Wisbech.		This work is being managed by the Constabulary who is working with nine delivery partners.
Totals	£1,787,658			The total if we include the additional year 2 and 3 funding for DA/SV support total is £2,360,625
8	EMERGING RISKS			

8.1	<p>At the time of writing this report the OPCC is waiting for confirmation of new bidding rounds or for rollover of funding streams into 23/24. This poses less of a risk for time limited work, for example Safer Streets 4. However, the early intervention work being delivered through the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme has not yet secured future funding. The Commissioner will be exploring whether the Child to Parent Violence Family Respect Programme, which is proven to reduce police demand and violence, can be funded from Crime and Disorder Reduction Funding.</p>
8.2	<p>The additional community-based domestic abuse and sexual violence support funding and that for extra posts to support victims was awarded until March 2025. This in itself will create a potential cliff edge of more than £820k. The OPCC will continue to work in partnership with colleagues across the system to ‘shrink services’ in line with the agreed core model so victims will be able to access equitable support wherever they live in the county.</p>
9.	<p>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</p>
	<p>Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents</p> <p>‘Financial Regulations for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioners (including Contract Standing Orders),’ May 2020 cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/Combined-Financial-Regulations-May-2020-reviewed.doc</p> <p>Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 (legislation.gov.uk)</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (legislation.gov.uk)</p>