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Full Report for Decision

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORTHUMBRIA

Key Decisions

Title and Reference – PCC.426.2020

Police Property Fund

Report of Mike Tait, Joint Chief Finance Officer

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise the PCC of the funds available for the disposal under the Police (Property) Act 1897

Recommendation

To agree to;

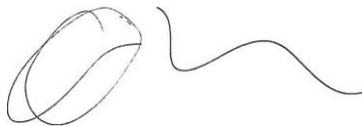
- £10,000 to the Police Treatment Centres.
- £15,000 to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust.
- £15,000 to the Northumbria Police Charity Fund.
- £5,000 to the National Ugly Mugs (NUM).

This therefore leaves £200,455 for future disbursements.

Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner

I hereby approve the recommendations above.

Signature



Date 16.10.20

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OPCC Meeting	16 October 2020
Police Property Fund	
Report of: Mike Tait, Joint Chief Finance Officer	
Author: Geoff Lambert, Accountant	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the PCC of the funds available for disposal under The Police (Property) Act 1897 and provide information on requests for funding.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Police Property Act states property which comes into the possession of the police in connection with a crime and where the owner cannot be found can be sold, with the money being kept in the Police Property Act Fund. The same is true for property which has been forfeited by convicted persons by order of a court, as it was used or intended for use in a crime.
- 2.2 Regulation 6, paragraph 4(C) of the 1997 Regulations gives Police Crime Commissioners discretion "To make payments of such amounts as the relevant PCC may determine for such charitable purposes as they may select". Whilst not specifically stated past practice has been to make donations to registered charities.
- 2.4 Post 2012 payments agreed have covered a wider range of charitable bodies as set out in appendix A. This also includes the recommendations in section 4 below.

3. Donations

- 3.1 In the 2019/20 financial year the total balance available for disposal was £156,025 and the following donations were made;
- £4,000 to the National Ugly Mugs (NUM).
 - £22,000 to Victims First Northumbria to fund 6 months to the end of March 2020 an administration assistant to facilitate data sharing to deliver the enhanced service for victims and witnesses to support data access, and an ISVA.
 - £10,804 to Victims First Northumbria for additional funding to extend fix term contracts.

This left £119,221 available for future disbursements.

- 3.2 Subject to approval of the 2019/20 Statement of Account, there will be additional funds of £128,224, bringing the total balance available for disposal in 2020/21 to £247,445.
- 3.3 During 2020/21 the following donations were already paid / agreed;

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- £2,000 to the Care of police Survivors (1st year of 3 year agreement).

Following this payment the total remaining balance now available for disposal in 2020/21 is £245,445.

4 Proposals

- 4.1 £10,000 to the Police Treatment Centres: The Chief Constable's of all forces have received a request for help to cover projected losses from the postponement and cancellation of fundraising activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Police Treatment Centres is a registered charity which provides treatment and support, including intensive, police-specific, physiotherapy and rehabilitation, for injured and ill police officers and retired officers. It receives the majority of its funding (90%) from members of the Police Family who make a voluntary donation, normally through monthly payroll giving, in order to be eligible to attend the Centres for treatment. The remainder of the income is made up from fundraising (where the shortfall has arisen), third party claims, and dividends received.
- 4.2 £15,000 to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust: At the OPCC Business Meeting on the 23rd October 2014 it was agreed to make donations of £1,000 pa for 5 years to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust. Subsequently all forces had been asked to consider increasing their donation by £15,000 to a total of £20,000 to help complete the project by spring 2021. Northumbria is one of 7 forces yet to commit to the £20,000 total. This would be a one-off payment as forces are not expected to provide ongoing support for its annual up keep costs.
- 4.3 £15,000 to the Northumbria Police Charity Fund: The Northumbria Police Charities Fund is a registered charity, the committee of which includes representatives from the Force, and a representative of the OPCC. Its finances lie outside of the PCC's and Force's Accounts and so relies on donations from the Police Property Fund to support its activities. It aims to help disabled, disadvantaged or deprived people or community groups across the Force area. As at 31 March 2020 it held funds of £17,310. In order to support its own charitable distributions and support a workable funding balance, the charity is requesting consideration be given to it receiving £15,000 from the property fund.
- 4.4 £5,000 National Ugly Mugs (NUM): (NUM) provides victim support services to sex workers across the country. The property fund has donated to NUM since 2015/16. They have requested further funding for 2020/21 from all PCC's/Forces.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 To agree to
- £10,000 to the Police Treatment Centres.
 - £15,000 to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust.
 - £15,000 to the Northumbria Police Charity Fund.
 - £5,000 to the National Ugly Mugs (NUM).
- 5.2 To note the remaining balance after the recommendations above of £200,445 available for future consideration in 2020/21.

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6. Considerations

Report Exemption	Non- Exempt
Consultation	No
No consultation has been undertaken.	
Resource	Yes
Financial implications are considered within this report.	
Equality	No
An equality impact assessment is not required.	
Legal	No
There are no legal implications.	
Risk	No
There are no identified risks.	
Communication	No
A communications plan is not required.	
Evaluation	No
An evaluation is not required.	