

**WEST MIDLANDS POLICE
AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

NOTICE OF DECISION

WMPCC 24 2013

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Title: Process for the award of grants from the Community Initiative Fund

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Police and Reform Responsibility Act 2011 Schedule 1, Section 1 14 (1) provides that a Police and Crime Commissioner may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of Commissioner. Section 9 of the Act gives the power to the Commissioner to make a crime and disorder reduction grant to any person. Such grants may be subject to any conditions which the body thinks appropriate.

The Commissioner has included a sum of £25,000 in the budget delegated to the Chief Executive for the award of grants up to the sum of £750. This decision sets out the process by which such awards will be made.

DECISION

I approve the Community Initiative Fund process as set out below which defines the procedure for decision making that I will use for the Community Initiative Fund allocation of £25,000 for 2013 -14.

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime. Any interests are indicated below.

Signature.....Bob Jones.....

Date.....12 June 2013.....

NON - CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Commissioner has included in the budget for the West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime the sum of £25,000 for use within a Communities Initiative Fund. The objectives for the Fund are that any grants awarded must achieve improvements in community safety and increase reassurance within the community thereby contributing to the Commissioner's own Police and Crime Plan. Applications to the fund are expected to demonstrate that:

- the project will help to improve community safety and increase reassurance
- it is a response to an issue affecting the community
- effective management structures are in place
- it has an appropriate clean plan and justification.

The Commissioner has reviewed the process for allocation to ensure that his decisions are made on criteria of fairness and equity ensuring a geographical spread of awards across the West Midlands.

The Process

- There will be three meetings each year of a Community Initiative Fund Panel comprising the Deputy and Assistant Police and Crime Commissioners. Meetings will be held in June, October and January.
- The Panel will assess the applications and make an initial recommendation using the criteria and outcomes above.
- The Commissioner will make the final decision on allocation of funding after considering the recommendations from the Panel.
- The Commissioner does have the discretion to make awards outside of the proposed panel meeting cycle should an application need urgent consideration.

As with all formal decisions of the Commissioner, the decisions will be posted on the website.

The process takes account of the discussions and recommendations made by the Strategic Policing and Crime Board.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Community Initiative Fund is £25,000 annually. It is intended to award this sum in grants with a value up to £750 per annum.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Police and Reform Responsibility Act 2011 Schedule 1, Section 14 (1) provides that a Police and Crime Commissioner may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of Commissioner. Section 9 of the Act gives the power to the Commissioner to make a crime and disorder reduction grant to

any person. Such grants may be subject to any conditions which the body thinks appropriate.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

The Panel will have regard to equalities issues when considering whether grants should be awarded, seeking to ensure that the outcomes sought in any grant award are fair and equitable.

Schedule of Background Papers

Strategic Policing and Crime Board report considered at the Board's meeting held on 11 June 2013.

Public Access to Information

Information contained in this decision is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation. This decision will be made available on the Commissioner's website.