



**STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD
28 March 2023**

**OPCC Commissioning Budget
2023/24**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To provide members with details of the Commissioner’s Commissioning budget for 2023/24.

BACKGROUND

2. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) manages and distributes resources to organisations to deliver crime prevention activities. This report details the various projects and activities that will be supported in 2023/24.
3. The Police and Crime Plan 2021 - 2025 sets out the Commissioner’s police and crime objectives. These include:
 - Rebuilding community policing
 - Preventing and reducing crime
 - Increased confidence in West Midlands Police
 - Supporting the workforce, organisational change and new technology
 - Combatting violence against women and girls and domestic abuse
 - Prioritising the rights of victims
 - An efficient and effective criminal justice system
 - Improving community safety
 - Reducing Violence
 - Working together for children and young people
 - Supporting a friendly, safe and commonwealth games
 - Safer Travel

OPCC COMMISSIONING BUDGET 2023/24

4. The overall amounts by funding stream for 2023/24 are detailed below.

Programme	Funding Stream	2023/24 £s
Helping Communities Fund	Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA)	400,000
Community Safety	Police Grant	3,954,765
Intervention and Prevention	Police Grant	1,805,538
Victims Services	Specific Grant	6,529,875
Violence Reduction Partnership	Specific Grant and Partner Contributions	4,485,221
Total		17,175,399

5. Managers within the OPCC have been developing proposals for funding during 2023/24 that will be funded from allocations detailed above. These were reviewed by senior managers across the OPCC to construct the list of projects detailed in Appendix A of this report. A number of these projects have already commenced in previous financial years and have received funding from the OPCC therefore the allocations in Appendix A are in addition to previous allocations. All the projects will assist in the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.
6. The projects and schemes detailed in Appendix A will be allocated to lead member of staff in the OPCC and services will be commissioned in line with the OPCC Commissioning Strategy. There will be project management and oversight arrangements in place, to include project plans, financial oversight, governance oversight, performance monitoring, outcomes monitoring, communications plans and engagement activity. In addition the Commissioning Governance Board that will maintain oversight of commissioning activity across the OPCC in 2023/24.
7. Appendix B of this report provides an overview of each funding stream.
8. Responsibility for delivery is delegated to the Chief Executive in accordance with the Scheme of Joint Governance.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. Details of how projects detailed in Appendix A of this report will be funded are included in paragraph 4 of this report. This is through a combination of specific grant, police grant and monies seized through the Proceeds of Crime Act.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10. 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.
11. There may be instances where services are delivered through a contract these will be procured in line with the PCC's standing orders contained with the scheme of governance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

12. The Board is asked to note the contents of this report.

Mark Kenyon
Chief Finance Officer to the PCC

Appendix B – Funding Streams

The Helping Communities Fund:

The Helping Communities Fund (HCF) 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 Helping Communities 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 Helping Communities Fund can be found [here](#)

Community Safety Fund:

- 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

Intervention and Prevention:

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.

Victims Services:

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.

Violence Reduction Partnership Funding:

- The Violence Reduction Partnership takes 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 are responsible for identifying the drivers of serious violence locally and developing a coordinated response to tackle them.