

# Protect and Support Fund

# Guidance Notes

July 2025

# Introduction

As set out in the **2024-2029 Police and Crime Plan,** the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is passionate about **ensuring the right support for victims & vulnerable people.** This includes ensuring that they **feel supported and listened to** and have access to **high-quality** services at the right time.

As a result of the above the PCC has launched a **Protect and Support Fund** to pilot new approaches and develop sustainable solutions in support of this priority.

# Purpose

The purpose of the **Protect and Support Fund** is to:

* + - * Enhance existing support and protection for vulnerable victims
* Reach and support under-represented groups

Applicants are able to apply for a maximum of **£15,000** per project.

Applications that offer match funding and/or seek sustainable solutions will be considered favourably.

# Who can apply?

Funding is available to enable **local registered charities** to access a one-off grant.

Registered Charity numbers much be provided as part of the application otherwise these applications may be excluded from the process.

We are unable to fund:

* Recurring expenditure
* Political activities
* Large scale projects, where a small grant would not make a difference
* Individuals and un-constituted groups

# To apply

To apply for the funding, it is important that you have thought through some basics. These include the following:

* Are you a registered charity?
* Has the project been funded previously by the PCC?
* How will your project support the purpose of the fund?
* What is the money for and how have you estimated the costs?
* What difference will it make to the local community / victims and how will you know that it has worked?
* How do you know that this is what the community / victims need and who supports your idea?
* How long will it take to implement and is everything and everyone ready to start?
* Who will be responsible for managing the money and how will you account for it?
* Is there anything that might stop the project from being successful that you think is important for us to know?

To submit an application please complete the fund application form that can be found on the PCC website. All of the above needs to be detailed in your application.

If you would like any assistance in completing the form, although our resources are limited, we will do our best in helping you through this process.

Completed applications can be emailed or posted**.**

Email to**:** [pcc.office@cleveland.police.uk](mailto:pcc.office@cleveland.police.uk)

Post to**:** Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

c/o St Marks House

St Marks Court

Thornaby

Stockton-On-Tees

TS17 6QW

Enquiries should be emailed to the address above or contact the OPCC on 01642 306619.

# Funding Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Date** |
| Fund Launches | 25 July 2025 |
| **Deadline for applications** | **10 September 2025 – 12noon** |
| Application Review Meeting | w/c 15 September 2025 |
| Successful applicants confirmed | w/c 15 September 2025 |

# PCC Decision

# All applications will be assessed by a small panel which will include the Police and Crime Commissioner. Where appropriate the PCC may consult with other specialist or technical professionals depending on the content of your application. All decisions will be made by the PCC. The panel will meet during w/c 15 September 2025

# Successful applications

Here are a few things you need to prepare for:

1. We may make ethical assurance checks, particularly in relation to larger projects and initiatives. You may be asked to consent to us making enquiries with the police or regulatory bodies, for example or provide copies of your insurance certificates.
2. Payment will normally be made by electronic bank payment (BACS) which will be payable to the named organisation, or if not a formal organisation to the lead applicant. All payments will be made in arrears.
3. You will need to acknowledge receipt of the money and agree any terms and conditions.
4. Depending on the type of funding you receive you may be required to sign a grant agreement.
5. You will need to provide feedback or progress reports on your initiative. The larger the award the larger the monitoring processes required.
6. Any changes to how money is spent **must** be agreed with the PCC using a change management form. Any underspends much be returned.
7. Based on your application, you should be able to confirm the best way to show how successful your project has been e.g. what will be the difference between now and after the money has been spent on your project.
8. Once the initiative or project is completed, within 28 days you will need to provide a report outlining the benefits that were achieved, and the impact it has had on the community.
9. All grant recipients should acknowledge the support of the PCC and use the PCC logo when producing any form of promotional or publicity material, inducing your website, press release, leaflets and reports.

Please note the PCC is lawfully obliged to carry out regular audits on all of its grant recipients, and all individuals / organisations are selected at random. All recipients and/or evidence of expenditure must be recorded for these purposes and presented in the event of an audit.