



**OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER FOR THAMES VALLEY**

**Report for Decision: PCC 2017 / 009**

**Title: Police Property Act Fund – High Sheriff awards 2016/17**

**Executive Summary:**

The Police Property Act Fund is created from the proceeds of sale of goods recovered by the police that cannot be returned to their original owner. In accordance with the Police Property Act Regulations (1997) all awards from the fund must be for charitable purposes.

Earlier this year the PCC and Chief Constable jointly agreed to give £25,000 to each of the three county based High Sheriffs to award to local charities and/or community groups that support delivery of the PCC's Police and Crime Plan.

The three High Sheriffs submitted their individual proposals to the PCC and, following approval, cash payments to the individual organisation were made from this office.


Attached at Appendix 1 is a list of grant allocations from each of the three High Sheriffs. In total, 15 separate awards have been made, totalling £75,000.

**Recommendation:**

The PCC is asked to APPROVE the High Sheriff grant awards to those local charities and community groups as set out in Appendix 1, from the Police Property Act Fund in 2016/17, totalling £75,000.

**Police and Crime Commissioner**

I hereby approve the recommendation above.

**Signature**  **Date** 20.3.17.

## **PART I – NOT CONFIDENTIAL**

### **1 Introduction and background**

- 1.1 The Police (Property) Act 1997 is a fund whereby allocations are received from the sale of recovered stolen goods or property. If the owners of the property are not traceable then the goods are sold at auction. The monies from the sales of the goods are then redistributed by way of grants or donations for charitable purposes that support and complement local policing and crime reduction priorities.
- 1.2 Approximately £300,000 is available for distribution during 2016/17, of which £140,286 was awarded to 40 separate organisations through the public bidding round in August 2016.
- 1.3 £75,000 has been given to the three county based High Sherriff's for them to allocate to local good causes who help the police reduce crime and disorder.
- 1.4 Any unspent monies in 2016/17 will be carried forward and added to the new funding for distribution in 2017/18.
- 1.5 Under the Scheme of Governance, Financial Regulations provide for the PCC and Chief Constable to jointly determine the payments to be made in accordance with the Regulations.

### **2 Issues for consideration**

- 2.1 The three High Sheriffs have nominated their preferred charities, the amounts to be awarded and explained, in each case, how these organisations will help the PCC to deliver his Police and Crime Plan aims and objectives.
- 2.2 A full list of awards is provided in Appendix 1.

### **3 Financial comments**

- 3.1 Each High Sheriff has awarded 5 grants to local charities and/or community organisations. In total 15 grants have been awarded amounting to £75,000.

### **4 Legal comments**

- 4.1 Under regulation 6(4)(c) of the Police (Property) Regulations 1997 the payment must be made for "charitable purposes". By virtue of the Charities Act 2011 a charitable purposes is one that falls under section 3(1) of the Act and is for the public benefit, which means it does not necessarily have to be a registered charity.

### **5 Equality comments**

- 5.1 No specific implications arising from this report.

### **6 Conclusion**

- 6.1 The PCC is asked to asked to formally approve the list of grant donations as set out in Appendix 1.

**7 Background papers**

n/a

**Public access to information**

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the website within 1 working day of approval. Any facts and advice that should not be automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on a separate Part 2 form. Deferment of publication is only applicable where release before that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

**Is there a Part 2 form? No**

<b>Name &amp; Role</b>	<b>Officer</b>
<b>Head of Unit</b> Grants have been awarded in accordance with Financial Regulations	Chief Finance Officer
<b>Legal Advice</b> Under regulation 6(4)(c) of the Police (Property) Regulations 1997 the payment must be made for "charitable purposes"	PCC Chief Executive
<b>Financial Advice</b> The fund is managed effectively and robustly and donations are made within the definitions of the regulatory framework.	Chief Finance Officer
<b>Equalities &amp; Diversity</b> No specific implications arising from this report	PCC Chief Executive

**OFFICER'S APPROVAL**

We have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial and legal advice have been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

We are satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Chief Executive  Date: 20 March 2017

Chief Finance Officer Date 20 March 2017

