

For Consideration	
Public/Non Public*	Public
Report to:	Police and Crime Panel
Date of Meeting:	21 November 2022
Report of:	Commissioner Henry (PCC)
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Agenda Item:	8

PCC'S GOVERNMENT GRANT INCOME 2022-5 REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides the Police and Crime Panel with an overview of the grant income the PCC has been awarded by Government Departments from 2022-3 to 2024-5.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to note the report. It may wish to review annually PCC grant income and related activity to sustain achievements.

3. PCC Grant Income 2022-2025

- 3.1 The PCC has secured significant Government grant funding to deliver activity to achieve the objectives in her Make Notts Safe Plan. This report explains the Government grants that have been received, how they are used and their timespans. It does not include the detail of the local funding that the PCC receives for commissioned services – for example the funding the local authorities and Integrated Care Board give to the PCC to co-commission sexual violence support on their behalf.
- 3.2 Appendix A sets out the funding awarded and its duration. Appendix B provides a brief list of activity funded by each Government funding stream. Appendix C details an overview of critical support that may be lost if the funding does not continue, together with current plans for sustainability and mitigation.
- 3.3 The PCC's total commissioning budget for 2022-3 is currently £12.4m. The £12.4m includes PCC and local partner funding as well as Government

grants. The budget is fairly evenly split across the PCC's Make Notts Safe Plan Preventing and Supporting objectives.

- 3.4 Over half of the total 2022-3 commissioning budget (£7.8m) is funded by restricted Government time limited grants which are due to finish over the next three years. Most of these grants have been designed by Government to be time limited. Only the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) Victims' Services Grant (VSG), currently £1.35m pa, is a long-standing annual grant almost certain to continue beyond March 2025.
- 3.5 Most of the PCC's Government grants will finish in March 2025. Assuming the MoJ's annual Victims' Services Grant and local partner funding continues, the conclusion of grant funding will more than halve the PCC's total commissioning budget from £12.4m in 2022-3 to £5.7m in 2025-6. As such, unless alternative or continuation funding is confirmed, there are likely to be adverse implications for the continuity of key local services such as IDVAs and ISVAs as well the PCC's prevention activity.
- 3.6 PCC grants should be considered in the context of broader Government policy and its spending review cycle. Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils have been awarded significant new temporary funding both for the domestic abuse statutory duty and to deliver From Harm to Hope substance misuse targets. These funding uplifts help to complement PCC commissioned services and in the example of From Harm to Hope, increase the size of co-commissioned support including for the criminal justice cohort. However, the domestic abuse statutory duty and From Harm to Hope funding is also due to finish in March 2025. The potential loss of those grants to local authorities in March 2025 is likely to have a compound effect when considered alongside potential cuts to PCC grants. Overall these reductions will create further pressure on the local community safety system.
- 3.7 Subject to the Chancellor's budget statement and future Government spending reviews, further community safety related funding to PCCs and local authorities may be awarded. However, if no further funding is awarded, given the proportion of national Government grants to the PCC's total commissioning budget, it is very unlikely to be possible to replace lost Government grants with local funding.
- 3.8 Whilst the most significant loss of funding is currently largely scheduled for March 2025 and therefore not imminent, the impact is potentially significant long term planning and risk mitigation is required to minimise the impact of potential funding reductions. It is possible that substantial redesign of prevention and support services will be required by the PCC, working closely with partners. A detailed risk register is being developed for each funding stream. Appendix C provides an overview of crucial support that may be lost,

together with current thinking detail about planned activity to sustain the benefits of the programme and/or mitigate its loss.

3.9 As set out in Appendix C, the PCC will work with partners both to build Nottinghamshire's capacity to prevent crime and to mitigate the risk of potential funding loss by:

- taking a whole systems approach to assessing needs and prioritising support and other functions to be provided;
- monitoring demand for support and flow through services;
- conducting needs assessments where appropriate to inform re-commissioning approaches;
- managing contract lifetimes to ensure maximum flexibility to accommodate adaptations in funding;
- scaling back or de-commissioning services to fit budgets, redesigning wider services where necessary to fit budgets, whilst ensuring that services continue to be safe and meet the needs of the most vulnerable; and
- co-commissioning redesigned services where necessary to meet the budget available.

3.10 In addition, the PCC will continue to lobby locally and nationally to ensure sufficient funding is available to prevent crime and support victims and survivors.

3.11 As new collaboration and commissioning arrangements are likely to be required in future, the PCC will work pro-actively with partners to plan for potential loss of PCC and local authority restricted grant funding, reporting to the Community Safety Partnerships, Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Boards and the Combatting Substance Misuse Partnerships.

4. Governance and accountability

4.1 The PCC's grant funded activity operates within a wider community safety system. She will continue to work closely with partners to ensure the best collective use of funding to achieve Make Notts Safe Plan objectives, reporting as necessary to the Community Safety Partnerships, Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Boards and the Combatting Substance Misuse Partnerships.

5. Community engagement and consultation

5.1 All funding bids were developed collaboratively with partners. In addition, they were informed by community engagement and consultation where

relevant and appropriate, for example for Safer Streets. Some funded activity, for example Children Affected by Domestic Abuse, will actively work to capture young people's voices and views to inform future commissioning.

6. Organisational Developments

6.1 The number of commissioned initiatives managed by the OPCC has significantly increased over the last 3 years. In 2022-3 the OPCC is managing over 180 separate contracts or grants agreements, many of which have increased in complexity compared to previous years which require greater resource to contract manage and quality assure initiatives. 3.4 full time equivalent Commissioning Officers have been recruited to support the work.

7. Finance, use of resources and value for money

7.1 The PCC has allocated her grant funding in line with her Contract Standing Orders and informed by relevant needs assessments and existing co-commissioned partnership arrangements. Commissioned services are reviewed quarterly with annual in depth quality visits where appropriate to quality assure delivery and use of resources.

8. National Developments

8.1 The grant funding the PCC has secured has been available nationally as part of the Government's broad policy agenda which has included a significant focus on tackling violence against women and girls as well as a focus on a public health approach to crime prevention.

9. Decisions

9.1 No decisions are required at this stage.

10. Human Resources Implications

10.1 Following recent recruitment, there are no current HR implications for the OPCC. However, it should be noted the significant increase in Government funding for DSVAs and substance misuse support services, combined with the pandemic, has resulted in national workforce difficulties. These have been

managed well locally by providers although recruitment delays have sometimes resulted in delays to the start of new funded provision.

11. Equality Implications

11.1 The PCC will publish the Equality Impact Assessments which inform future commissioning decisions.

12. Risk Management

12.1 The scale of Government grant funding and its finish date creates risk to the delivery of key services as well as potentially greater unmet need. A previously closed risk will be re-added to the OPCC Corporate Register.

13. Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

13.1 This report demonstrates how the grant funded activity helps to deliver the Make Notts Safe Plan priorities.

14. Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

14.1 The PCC undertakes routine horizon scanning of emerging legislation, government publications, audits and inspections and significant consultations, statistics and research findings. These inform both her strategic planning and commissioning activity.

15. Details of outcome of consultation

15.1 The PCC will work closely with partners to mitigate the impact of any loss of funding. This will include consultation with other key stakeholders.

16. Appendices

Appendix A: Restricted Government Grant Income April 2022 to March 2025
Appendix B: Activity funded by Government Grants 2022-3
Appendix C: PCC Government Grants: Sustainability Planning and Mitigation

17. Background Papers (relevant for Police and Crime Panel Only)

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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