

## Community Fund

### 1. Background

The PCC's current Police and Crime Plan (2024-2029) focuses on three key pillars: 1) Protecting Communities; 2) Protecting People; and 3) Protecting Property. The full Police and Crime Plan is available here: <https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/police-and-crime-plan/>

Twice a year, the Community Fund provides a grant funding opportunity to both voluntary and community groups across the Thames Valley. Organisations from across the Thames Valley can apply for grants for projects that support one or more of the PCC's 'Police and Crime Plan' priorities.

The fund, jointly managed by the PCC and the Chief Constable, helps to prevent crime and keep communities safe. Money for the scheme is obtained from the sale of items seized from criminals that cannot be returned to their rightful owners.

The closing date for this round of applications is 12pm (noon) on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September and applications will be reviewed for alignment to criteria and appropriate due diligence by OPCC staff, considered and shortlisted by the PCC and passed to the Chief Constable for final approval.

### 2. Grant application guidance

The guidance below is designed to provide additional information for each section of the Community Fund application form to support applicants with their application, as well as to provide some explanation as to why we require certain information.

#### Eligibility Criteria - Funding limitations

We will consider funding requests up to a total value of £10,000. We limit funding awards to once every 12 months for any organisation - if you have received funding in the last 12 months, we are not able to process your application.

We ask that you confirm that you have NOT received a Community Fund grant within the past 12 months.

#### a) Application contact details

As with any funding application, we require a primary contact as someone we can contact via email or telephone should we require further information relating to the application.

#### b) Your Organisation Details

To qualify, your organisation must be based within the Thames Valley Police (TVP) area. Organisations based outside this area should submit applications to the appropriate police force as all will offer grant funding for community groups.

The majority of applications for the Community Fund are received from Community and Voluntary Organisations, Not for Profit companies limited by guarantee, or Social Enterprises but the fund is not limited to these.

We will not accept applications from commercial organisations, for profit organisations, community owned commercial organisations such as village shops or Public Houses.

If in doubt about your organisations eligibility to apply, please contact [opcc.comms@thamesvalley.police.uk](mailto:opcc.comms@thamesvalley.police.uk)

#### c) Funding

The PCC and TVP provide funding through a number of grants. You have confirmed in section a) that you have NOT received funding from the Community Fund in the last 12 months but to avoid duplicate funding, we also ask that you provide information relating to any other funding received from Thames Valley Police or the Police & Crime Commissioner in the last 3 years

In this section, you must provide details on how, if successful, this money will be spent. The majority of applications are to fund a specific project or to support the organisation running costs, but funding is not restricted to these.

While we would like to approve all appropriate applications, the available funding is limited and we receive a large number of applications, as an example we received over 360 applications in 2024. We want to support as many organisations as possible and will on occasions offer funding below the requested amount. Where this is the case we need to be sure that the reduced funding amount offered will still have an impact. The required funding could be secured from another source, or the scale of the project could be reduced and your objectives adjusted accordingly. You are also permitted to decline the grant funding offer should it be lower than the amount requested if you do not feel that you will be able to deliver your intended objectives.

#### d) Purpose

Description of the work you plan to undertake: We need to understand the problem you aim to address or the opportunity you have identified, together with some detail of how you aim to deliver this change. In addition, we have provided a range of possible deliverables and populations you propose to deliver to. These lists are not exhaustive and there is an option to select 'other' and provide appropriate information.

This fund is an opportunity for community and voluntary groups to get involved and assist both the PCC and TVP in tackling and reducing crime. The Police and Crime Plan details the PCC's priorities for addressing crime and we ask that you identify which aspect of the plan your proposal would support.

#### e) Deliverables

Identify outputs / products expected to be delivered (e.g. number of sessions, length of intervention, number of clients, referrals etc.) as a result of this work.

Where possible we would like data supporting these deliverables and an understanding of how this would support the identified Police and Crime Plan priority.

We are aware that not all projects / work will allow the collection of data, but it is preferred. Where data cannot be collected, we need to understand how you will evidence success.

It should be noted that we will require a short project close report and encourage successful applicants to collect data, testimonials, and visuals to utilise at this point. The project close report allows us to assess impact, but it also give an opportunity to celebrate your success and communicate to a wider audience.

#### f) Required confirmation

While we will not ask for details or supporting documentation, we do require confirmation that you have the appropriate safeguarding and data protection policy and procedures in place.

#### g) Additional Supporting information

This is not mandatory but if you have existing relationships with TVP or Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), it will strengthen your application and so should be highlighted here.

### Notes

#### **Presentation Event**

Successful applicants to each round of the Community Fund are invited to attend a presentation event, hosted by Matthew Barber (Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley) and Jason Hogg (Chief Constable, Thames Valley Police).

Alongside the PCC and Chief Constable, a number of previously successful applicants are invited to share a short presentation on how the Community Fund has supported them as well as High Sheriffs and Lord Lieutenants from across Thames Valley.

We are due to host the presentation event for this round of the Community Fund on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November (location TBC). If you have any queries regarding the presentation event, please contact [opcc.comms@thamesvalley.police.uk](mailto:opcc.comms@thamesvalley.police.uk)

You can find out more about our previous presentation events on [our dedicated webpage](#).

### 3. Project Evaluation

All funded projects will be required to complete an evaluation that we will send you in due course. This does not need to be completed until the project or funded position concludes which will be no later than 11<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

To support and simplify, the evaluation has a number of pre-completed fields using information supplied on your original funding application

We advise that successful applicants review the project close document and the guidance below before starting work on the project. This will ensure that the required scope and level of detail expected to be included in the evaluation is understood.

The project evaluation content is as follows:

- a) The form shows the total grant value and we ask that you confirm actual spend associated with this project
- b) Objective & Approach: we appreciate that you provided some information around objectives within your original application, but we are also aware that objectives become clearer as the project progresses. We would also like to understand how you approached the project implementation

Example of desired narrative:

*The aim of the project was to make a film based on current issues relating to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) as highlighted by local youth groups. To include the reasons young people may engage in ASB, as well as the risks and consequences to both the perpetrators and victims. Subsequently we plan to use the resource with other local youth groups and create opportunities for feedback and discussion.*

- c) Involved or impacted population: tell us about the populations involved and / or impacted by the project.

Example of desired narrative:

*The participants were youth volunteers who have been involved in or impacted by ASB. Participants were encouraged to be hands on with the production process taking on all the roles needed in making the finished product, guided by the team. We also aimed to change the participant's mind-sets to that of a professional environment of a creative production team making a film reflecting on identified issues and challenges. Our objectives included: creating a video to encourage open discussions on subjects relating to ASB which young people may find difficult to talk about in other environments. Creating a safe space where young people can learn about the impacts of ASB and discuss any concern and for young people to receive ongoing support from youth workers with any concerns that arise.*

*In addition, we aimed to create a legacy impact, using the output to inform and educate additional youth populations.*

- d) Measures of success; as part of your original application you provided information relating to delivery against the identified element of the PCCs Police and Crime Plan. Tell us about your output, how this delivered your original objectives and the Police and Crime Plan objective(s).

- e) Evidence based evaluation – what data, testimonials etc. did you collect to allow measurement of success? We ask that you attach detail of data / testimonials below.
- f) Overall experience: We would like to understand the highlights and challenges, experienced as part of this project together with possibilities for future funding applications and / or funding sources you have secured to continue this work.