

**To:** Joint Audit Committee  
**Date:** 29 November 2016  
**By:** Lisa Herrington  
**Title:** OPCC Senior Policy Officer

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**Purpose of Report/Issue:** A report giving assurances around the PCCs arrangements for the making of grants, as requested by the Committee.

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**Recommendation(s)** - The Committee notes the report.

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**Equalities / Human Rights Implications** – None arising.

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**Risk-** No specific risks arise from this report.

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**Contact Details –**

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 There are two funding streams from which the PCC commissions services:

*Victims Fund (VF)* - Following the MOJ consultation 'Getting it Right for Victims and Witnesses' responsibility for commissioning the bulk of support services was devolved from central government to local PCCs. In 2016/17 £1,372, 554 of funding was made available to the PCC for this purpose.

*Community Safety Fund (CSF)* - Each year the Commissioner sets aside a proportion of the Police Grant to fund initiatives aimed at making Surrey safer. In 2016/17 £390,920 was set aside for this purpose.

- 1.2 Services and activities are commissioned through a mixed model of procurement and grant-making.

## **2. Audit and inspection**

- 2.1 In May 2016 an internal audit conducted by RSM made a number of recommendations for the continual improvement of grant making by the PCC. The management action against all recommendations is now complete and is summarised below:

- An internal procedure has been created detailing each stage of the grant making process.
- External documentation has been reviewed and updated to ensure consistency.
- Decision Records submitted to the PCC detailing recommendations from the CSF and VF grant making Panel now includes the applications recommended not to be supported by the PCC, as well as those recommended for PCC approval. Decision Records are published on the website for transparency.
- A Scoring Sheet is used by the Panel members to keep a record of those present, the decisions for grant applications, along with supporting rationale.
- The OPCC supported by the Force's financial team will perform checks to confirm the organisation's validity, stability or authenticity.
- The Force Finance team has implemented a three day processing time for electronic grant payments.

- A new grant-making process has been agreed by the PCC, which will see core services grant funded for three years with Service Level Agreements in place, yearly grants applied for via the usual application process and a streamlined online process for grants under £5,000. Monitoring arrangements will continue to be set by a Policy Officer and tracked using a new spreadsheet, which flags when reports are due.

### **3. Future Strategy**

- 3.1 The PCC has introduced a new commissioning strategy for 2016-20 to deliver against the Police and Crime Plan priorities. The strategy details 11 commissioning themes (e.g. domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, mental health and re-offending) and how the commissioning process will be undertaken in a fair and transparent way to deliver intended outcomes for Surrey.
- 3.2 The PCC is working closely with other commissioners to better share information, identify shared outcomes and jointly commission solutions. Key successes with national importance include a new intervention service for domestic abuse perpetrators; a pilot initiative to address low level re-offending by women and get them out of the criminal justice system and; a high impact, complex drinkers project.
- 3.4 The PCC has launched a new online Funding Hub, which promotes even greater transparency, allowing residents and interested parties to easily understand how funding is used and provides the facility to apply for small grants online.

### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The Committee can be assured the PCC's grant-making meets the needs of Surrey citizens and that he is working closely with all partners to ensure commissioners recognise what works, when services need to adapt and when it is necessary to design, test and evaluate new approaches.