



**STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD
4 March 2014**

Use of the Community Safety Fund 2013-14

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update members of the Board on the spending activity for the Community Safety Fund monies allocated to each of the seven Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) by the Commissioner. Each of the CSPs have now evolved into a Local Police and Crime Board.
2. One of the Commissioner's key manifesto pledges was the introduction of Local Policing and Crime Boards. A Partnership Summit was held on the 8 February 2013 at which the Commissioner set out his offer that the Community Safety Fund 2013-14 would be passported out to the CSPs on condition that a community led LPCB was established in each of the local authority areas.
3. Details of his decision can be found on the Commissioner's website www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk in decision WMPCC 08 2013.

BACKGROUND

4. In 2013-14, in addition to the Home Office Police Main Grant and other specific Home Office police grants (such as Counter Terrorism Policing Grant), Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) received funding from the new Home Office Community Safety Fund (CSF). The CSF was un-ringfenced and PCCs are able to use it to commission services that help tackle drugs and crime, reduce re-offending, and improve community safety in their force area.
5. The allocation of the CSF to individual Commissioners from the Home Office was based on the existing distribution of drugs, crime and community safety grants across police force areas. However the CSF is a new funding stream which PCCs have the freedom and flexibility to use as they see fit to support their wider crime prevention priorities.
6. The introduction of the CSF meant that the vast majority of existing Home Office drugs, crime and community safety funding streams, which had been made previously to local crime and disorder partnerships, ended in March 2013.

LEVELS OF FUNDING

7. Allocations of the CSF in 2013-14 were set out in the Written Ministerial Statement that the Policing Minister laid in Parliament on 4 February 2013. Funding for drugs, crime and community safety was reduced from around £123m in 2012-13 to £90m in 2013-14.
8. The total allocation of the CSF in the West Midlands for the financial year 2013-14 was £6,969,000. The following table sets out the decision of the Commissioner regarding the allocation of funding for 2013-14 and the second row sets out the total spend to the end of quarter 3.

	Birmingham	Sandwell	Coventry	W'hampton	Walsall	Dudley	Solihull	Sub-Total	West Mids Police	Total
%	36	8	8	7	6	6	4	74	26	100
CSF Allocation 2013/14	2,497,583	530,190	546,304	492,495	402,203	396,364	285,938	5,151,077	1,817,923	6,969,000
CSF Spend to Quarter 3	1,151,000	388,645	465,379	423,179	307,257	307,857	216,962	3,326,298	1,527,322	4,853,620

9. There have been some requests for carry forward of funding into the new financial year 2014-15 from some LPCBs, and this has been agreed on the basis that the allocation is spent in line with the original intention on which the spending plan was approved. Currently requests have come from Sandwell to carry forward £14,490 and Birmingham who had requested to carry forward £242,000. The Office is expecting further requests.
10. Attached at Annex 1 is the information received from each of the Local Police and crime Boards regarding spend to quarter 3 for the financial year 2013-14.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11. The financial implications are set out the funding section of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Schedule 9 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides commissioners with the powers to award crime and disorder grants to any organisations and projects they consider will help them achieve their crime prevention and wider priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. The Board is asked to note the contents of the report.

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