

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE**

**SUBMISSION FOR:  
DECISION**

**OPEN**

**Title: Community Safety Partnership grant funding 2021/22**

**Date: 11 October 2021**

**Decision record: 232021**

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**1. Executive Summary**

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) currently have grant funding allocated by the PCC for the first half of 2021/22 only. The submission recommends providing funding for the remainder of the year, with some modifications, prior to the planned introduction of new arrangements for 2022/23 onwards.

**2. Recommendation(s)**

That the PCC extends grant funding to CSPs to cover the second half of 2021/22 with strengthened reporting arrangements; and that the PCC does not extend the current Crime Reduction Fund past 30 September to allow for its planned replacement later this year.

**3. Background**

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are statutory partnerships established by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to co-ordinate action on crime and disorder. Local authorities, the police, fire and rescue authorities, health and probation services are statutory members. There are four CSPs in the Humberside area, one for each local authority area.

The previous PCC provided CSPs with grant funding to support their work and delivery of his Police and Crime Plan at the local level. Some of the funding provided to CSPs is “passport” to Youth Offending Services, Safeguarding Adults Boards and Safeguarding Children Partnerships. CSPs were also each provided with a Crime Reduction Fund grant pot to distribute to the voluntary and community sector.

Since taking office, PCC Jonathan Evison has worked with CSP Chairs to redesign these arrangements to make them more effective and improve accountability. New arrangements will come into effect from 1 April 2022 and are the subject of a separate decision. As set out in the Police and Crime Plan, the Crime Reduction Fund will be replaced by a new Delivery Fund later this year.

Due to the 2021 election, CSPs were provided with a grant offer covering the first half of the 2021/22 financial year only, but with full year certainty of funding for staff costs. To allow time to implement the planned new arrangements for 2022/23 onwards, a decision is required on funding for the rest of 2021/22.

#### **4. Options**

##### Option 1: Discontinue funding to CSPs

Funding CSPs is not a statutory requirement for the PCC. All funding could therefore be withdrawn and put to alternative use.

This option is not recommended, because the CSPs are reliant on this funding for co-ordinating their work and delivering some of their activities. This would likely lead to less inter-organisation collaboration at the local level, contrary to the new Police and Crime Plan priorities. It would also significantly impact youth offending services and to a lesser extent safeguarding boards/partnerships.

CSPs had previously been given reassurance that staff costs would be covered for the full year to avoid redundancies, so this option would also contradict that.

##### Option 2: Extend current arrangements to 31 March

All current funding arrangements would be extended to 31 March, utilising established reporting arrangements and management processes for the Crime Reduction Fund.

Continuing the Crime Reduction Fund would either duplicate the new Delivery Fund committed to in the Police and Crime Plan, causing additional work for applicants, or delay its introduction. Leaving existing arrangements unaltered would also fail to improve transparency until the new financial year.

##### Option 3: Strengthen current arrangements (recommended)

Current capacity/project funding to CSPs (known as Core and Flex) would be extended to the end of the financial year. In line with discussions with CSP Chairs, CSPs would be required to provide timely information on any funded projects and work with the OPCC on publicity.

The Crime Reduction Fund would not be extended (meaning that it expired when the initial allocation ended on 30 September), however CSPs would be able to claim for approved projects until the end of the financial year so that they can be completed. This would avoid duplication with the new Delivery Fund when it is introduced.

#### **5. Risks**

The main risk is that as the funding is delegated to CSPs, within certain conditions, they have discretion over how it is used; this could mean funding activities that the PCC

would not support or would not consider a high priority or value for money, or that duplicate other activities funded by the PCC or other partners. This risk is mitigated as follows:

- i) Local authorities (as nominated lead partners to receive the funding) are subject to the same requirements as the PCC in spending public funds, so value for money is an inherent consideration in decision-making.
- ii) The PCC is represented on CSP Boards, where funding decisions are made.
- iii) The Police and Crime Plan has now been published and provided to CSPs, making the PCC's priorities clear.
- iv) Funding is claimed in arrears and the terms of the grant offer provide for non-payment of any ineligible activity.
- v) The OPCC has had sight of spending commitments for the rest of the financial year to confirm alignment with the PCC's priorities.

## 6. Driver for Change/Contribution to Delivery of the Police and Crime Plan

The Police and Crime Plan has Effective Organisations as one of its three aims, with better partnership working a key outcome. It includes providing funding to CSPs as an explicit commitment.

As set out above, the PCC has been working with CSPs to redesign these funding arrangements to improve effectiveness and accountability. A new package has been committed to in the Police and Crime Plan (for 2022/23 onwards) and will be detailed in a separate decision. This decision provides a bridge to these new arrangements, avoiding a hiatus that would have significant implications for partners.

## 7. Financial Implications

The implication of Option 3, the recommended option, is the following full year allocations to CSPs:

CSP	Core	Flex Grant	Annual CRF	Flexible CRF	Total
Hull	400,549	212,702	58,500	100,234	771,986
East Riding	361,740	43,877	34,721	5,975	446,312
North Lincolnshire	259,577	134,358	34,875	31,823	460,634
North East Lincolnshire	303,134	40,810	42,188	155	386,286
					<b>2,065,218</b>

These allocations are covered by the existing approved budget, which provided for full year funding to CSPs.

## 8. Legal Implications

The funding to CSPs will be provided via a grant offer setting out the terms of the funding. The only substantive change to this from previous years is strengthening one of the conditions around reporting and publicity on funded projects.

**9. Equalities Implications**

No equalities implications have been identified for the OPCC. The funding will be provided to local authorities as nominated leads on behalf of CSPs; both they and other statutory partners are subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

**10. Consultation**

Relevant OPCC staff, including the Chief Executive, Contracts and Commissioning Manager and Deputy Chief Finance Officer, have been consulted and agree with the preferred option.

Discussions have also taken place with CSP Chairs on both the new funding arrangements (covered by a separate decision) and these bridging arrangements, including a roundtable with the PCC, and they support the approach.

**11. Communication Issues**

Improved sharing of information and collaboration on publicity are integral to the preferred approach.

**12. Background documents**

None.

**13. Publication**

Open.

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside**

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.

Any such interests are recorded below.

The above decision has my approval.

**Signature**



**Date 21/10/2021**

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND APPEND THE FOLLOWING TABLE TO ALL REPORTS THAT REQUIRE A DECISION FROM THE COMMISSIONER**

This matrix provides a simple check list for the things you need to have considered within your report. If there are no implications please state

I have informed and sought advice from HR, Legal, Finance, OPCC officer(s) etc prior to submitting this report for official comments	Relevant officers have been consulted.
Is this report proposing an amendment to the budget?	No
Value for money considerations have been accounted for within the report	Yes
The report is approved by the relevant Chief Officer	
I have included any procurement/commercial issues/implications within the report	Not applicable
I have liaised with Corporate Communications on any communications issues	Not applicable
I have completed an Equalities Impact Assessment and the outcomes are included within the report	Not applicable
I have included any equalities, diversity and or human rights implications within the report	Yes
Any Health and Safety implications are included within the report	Not applicable
I have included information about how this report contributes to the delivery of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan	Yes