



OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR THAMES VALLEY

Report for Decision: PCC 2020 / 009

Title: Police Property Act Fund donations 2020/21

Executive Summary:

The Police Property Act Fund is created from the proceeds of sale of goods recovered by the police that cannot be returned to their original owner. In accordance with the Police Property Act Regulations (1997) all awards from the fund must be for charitable purposes.

An emergency round of funding was launched on Monday 30th March 2020 to support local voluntary and community groups who are helping Thames Valley Police to respond to the Covid-19 outbreak. The closing date for submitting applications was 12.00 (noon) on Monday 20th April. We stated that £100,000 is being made available.

In total 209 separate bids were received requesting funding of over £1.05m, so more than ten times the amount available.

All applications were considered in detail by a small officer working group, including the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

Their recommendations were presented to the PCC and Chief Constable on 29th April.

In total the PCC and Chief Constable have agreed to provide a grant to 32 separate organisations with funding of £103,740.

Recommendation:

The PCC is invited to APPROVE grants worth £103,740 to those local charities and community groups as set out in Appendix 1.

Police and Crime Commissioner

I hereby approve the recommendation above.

Signature

Date: 30-4-20

PART I – NOT CONFIDENTIAL

1 Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Police (Property) Act 1997 is a fund whereby allocations are received from the sale of recovered stolen goods or property. If the owners of the property are not traceable then the goods are sold at auction. The monies from the sales of the goods are then redistributed by way of grants or donations for charitable purposes that support and complement local policing and crime reduction priorities.
- 1.2 The PCC and Chief Constable normally run two public bidding rounds each year with bids being linked to specific Police and Crime Plan objectives. However, this year they agreed to run an emergency round of funding aimed at those local charities and/or community groups that are helping the police response to the Covid-19 outbreak. £100,000 is being made available for this purpose.
- 1.3 The bidding process commenced on 30th March and closed at 12.00 (noon) on Monday 20th April 2020.
- 1.4 Under the Scheme of Governance, Financial Regulations provide for the PCC and Chief Constable to jointly determine the payments to be made in accordance with the Regulations.

2 Issues for consideration

- 2.1 Applicants were asked to explain how they will help Thames Valley Police to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 2.2 In total 209 separate bids for funding were received requesting total funding of just over £1.05m, which is over 10 times higher than the amount available (£100,000) for distribution in this funding round. This therefore meant that the PCC and Chief Constable could only support a relatively small proportion of the total bids that had been received.
- 2.3 As such, all bids were reviewed and considered in detail to identify those that provide the greatest benefit to the PCC and Chief Constable in helping the Police to respond to the Covid-19 outbreak.
- 2.4 The PCC and Chief Constable have agreed to support 32 separate organisations with individual grants ranging from £690 to £8,000.

3 Financial comments

- 3.1 The PCC and Chief Constable have agreed to support 32 separate organisations with individual grants ranging from £690 to £8,000, as set out in Appendix 1. In total these grants amount to £103,740.

4 Legal comments

- 4.1 Under regulation 6(4)(c) of the Police (Property) Regulations 1997 the payment must be made for “charitable purposes”. By virtue of the Charities Act 2011 a charitable purposes is one that falls under section 3(1) of the Act and is for the public benefit, which means it does not necessarily have to be a registered charity.

5 Equality comments

5.1 No specific implications arising from this report.

6 Conclusion

6.1 The PCC is asked to formally approve the list of grant donations as set out in Appendix 1.

7 Background papers

n/a

Public access to information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the website within 1 working day of approval. Any facts and advice that should not be automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on a separate Part 2 form. Deferment of publication is only applicable where release before that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

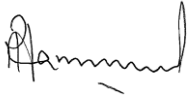
Is there a Part 2 form? No

Name & Role	Officer
Head of Unit Grants have been awarded in accordance with Financial Regulations	PCC / Chief Constable
Legal Advice Under regulation 6(4)(c) of the Police (Property) Regulations 1997 the payment must be made for "charitable purposes"	Governance Manager
Financial Advice The fund is managed effectively and robustly and donations are made within the definitions of the regulatory framework.	Chief Finance Officer
Equalities & Diversity No specific implications arising from this report	PCC Chief Executive

OFFICER'S APPROVAL

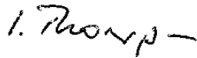
We have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial and legal advice have been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

We are satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.



Chief Executive

Date: 30 April 2020



Chief Finance Officer

Date 30 April 2020