

PCC Commissioning 2019/20

The Commissioner determines the level of funding for commissioning services. In the West Midlands the total is **over £17.9m** and currently takes the form of:

1 Victims Fund - £3,346,608

The Ministry of Justice provides a ring-fenced grant on a statutory basis to the PCC to commission services to support victims and their immediate family members cope and recover from crimes they may have experienced, regardless of whether the crime has been reported to the Police. This grant is subject to specific conditions and requirements, which includes the submission of grant returns detailing quantitative information on the services funded. The funding is issued as a grant under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 to support 'victims, witnesses or other persons affected by offences'.

The grant is provided for the following purposes:

- Providing or commissioning a referral service, where victims can be provided with information or referral to other suitable support services in accordance with their needs
- Providing or commissioning support services for victims of crime and any additional services for victims of the most serious crime persistently targeted, vulnerable and intimidated. In addition, support should be made available for family members and bereaved family members
- Providing or commissioning support services for victims of sexual violence, domestic abuse and victims of child sexual abuse, and exploitation
- Provision of victim led, pre and post sentence restorative justice services
- Covering any associated costs linked to providing or commissioning support services
- Building the capacity and capability of the VCSE who are providing support services to victims of crime
- Ensure that all services provided or commissioned adhere to Article 8 of the EU Victims Directive e.g. free of charge, confidential and available whether the crime has been reported to the Police or not.

2 Community Safety Fund - £3,863,303

- The Community Safety Fund allocation comes from Police Main Grant.
- PCCs have the freedom and flexibility to use the grant as they see fit to support their wider crime prevention priorities. PCCs are therefore free to use CSF to invest in existing programmes if they see a benefit in doing so. However, this is a decision for individual PCCs to take locally. PCCs are also free to pool funding with local partners.
- The West Midlands Community Safety Partnership (WMCSP) is a force wide strategic partnership comprised of key partners who have a statutory responsibility or role within community safety. The WMCSP mirrors the local partnerships and partners include YOS, Public Health, Fire, WMCA, Local Authorities, CCG's and WMP.
- 2018/19 was a transition year, however the PCC has continued to distribute funds to local authorities to commission the projects that the seven CSPs have highlighted as critical areas of capability. The PCC will continue to fund these activities while working towards a force-wide response to the priorities agreed on by the WMCSP. These are:
 - Preventing crime and disorder

- Serious and organised crime
 - Supporting victims
 - Offending and reoffending
 - Substance Misuse
- The WMCSF places a new emphasis on force wide collaboration, sharing of best practice, avoiding duplication and achieving economies of scale. Funding must be spent in-year, with any underspend being properly reported, accounted for and a spending plan for the next financial year clearly outlined.
 - The majority of CSF is to be spent on frontline service delivery. Any deviance from this requires a clear rationale about how the allocation will work towards reducing crime and improving community safety in a particular locality. CSF funding cannot be used to fund statutory services or staffing posts that other partner agencies are legally required to provide.

3 External Commissioning Fund - £4,803,103

- This budget is supported by Police Main Grant and enables the PCC to fund activities that support the outcomes from his Police and Plan. Projects within this allocation cover a wide range of priorities, from offender management, gangs and violence, intervention and prevention including and domestic violence perpetrator programmes as well as working with communities to enhance services and maintain community contact across the West Midlands. Community groups, voluntary organisations and social enterprises are working with the OPCC to make the West Midlands an even safer place. This funding comes from Police Main Grant and is an acknowledgement that policing alone is not the only response to the reduction of crime and disorder.

4 The Active Citizens Fund - £1,152,797

- Is financed from monies recovered by West Midlands Police under the **Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) 2002** and Police Property Act which lets us confiscate or recover the proceeds of crime from a criminal. Find out more about the Proceeds of Crime Act [here](#)
- The PCC's Active Citizens Fund is available to organisations from the community and voluntary sector to support projects that help the PCC meet the priorities set out in his plan. Funding is allocated via an application process that takes place through each Neighbourhood Policing Unit, to support community engagement. All applications are signed off by the Chief Executive of the OPCC. More information on Active Citizens Fund can be found [here](#)

On 9 April 2018, the government published its [serious violence strategy](#) setting out an ambitious programme of work to respond to increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide. As part of this work, the PCC has received additional funding during 2019-20 of £4,278,000. Those allocations are:

5 The Early Youth Intervention Fund - £1,324,000

The aims of the fund are:

- delivering services to support and prevent young people from getting involved in crime by supporting positive activities

- delivering positive outcomes for young people, focused on addressing risk factors which are linked to serious violence
- building on, and developing, our understanding of what works in practice for tackling these risks factors
- driving improved local, multi-agency partnership working; and most crucially
- reducing the levels of serious violence and crime

6 Violence Reduction Unit Funding - £3,370,000

- Violence reduction Units will take a public health, multi-agency approach, bringing together police, local government, health, community leaders and other key partners to tackle violent crime and its underlying causes. They will be responsible for identifying the drivers of serious violence locally and developing a coordinated response to tackle them. The OPCC is in the process of developing the West Midlands VRU alongside partners.

All of the funds above are used by the PCC to commission specific services that are delivered outside of policing, to meet the priorities set out in his Police and Crime Plan and to respond to emerging threats. Services can be commissioned solely by the PCC or jointly with other partners. The PCC holds the Chief Executive, the Chief Finance Officer, and staff of the OPCC to account through regular meetings of the Commissioner's Grant Governance Group. In partnership Boards, the PCC is the accountable body, holding partners to account for delivery.