

Freedom of Information Act request

Your e-mail asking for specific information using Freedom of Information Act 2000 legislation has been safely received in this office.

On 3 January 2019 you wrote:

“There was a project between SMBC and WMP which was initiated in 2016 with a company called MutualGain.

As a result of this project, there were two sub groups set up comprising of SMBC staff, WMP officers, community volunteers and members of the public in order to allocate a “ring fenced” amount of Active Citizens funding to community projects in the political wards of Soho and Victoria, Smethwick and Princes send, Tipton.

Could you please provide details relating to those projects that were funded by this venture:

- Project Name
- Organisation requesting funding
- Amount Requested
- Amount Granted
- Any allocated reference numbers with application form”

You are correct in that the Active Citizen Fund came into being in 2016. This a joint initiative between the Police and Crime Commissioner and West Midlands Police. Three funding streams (POCA, PPA and CIF) were merged to create a fund which was equally distributed to neighbourhood policing units (NPU) across the West Midlands. For more background details please see the Commissioner’s website here: www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/key-issues/active-citizens-fund/

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This fund, now in its third year, is administered by this office. Records are maintained of successful projects in each of the eight neighbourhood police units (ie Birmingham East, Birmingham West, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton.) Records are not kept relating to political wards. However, it may be that West Midlands Police hold that detail separately.

In addition, this office maintains records of the grants authorised, which is not necessarily always the amount originally requested. Again, West Midlands Police NPU Partnership teams may hold that information.

In summary, I can provide you with some information by area but not by ward and you may prefer to contact West Midlands Police FOI unit in that respect. Should you wish me to provide information held by this office, please specify a timeframe and identify the area/s in question (ie Sandwell, Dudley).

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Jardine

Chief Executive