

Community Safety Development Fund (CSDF) 2025-2026.

Funding Criteria and Guidelines

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Community Safety Development Fund (CSDF) is to support local communities, voluntary and community safety groups to deliver effective approaches to preventing and tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in support of the PFCC's Police & Crime Plan.

2. Fund criteria.

Applications to the fund must demonstrate a positive impact on at least one of the PFCC's Police & Crime Plan priorities. [Police and Crime Plan 2024/28](#)

- 1. More local, visible, and accessible policing**
- 2. Drive down anti-social behaviour and crime.**
- 3. Beat knife crime and drug gangs and protect young people.**
- 4. Tackle violence against women and girls and domestic abuse.**
- 5. Ensure vulnerable people are protected.**
- 6. Improve road safety and reduce road deaths in Essex to zero**

CSDF projects should not duplicate or compete with existing activity, and funding will not be allocated for projects that are unable to demonstrate effective impact upon the Police & Crime Plan priorities. Grants cannot be used as a substitute for statutory funding.

There is no requirement for applications to generate match-funding, however, evidence of match-funding is likely to improve the likelihood of the bid being recommended as this demonstrates support for the project and improves value for money for the PFCC's investment.

Whilst the PFCC will seek to establish local need and support for individual initiatives, applicants are required to obtain support for their bid from relevant partners, including local Community Safety Partnerships (see Appendix A for a list of CSP managers), in advance of submission. This assures the PFCC that the project has the backing of key local stakeholders and is therefore more likely to be delivered successfully.

The Fund should not be considered a sustainable source of funding and therefore applicants would need to demonstrate how the project, or its outcomes, will be continued after PFCC funding has expired (normally 12 months following the allocation of the grant).

This Fund welcomes continuation funding however, applicants need to clearly demonstrate that previous funding opportunities delivered against the Police and Crime Plan Priorities and demonstrate how further funding will develop the project further.

Unfortunately, we are unable to fund Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). While we appreciate the role SIDs can play in promoting road safety, our funding is limited and the potential volume of applications for SIDs across the county would be challenging to sustain.

3. Applications

Applications for the 2025/26 must be submitted via Microsoft Forms, accessible through the link on the PFCC website. [Community Grants - Essex PFCC](#)

Funding will be awarded through a single application round, with the following key dates:

- **Opening date:** 3rd July 2025
- **Closing date:** 10th September 2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – Microsoft Forms! Please ensure you allow enough time to complete your application in one sitting, as the form cannot be saved and returned to later. We strongly recommend reviewing the **Key Question Summary** document and **Criteria** beforehand. You may find it helpful to draft your responses separately and then copy and paste them into the MS form.

After submitting your application, please email your GDPR and Safeguarding Policy, and other requested documents together with the CSP endorsement to pfcc.funding@essex.police.uk with 'CSDF - (Your Company Name)' as the subject.

We aim to notify all applicants of the outcome, successful or otherwise, within two months of the closing date.

Questions about the fund should be e-mailed to Claire.hanrahan2@essex.police.uk

4. Decision-making

Decisions will be made using available evidence that demonstrates the initiative's likely impact on the PFCC's priorities. The PFCC uses a panel of independent, local representatives to ensure proposed activity reflects local priorities, links-in with existing commissioned or grant-funded activity and provides the PFCC with value for money.

The PFCC aims to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of funding across Essex including the unitary authorities of Southend and Thurrock, and between the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan.

5. Funding

The allocation for the 2025/26 Community Safety Development Fund is around £300,000.

Groups that meet the criteria can apply for up to £20,000 in funding, for projects taking place in Southend, Essex or Thurrock.

Funding will be released upon receipt of a signed Grant Agreement and a corresponding invoice, in accordance with the payment schedule outlined in the Agreement.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Those who are awarded grants are asked to provide formal reports at the conclusion of the project, using the standard report template. Performance information will need to assess and demonstrate impact articulated in the application. Financial information presented will need to demonstrate the funding has been spent on the agreed initiatives within the Funding Application.

The PFCC may ask for progress updates at any time, especially for those projects considered to be innovative and have wider potential application.

Successful recipients are expected and encouraged to undertake proactive publicity to demonstrate the positive impact that their initiatives have had on the PFCC's priorities. This

may be in the form of videos, press releases, visits from the PFCC or social media activity. Please notify the PFCC's Communications and media team when publicising your project.

7. Hints and Tips

- Potential applicants should consult the new [Police and Crime Plan 2024/28](#) to ensure their proposed activity meets the PFCC's objectives.
- Detail provided within the application form should be proportionate to the amount of funding requested.
- Applicants are invited to seek support from their local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) for assistance in bidding for grant-funding, or support in presenting a positive application – see Appendix A for a list of local CVS contacts.
- We ask applicants to secure endorsement from local Community Safety Partnerships; the PFCC may consult other local stakeholders when considering applications for funding.
- Questions about the fund should be e-mailed to Claire.hanrahan2@essex.police.uk

8. Data Protection

All applicants must comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 and the EU General Data Protection Regulation. If you have a data protection policy, you are encouraged to include this in your application to support the PFCC's due diligence processes for successful bids.

Applicants must submit their information in an application form, providing full details of their proposal including costs and benefits. Any personal information that is provided in the application will be shared with the independent evaluating panel and used only for the purpose of reviewing the grant application and the ongoing administration and management of any grants that are awarded.

The PFCC uses a third-party copy writer to publicise projects on social media, the PFCC website and to other members of the public via press releases. Applicants consent to the sharing of name, contact details and short description of their proposal with the third-party by ticking the consent box on the application form.

Payment details will be shared with Essex Police Business Centre for the sole purpose of processing the funding payment.

To uphold the standards set out in the PFCC Ethics and Integrity Framework all PFCC decisions including grant awards are published on the PFCC website. Information disclosed on the PFCC website will include Organisation name, short description of project and value of award.

You have the right at any time to remove consent and to ask that information about you be removed from our systems. There are occasions where we may need to retain sufficient information to, for example, evidence of funding distributed but we will ensure that we comply with data protection legal requirements.

9. Safeguarding

All applicants whose projects are likely to include children or vulnerable adults are expected to have robust safeguarding policies in order to protect those client groups according to

legislation. All applicants who are likely to include children or vulnerable adults are to demonstrate and supply a safeguarding policy.

Appendix A – Community Safety Partnership and Council for Voluntary Service contacts

CSP MANAGERS/OFFICERS		
Basildon	Lisa Hopcroft	lisa.hopcroft@basildon.gov.uk
Braintree	Tracey Parry	tracey.parry@braintree.gov.uk
Brentwood	Sean Steer	sean.steer@brentwood.gov.uk
Castle Point	David Miles	dmiles@castlepoint.gov.uk
Chelmsford	Spencer Clarke	spencer.clarke@chelmsford.gov.uk
Colchester	Lisa Hobson	Lisa.Hobson@colchester.gov.uk
	Samantha Goodman	Samantha.Goodman@colchester.gov.uk
Epping Forest	Caroline Wiggins	cwiggins@eppingforestdc.gov.uk
Harlow	Christine Howard	christine.howard@harlow.gov.uk
Maldon	Spencer Clarke	spencer.clarke@Maldon.gov.uk
Rochford	Sean Steer	sean.steer@brentwood.gov.uk
Southend-on-Sea	Simon Ford	simonFord@southend.gov.uk
Tendring	Leanne Thornton	ltornton@tendringdc.gov.uk
Thurrock	Lisa Preston	lpreston@thurrock.gov.uk
Uttlesford	Carla Claydon	cclaydon@uttlesford.gov.uk

Council Voluntary Services	
Basildon	admin@bbwcvcs.org.uk
Braintree	information@community360.org.uk
Brentwood	https://www.brentwoodcvcs.org.uk/contact
Castle Point	office@cavsorg.uk
Chelmsford	info@chelmsfordcvcs.org.uk
Colchester	information@community360.org.uk
Epping Forest	admin@vaef.org.uk
Harlow	info@rainbowservices.org.uk
Maldon	admin@maldoncvcs.org.uk
Rochford	info@rravs.org.uk
Southend-on-Sea	info@savs-southend.co.uk
Tendring	admin@cvstendring.org.uk
Thurrock	info@thurrockcvcs.org
Uttlesford	connect@ucan.org.uk