

Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey – Decision Making Record

Title: Community Safety Fund – April - June 2014 Applications

Decision number: 065/2014

Author and Job Role: Amy McLeod, Partnership Policy Officer

Protective Marking: Part One

Executive Summary:

During the financial year 2013/14 the PCC was responsible for allocating a Home Office grant to local community safety projects and initiatives. For 2014/15 this funding is no longer available from the Home Office, however recognising the importance of this the Surrey PCC has decided to maintain a local fund to ensure continued support to local community, voluntary and faith organisations. For the financial year 2014/15 this fund totals £627,370 of which £100,000 has been committed to provide continued support to Domestic Abuse outreach charities and £29,400 awarded to develop the service provided by the Rape and Sexual Assault Support Centre.

Between April and June the PCC received seventeen applications totalling £235,862.00. Thirteen applications have been recommended for approval, totalling £108,001 thereby leaving £389,969 for future applications.

Of the successful bids ten are for countywide projects, with the remaining focusing on the boroughs of Tandridge, Mole Valley, Runnymede and Woking.

Applications

The following provides an overview of those applications received and recommended for approval.

Skaterham

£3540 has been awarded to this local voluntary organisation to subsidise a trip to Cornwall for a group of disenfranchised young people at risk of offending or exclusion from school. The group have identified six young people who require financial support in order to attend the trip which seeks to improve the skills of young people in co-operation, leadership and wider practical skills. The organisation supports young people to keep away from crime and disorder by explaining the consequences of behaviour and also helps to build relationships between young people and those in authority. By providing funds for this project, it is hoped to avoid feelings of exclusion and isolation from those without the financial support to attend. The panel were impressed that the organisation had raised two-thirds of the funds themselves through sponsorship and other donations in order to help fund the trip.

Leatherhead Youth Project

£3500 was awarded to Leatherhead Youth Project to continue to run their weekly drop-in session for young men aged 14-18 who have been identified by the police as a concern or who are vulnerable/disadvantaged. The project aims to reduce ASB and helps young men to build better relationships within their communities.

The panel were impressed that in addition to the weekly Friday evening sessions, the project also operates monthly on a Saturday morning taking part in activities such as litter picks or working in the allotment thereby encouraging the members to become active in their communities.

Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum

This organisation represents 52 ethnic minority groups across Surrey, seeking to build trust and confidence and increasing engagement. £34,360 was requested to run a one year project to address Domestic Abuse, Drug and Alcohol use, Gambling, and Mental Illness, focusing on awareness, prevention, reducing stigma and partnership support.

£10,000 was awarded to pilot the delivery of awareness raising and educational sessions in one borough before delivering this more widely. The aim of the pilot is to better understand the take-up from minority communities and the impact of the sessions on the audience.

Surrey Young Witness Service

This was a joint application submitted with support from Surrey Police to train and develop a new team of volunteers to support 4 to 11 year olds while they view their previously recorded video evidence. This reduces the demand on Police Officers who currently undertake this duty and who are not always able to provide the necessary level of support to a child victim. The new team would be able to spend more time and facilitate this viewing of evidence in the least traumatic manner. Surrey Police have committed to match fund the £3950 in order to maintain the service for two years.

The Eikon Charity

£3945 has been awarded to enable Eikon to provide football coaching sessions once a week over a period of 46 weeks to young people aged 13-19 years old. The training will be provided by two skilled youth workers, one of whom is a qualified football coach. This project has been piloted in the past and has been very successful building positive relationships between the young people and Surrey Police. The programme provides opportunities for young people to develop leadership skills and progress to coaching. The training sessions also focus on encouraging healthy lifestyles and include discussions on drug and alcohol issues.

York Road Project

The York Road Project requested £3781 to develop the skills of the residents in decorating and minor DIY. Many of the residents of York Road are repeat offenders and this project aims to offer clients support back into employment by offering them tangible skills and boosting their self-esteem and confidence. This funding will enable the project to complete ten houses in the next year thereby also supporting vulnerable people who need help to maintain their homes.

Peer Productions

Peer Productions, an educational theatre charity, requested £18,000 to deliver workshops to junior schools to raise awareness of topics such as abuse in relationships, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse. The charity will also develop an interactive online toolkit covering the key issues which will be published and advertised to all schools.

The panel acknowledged that this is a good project with evidenced outcomes and support from schools however due to previously funding this organisation it was agreed to award £12,000 with the recommendation that Peer Productions try to seek alternative methods of funding.

Syria Community Consultation Event

The Surrey Police Prevent team were awarded a £500 contribution to run a conference in Woking to engage the communities with Police, Home Office and Foreign Office officials. The event aimed to provide an opportunity for open dialogue between communities and those in authority to help improve the sense of safety in the area.

E-Safety Conference

Surrey County Council plan to host a one day conference to raise awareness of the dangers faced by children and young people on the internet. The aim is to provide professionals with the practical advice on how they can minimise risk. Although the panel are supportive of the overall objectives of the conference it was felt that alternate funding sources should also be identified. It was therefore decided to fund up to £5000 in support of this event.

Safe Drive, Stay Alive

Surrey Fire and Rescue run an annual event to improve the road safety awareness of young people to improve attitudes to responsible driving. Funds were approved to provide transport for all schools to enable them to send their young people to the events. The panel agreed to fund this to the value of £35,000 however Surrey Fire and Rescue will need to consider how they maintain the funding of this long term.

Gypsy Skills

Surrey County Council, Youth Support Service provide alternative education for young people from a Gypsy background who have disengaged from the education system. Currently they provide one day a week for 14 students and want to increase this to three days a week for a larger number of 13 to 15 year olds. It is estimated that no more than 20% of the Surrey Gypsy and Traveller communities attend secondary schools, funding was requested to provide English and maths education along with BTECs in either Home Economics or Construction. The panel though this application was extremely worthwhile but thought that funding should be matched by Surrey County Council. £12,600 was awarded and the Deputy PCC agreed to contact the Leader of SCC to encourage additional funding.

FGM Conference

Surrey and Sussex Police are planning on running a joint multi-agency conference to raise awareness of FGM. The aim is to improve how partners respond to concerns and incidences of FGM. This will be achieved through facilitated discussions and the development of a multi-agency action plan to take forward. Funding has been acquired from both forces, with the remaining costs being applied for from both OPCCs. The Surrey OPCC has agreed to pay £2185 and the Deputy PCC has informed the Sussex PCC of this decision.

Redeploy

Redeploy is a newly formed social enterprise, with the strategic aim of creating work for disadvantaged military personnel who have difficulty returning to civilian life. It is estimated that 60% of those leaving the forces end up unemployed, homeless or in prison. This scheme seeks to provide work in a supportive environment by providing a cleaning service. The panel agreed to fund £12,000 to assist with making improvements to the accommodation the company have.

Recommendation

The Commissioner supports the recommendations of the Community Safety Fund Decision Panel and awards to the following;

- £3540 to Skaterham to support their annual trip to Cornwall for at risk young people.
- £3500 to Leatherhead Youth project to support their drop-in sessions.
- £10,000 to Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum to pilot an awareness raising and education project.
- £3950 to Victim Support to support child victims in reviewing evidence.
- £3945 to Eikon to deliver training and development opportunities for young people.
- £3781 to the York Road Project to develop skills of those who are homeless and unemployed.
- £12,000 to Peer Productions to develop their theatre education programme for children at junior schools.
- £500 to Surrey Police to run a Syria community consultation event.
- £5000 to Surrey County Council to run a one day conference in relation to on-line safety for young people.
- £35,000 to Surrey Fire and Rescue to deliver Safe Drive, Stay Alive.
- £12,600 to support the delivery Gypsy Skills alternative education.
- £2185 to Surrey Police and Sussex Police to deliver a conference on the subject of FGM.
- £12,000 to Redeploy to help with the start-up costs for their Social Enterprise.

Police and Crime Commissioner Approval

I approve the recommendation(s):

Signature:



Date: 16/07/2014

All decisions must be added to the decision register.

Areas of consideration

Consultation

Consultation has taken place with appropriate lead officers depending on the application. All applications have been asked to supply evidence of any consultation and community engagement.

Financial implications

All applications have been asked to supply accurate financial information including the total costs of the project with breakdown where the money will be spent; any additional funding secured or applied for and plans for on-going funding. The Community Safety Fund Decision Panel considers the financial risks and opportunities when looking at each application.

Legal

Legal advice is taken on an application by application basis.

Risks

The Community Safety Fund Decision Panel considers any risks in the allocation of funding. It is also part of the process to consider when refusing an application the service delivery risks if appropriate.

Equality and diversity

Each application will be requested to supply appropriate equality and diversity information as part of the monitoring requirements. All applicants are expected to adhere to the Equality Act 2010

Risks to human rights

Each application will be requested to supply appropriate human rights information as part of the monitoring requirements. All applicants are expected to adhere to the Human Rights Act.