



**Philip Secombe
Police and Crime
Commissioner
for Warwickshire**

FAO:

North Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership
Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Safety Partnership
Rugby Community Safety Partnership
South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership

cc. Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board

22nd December 2023

Dear Community Safety Partnerships,

Subject: PCC funding for Community Safety Partnerships 2024/25

I am writing to share details regarding the planned process and funding allocations for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in 2024/25.

As you will be aware, the process for allocating CSP funding was last reviewed in 2022/23, when the former historical allocations of funding were replaced by a bidding process. It had been hoped that this would encourage a more holistic approach to delivering interventions, resulting in improved outcomes. However, the changes have not fully achieved the anticipated benefits and based on feedback and recent discussions, the process for allocating and accessing funding has again been reviewed for 2024/25.

The intention for the coming financial year is therefore to allocate each CSP direct funding of £30,000 per Local Authority area covered, to deliver projects that meet local community safety priorities. To access this funding, CSP leads must submit a project proposal for approval by the OPCC. Once a proposal has been approved, the OPCC will raise a purchase order with that CSP, against which they will be required to submit quarterly invoices in arrears based on actual expenditure incurred, along with a proportionate amount of monitoring information.

In addition to the above, a further £25,000 funding will be made available to support projects that address cross-cutting issues affecting all CSPs. This central fund will be held by the OPCC until such time as a project is proposed and supported by the county Community Safety Officer Group (CSOG), which is chaired by a CSP lead on a rotating basis. CSOG will agree a lead organisation for the project, who will be responsible for submitting a proposal on behalf of all CSPs for approval by the OPCC. Once approved, the OPCC will raise a purchase order with the lead organisation against which they will be required to submit quarterly invoices in arrears based on actual expenditure incurred, along with a proportionate amount of monitoring information.

The above arrangements will result in total available funding for CSPs in 2024/25 of £175,000. This is an increase in CSP funding compared to 2023/24. Whilst I do recognise that there will be some fluctuations in funding levels for individual partners compared to the current year, my office has worked over recent months to consult and reach a level of agreement with CSP representatives as to an equitable and reasonable approach for 2024/25.

The window for submitting proposals against either funding pot will be kept open until the end of quarter three, i.e. 31st December 2024. This will give CSPs significant freedom as to how and when project proposals are submitted for approval. CSPs can choose to prepare and submit proposals in one batch to meet the full £30,000 allocation, or stagger submissions throughout the year until 31st December 2024. This provides flexibility to be reactive and fluid to changing needs, or better manage staff workloads. Either approach is acceptable.

My office is keen to support and work positively with CSP leads and once received, OPCC staff will aim to approve project submissions as swiftly as possible. All submissions will need to provide sufficient detail on planned projects, address one or more of the focus areas in my Police and Crime Plan and be clear how any desired outcomes will be achieved and evidenced. Further details may be requested if this is felt necessary. It is intended that the application and evaluation process is relatively light touch and we will share further details on this in the coming weeks.

Although the submission window will be kept open until 31st December 2024, CSPs should remain aware that all spending on projects is for the financial year 2024/25 only and there will be no opportunity to carry forward spend beyond the 31st March 2025. As a result, any project submissions made later in the year will need to meet this timetable, whilst also allowing sufficient time for consideration and approval by my office. Should any directly allocated funding not be 'taken up' by an individual CSP by 31st December 2024, it may be made available to others at this point. Further details regarding this process will be shared, should it be required.

I look forward to working with CSPs and funding projects in the manner outlined above. If you have any further queries regarding the process for 2024/25, please contact Richard Long, Head of Policy and Partnerships, at richard.long@warwickshire.police.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Seccombe TD
Police and Crime Commissioner

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