

## PFCC Decision Report

<b>Report reference number:</b> 030-25
<b>Classification:</b> Not protectively marked
<b>Title of report:</b> PFCC Core Funding Allocations 2025-26
<b>Area of county/ stakeholders affected:</b> Countywide
<b>Report by:</b> Greg Myddelton (Strategic Head of Partnerships and Delivery)
<b>Date of report:</b> 08/04/2025
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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 To approve the allocation of a total of £1,578,646 core annual grants from the PFCC's 2025-26 Community Safety Fund (CSF) to a range of community safety partners as outlined in section 4.1 below.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The PFCC is asked to approve the allocation of £1,578,646 from the 2025-26 Community Safety Fund to the organisations identified in section 4.1 below to support local priorities and deliver against the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan.

### 3. Background to the proposal

- 3.1 This funding is an annual core funding commitment from the PFCC to partners including Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), Youth Justice Teams (YJTs), Safeguarding Boards and substance misuse partnerships across the county.
- 3.2 The grants support CSPs to deliver against their statutory duties and undertake local activities, projects or initiatives in support of the work of the PFCC, Essex Police and the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service. This funding enables CSPs to engage with local communities and residents, and to commission activity to improve local community safety outcomes. This funding was allocated via decision report 041-24 in 2024-25.
- 3.3 Funding to other partner organisations enables the delivery of their statutory responsibilities that support the Police and Crime Plan, for instance providing substance misuse treatment services, and working to support young people in the criminal justice

system via Youth Justice Services. Decision report 040-24 covered the 2024-25 core funding to other partners.

#### 4 Proposal and Associated Benefits

4.1 If this decision report is approved, the PFCC will make the following allocations:

<b>Community Safety Partnerships</b>	
Basildon	£20,562
Braintree	£14,111
Brentwood	£11,221
Castle Point	£12,083
Chelmsford	£15,266
Colchester	£17,907
Epping Forest	£15,327
Harlow	£19,354
Maldon	£9,965
Rochford	£9,813
Southend-on-Sea	£22,045
Tendring	£19,961
Thurrock	£19,867
Uttlesford	£9,302
CSP "top slice" of SETDAB DARDR fund	£92,907
PFCC SETDAB DARDR fund contribution	£43,000
<b>Youth Justice Services</b>	
Essex Youth Justice Service	£253,233
Southend-on-Sea Youth Justice Service	£109,255
Thurrock Youth Justice Service	£81,347
<b>Substance Misuse Services</b>	
Essex County Council	£399,785
Southend-on-Sea City Council	£54,296
Thurrock Council	£48,907
<b>Safeguarding Partnerships</b>	
Essex Adult Safeguarding Board	£58,564

Essex Children's Safeguarding Board	£66,426
Thurrock Adult Safeguarding Board	£18,750
Thurrock Children's Safeguarding Board	£17,777
Southend-on-Sea Adult Safeguarding Board	£22,711
Southend-on-Sea Children's Safeguarding Board	£14,355
<b>Other organisations</b>	
Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association	£15,000
CrimeStoppers (Call centre)	£55,549
CrimeStoppers (regional manager contribution)	£10,000
	<b>£1,578,646</b>

4.2 This grant funding will enable partners including Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), Youth Justice Services (YJSs) (formerly Youth Offending Teams – YOTs), drug and alcohol support services, Safeguarding Boards, Neighbourhood Watch, and Crimestoppers to undertake their core duties, which will have a positive impact on the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan. In supporting these organisations, the PFCC recognises the contribution that they make to creating and sustaining safe and secure local communities.

4.3 The funding to CSPs supports core activities and statutory responsibilities, including to:

- Establish a strategic group to direct the work of the community safety partnership
- Regularly engage and consult with the local community about their community safety priorities
- Set up protocols and systems for sharing information between partners
- Collect and analyse available intelligence and data, including recorded crime levels and patterns, in order to identify need and priorities in an annual strategic assessment
- Develop and publish a partnership plan

4.4 The PFCC monitors CSPs' use of the funding by;

- Reviewing the CSP's annual strategic assessment and / or partnership plan
- Receiving a report outlining how funding was utilised in the previous year, including evidence of its impact
- Requesting and reviewing an outline of how PFCC grant funding will be used, and how that will impact on the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan
- Attending individual annual meetings with each CSP Manager and Chair to discuss performance, issues, and possible areas for development
- Attending partnership meetings such as Safer Essex and Essex Community Safety Network (ECSN)
- Convening an annual Community Safety conference / event

4.5 The PFCC monitors the use of other core funding through attendance at strategic partnership meetings, including YJS Management Boards, the Southend, Essex and

Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB), and Safeguarding Boards, as well as through the provision of annual reports and performance information, where relevant.

4.6 In March 2025, CSPs unanimously agreed to increase the value of the Central Domestic Abuse Related Death Review (DARDR) Fund to 30% (from 12%) in order to keep pace with the cost and volume of DARDRs.

## **5 Options Analysis**

- 5.1 These are annual grants to partners which enable them to deliver statutory responsibilities, activities and projects for the benefit of local residents. If the PFCC chose not to make this investment, it would free up funding to be used elsewhere but would risk partners being under-resourced and unable to deliver against local priorities.
- 5.2 This core grant funding was subject to an internal audit in December 2024. The audit found “reasonable assurance that the controls upon which the organisation relies to manage this risk are suitably designed, consistently applied and effective”.
- 5.3 The PFCC has the alternative option to make CSP funding subject to open competition (by expanding the Community Safety Development Fund) or could decide to allocate the funding to delivery organisations directly. It is felt that this would remove the connection to local areas that CSPs have, which would dilute the value of the funding.

## **6 Consultation and Engagement**

- 6.1 The PFCC attends individual board meetings (including YJS Management Boards, the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Drug and Alcohol Partnership, and Safer Essex) where funding is discussed. The PFCC also undertakes annual meetings with individual CSPs.
- 6.2 The PFCC’s Senior Management Team discussed this decision report at its meetings on 27<sup>th</sup> January and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

## **7 Strategic Links**

- 7.1 This funding will enable the PFCC and partner organisations to support the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan including increasing collaboration, protecting vulnerable people and breaking the cycle of domestic abuse, and protecting rural and isolated areas.

## **8 Operational Implications**

- 8.1 Essex Police supports these partnerships. It is a member of all the CSPs, Safeguarding Boards and Youth Justice Teams.
- 8.2 Essex County Fire and Rescue Service is also a statutory member of each CSP in Essex.
- 8.3 This funding support CSPs, and their members, to deliver on their statutory responsibilities.

## **9 Financial implications**

- 9.1 The PFCC will allocate core grants equalling £1,578,646 to the organisations identified in section 4.1 above.

9.2 This funding is allocated from the 2025/26 Community Safety Fund Budget. Following this allocation there is projected to be £232,812 remaining in the 2025/26 CSF Budget. However, this excludes any carry forward from 2024/25

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
Community Safety Fund Budget	£1,811,458		
Core grants (this DR)		£1,578,646	£232,812

## **10 Legal implications**

10.1 These grants will be subject to the PFCC's standard grant agreement.

## **11 Staffing implications**

11.1 The PFCC would rely on a combination of its Strategic Head of Partnerships and Delivery, Commissioning Lead, Criminal Justice and Community Safety Manager and Safer Streets Lead to manage and monitor the allocation and appropriate use of this funding.

11.2 The use of this funding to employ staff or sessional workers will be the responsibility of the host organisation. No liabilities, immediate or ongoing, will be placed on the PFCC as a result of this funding.

## **12 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications**

12.1 The PFCC applies conditions on this funding which include:

- The Recipient shall not unlawfully discriminate within the meaning and scope of any law, enactment, order, or regulation relating to discrimination (whether in race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, age or otherwise) in employment or otherwise.
- The Recipient shall take all reasonable steps to secure the observance of condition set out above by all servants, employees or agents of the Recipient and all suppliers and sub-contractors engaged on the Project.

12.2 The PFCC will use monitoring information, including attending partnership meetings, to track whether any groups are being, or could be, disproportionately or negatively impacted by any actions resulting from PFCC funding.

### **13 Risks and Mitigations**

- 13.1 There is a risk that PFCC funding is not effectively used to support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan. It is expected that our proposed monitoring arrangements will be appropriate mitigation to prevent this risk occurring. The PFCC also arranged a session on 21st June 2024 to outline CSP responsibilities to CSP Chairs and Managers to ensure a consistent understanding of the requirements of local partnerships.
- 13.2 As set out at paragraph 5.2 above, this core grant funding was also subject to an internal audit in December 2024. The audit found “reasonable assurance that the controls upon which the organisation relies to manage this risk are suitably designed, consistently applied and effective”.

### **14 Governance Boards**

- 14.1 The PFCC discussed this funding at its Senior Management Team meetings on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

### **15 Links to Future Plans**

- 15.1 This funding will support the PFCC to deliver against the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan.

### **16 Background Papers and Appendices**

- 16.1 n/a

**Report Approval**

The report will be signed off by the PFCC's Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Chief Executive / M.O.

Sign:

Print: P. Brent-Isherwood

Date: 17 April 2025

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer

Sign:

Print: Janet Perry

Date: 01 May 2025

**Publication**

Is the report for publication?

YES

NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'None' if applicable)

None

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

**Redaction**

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet?

YES

2. Of Appendix?

YES

NO

NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

N/A

Date redaction carried out: .....

**Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only.**

If redaction is required, the Treasurer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed.

**Sign:** .....

**Print:** .....

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

**Sign:**  .....

**Print:** ...Roger Hirst.....

**PFCC**

**Date signed:** ...14/05/2025.....

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

.....  
.....  
.....

**Sign:** .....

**Print:** .....

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**