



Reference No: 57 - 2014

THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CLEVELAND

DECISION RECORD FORM

REQUEST:

To agree to award the Society for the Promotion and Advancement of Romany Culture (SPARC) £14,347 to 31 March 2015.

Title:

Victims Funding - SPARC

Executive Summary:

From 1 October 2014 funding for victims of crime transferred to Police and Crime Commissioners from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) to commission victims services. In advance of this responsibility the PCC commissioned a review: Victims Services within Cleveland.. One of the recommendations within the report suggested that the PCC continues to fund the areas that were previously funded by the MOJ but for which the funding has now passed to the PCC, until 31 March 2015.

SPARC was one of these organisations. They propose to use the £14,347 requested from the PCC to continue to provide the service that is summarised below:

SPARC would provide increased engagement between Criminal Justice Agencies and the travelling communities. This would be achieved by holding Community Engagement Events x6 and by hosting awareness raising training for Criminal Justice Agencies x4.

Decision:

The PCC is asked to provide funding of £14,347 to SPARC to provide an increased level of engagement with Criminal Justice Agencies and the travelling community.

Implications:

Has consideration been taken of the following:	Yes	No
Financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equality & Diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(If yes please provide further details below)

Decision Required – Supporting Information

Financial Implications: (Must include comments of the PCC's CFO where the decision has financial implications)

The PCC has received grant funding from the Ministry of Justice to provide services to Victims and Witnesses within the Cleveland area and the funding to support the proposal set out within this decision is affordable within the budget that the PCC set at the start of the financial year.

Legal Implications: (Must include comments of the Monitoring Officer where the decision has legal implication)

None

Equality and Diversity Implications

Positive community engagement, equality and diversity outcomes are highlighted within the funding proposal.

Human Rights Implications

Positive community engagement, equality and diversity outcomes are highlighted within the funding proposal.

Sustainability Implications

None arise

Risk Management Implications

None arise

OFFICER APPROVAL**Chief Executive**

I have been consulted about the decision and confirm that financial, legal, and equalities advice has been taken into account. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signed:  Date: 3 November 2014

Police and Crime Commissioner:

The above request HAS / ~~DOES NOT HAVE~~ my approval.

Signed:  Date: 3 November 2014

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Fund Application Form

Society for the Promotion and Advancement of Romany Culture

9/22/2014

Instructions for completion here -

Section 1 – Basic bid information

Contact details

Organisation / Agency name	Society for the Promotion and Advancement of Romany Culture Vanguard Suite, Room 302 Broadcasting House , Gilks Street, Middlesbrough , TS1 5JA
Name of main contact who we can approach in case of queries	Mrs Emily Clark
Contact details (email, telephone/mobile]	emily-clarke@btconnect.com 01642 243453
In the case of a joint bid, please list all organisations and agencies involved as well as all key individuals.	n/a

Brief description of proposed services/initiative(s)

Please provide a summary of your proposed services/initiative(s) in no more than 300 words.

We would:

- i) Increase engagement between CJS agencies and the travelling communities through further developing our joint initiative with Cleveland Police “Cuppa with a Copper” and broadening this out to include other CJS agencies. PCCs Office will be invited to all such events.
- ii) Expand our “one-to-one” work with CJS agencies, acting as a bridge between them and the travelling communities
- iii) Promote and provide awareness-raising sessions with CJS agencies – to include PCCs Office.
- iv) Further promote our service within the travelling communities leading to further increases in service usage from those communities and a breaking down of barriers between those communities and CJS agencies
- v) Make this work a totally accepted “business and usual” part of the way in which CJS agencies operate

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- vi) Evaluate the effectiveness of our work at the end of the funding period
- vii) Move towards making this aspect of our work self-funding

Showstopper criteria check

1. Do the proposed services/initiatives support the Police and Crime Commissioner's objectives?	Yes/No
a. Retaining and developing neighbourhood policing	Yes
a. Ensuring a better deal for victims and witnesses	Yes
b. Diverting people from offending, with a focus on rehabilitation and the prevention of reoffending	Yes
c. Develop better coordination, communication and partnership between agencies to make the best use of resources	Yes
d. Working for better industrial and community relations.	Yes
2. Are you able to use the requested funds within the 2014/15 financial year?	Yes/No

Section 2 – Strategy Statement

Describe how the proposed service/initiative(s) will fit into the overall Police and Crime Plan. Please provide information as to how they will support or enhance other services that you intend to commission, if that is your intention.

The Police and Crime Plan 2014/17 details five key objectives:

- Retaining and developing neighbourhood policing
- Delivering a better deal for victims and witnesses
- Diverting people from offending, with a focus on rehabilitation and the prevention of re-offending
- Ensuring better links between agencies to make the best use of resources
- Valuing those who deliver community safety services and encouraging good community and industrial relations

We detail below how our work will fit in with these key objectives:

i) Retaining and developing neighbourhood policing:

Of key importance here is the pledge set out in the Police and Crime Plan to “continue and develop the 'Your Force, Your Voice' programme of consultation and engagement making sure there is a focus on minority

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communities ". Traditionally relations between the Police and Travelling communities have been poor. SPARC have been working successfully to improve these relationships, for example through our innovative "Cuppa with a Copper" programme.

ii) Delivering a better deal for victims and witnesses:

The Police and Crime Plan contains the pledge to "undertake a programme of consultation with victims to inform the commissioning of services and the implementation of new antisocial behaviour legislation". Thanks to funding (now ended) from the Ministry of Justice's Victim and Witness General Fund SPARC has 3 ½ years experience of Victim and Witness focussed work. Many mainstream organisations have found it difficult to engage with the Travelling communities. SPARC can provide a bridge between CJS organisations and the Travelling communities, facilitating consultation and engagement.

iii) Diverting people from offending, with a focus on rehabilitation and the prevention of re-offending:

SPARC is keen to work with partners to improve Restorative Justice arrangements (both for young offenders and adult offenders). SPARC offers a route by which awareness of Restorative Justice and Community Payback can be increased within our community.

iv) Ensuring better links between agencies to make the best use of resources:

SPARC already have good links with a range of organisations but are always looking to improve these links. Partnership working is built into our organisational ethos (e.g. recent joint work with Teesside Archive Service, the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups and the "Cuppa with a Copper" project)

v) Valuing those who deliver community safety services and encouraging good community and industrial relations

The first objective set out in SPARC's constitution is to:

"promote equality and diversity for the public benefit by:

- a) Promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds in particular by promoting stronger ties between the Romany and Traveller communities and the wider public
- b) Advancing education and raising awareness in equality and diversity in particular by promoting understanding of the history and culture of Romany and Traveller communities"

This ties in well with the Police and Crime Plan's pledge to "promote tolerance, equality, fairness and transparency" as promoting tolerance, equality and fairness is at the core of our organisation. It's why we exist.

The events we are proposing, as set out in this bid (such as "Cuppa with a Copper" and our awareness raising sessions), are designed to improve relations between the community and CJS agencies, through increasing awareness and understanding. This process will flow both ways. Our ultimate aim is to create a situation where community members who are victims of crime (such as hate crime) are no longer reluctant to approach the Police directly (as is the current situation). Alongside this we want get to the point where the Police are less likely to have a stereotypical view of the travelling communities and are more comfortable in engaging directly with them.

Section 3 – Financial information

Funding requested

Total costs	Total funding requested: £14,347
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Bid elements

Service/Initiative	Amount Requested
Salary (including on costs) for one full-time and one part-time worker for six months	£9,897
Travel and subsistence (Staff and volunteers)	£1,000
Community engagement events – 6 events @ £100 each	£600
Awareness raising training for CJS agencies – 4 sessions @£400 each	£1,600
Equipment	£600
Evaluation	£650
Total funded requested	£14,347

Joint bid elements (if applicable)

Service/Initiative	Amount Requested
n/a	
Total funded requested	£

Section 4 – Showstopper criteria statements

1. Do the proposed services/initiatives support the Police and Crime Commissioner's objectives?

- Retaining and developing neighbourhood policing
- Ensuring a better deal for victims and witnesses
- Diverting people from offending, with a focus on rehabilitation and the prevention of reoffending
- Develop better coordination, communication and partnership between agencies to make the best use of resources
- Working for better industrial and community relations.

Our initiatives have a close fit with the Police and Crime Commissioner's objectives as set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2014/17. As noted above we can demonstrate a close match with all 5 objectives.

i) Retaining and developing neighbourhood policing:

Of key importance here is the pledge set out in the Police and Crime Plan to "continue and develop the 'Your Force, Your Voice' programme of consultation and engagement making sure there is a focus on minority communities". Traditionally relations between the Police and Travelling communities have been poor. SPARC have been working successfully to improve these relationships, for example through our innovative "Cuppa with a Copper" programme.

ii) Delivering a better deal for victims and witnesses:

The Police and Crime Plan contains the pledge to "undertake a programme of consultation with victims to inform the commissioning of services and the implementation of new antisocial behaviour legislation". Thanks to funding (now ended) from the Ministry of Justice's Victim and Witness General Fund SPARC has 3 ½ years experience of Victim and Witness focussed work. Many mainstream organisations have found it difficult to engage with the Travelling communities. SPARC can provide a bridge between CJS organisations and the Travelling communities, facilitating consultation and engagement.

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SPARC is keen to work with partners to improve Restorative Justice arrangements (both for young offenders and adult offenders). SPARC offers a route by which awareness of Restorative Justice and Community Payback can be increased within our community.

iv) Ensuring better links between agencies to make the best use of resources:

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v) Valuing those who deliver community safety services and encouraging good community and industrial relations

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This ties in well with the Police and Crime Plan’s pledge to “promote tolerance, equality, fairness and transparency” as promoting tolerance, equality and fairness is at the core of our organisation. It’s why we exist.

2. Are you able to use the requested funds within the 2014/15 financial year?

We can confirm that we are able to use the requested funds within the 2014/15 financial year.

Section 5 Quality Criteria

Does your application include specialist and/or innovating approaches to service provision?

Yes, especially through initiatives such as “Cuppa with a Copper2 which we are keen to pilot across CJS agencies more broadly.

Section 6 Performance Criteria

Details of outcomes expected and performance measurement criteria to be used (including as appropriate indicators and trend analysis.

Indicator/Trend	Outcome expected
Increased service usage from community members	Increase from 17 (at present) to 20 by the end of the funding period
Increased engagement with CJS agencies via Community engagement events (e.g. “Cuppa with a Copper”)	At least six such events – piloting of such an event with a least one other CJS agency
Increased awareness of Gypsy and Traveller culture among CJS agencies	4 awareness raising sessions to be held

Section 7 Governance and Communications Plans

Details of how the funds will be monitored and how the service/initiative(s) will be communicated to service users and other partners (where appropriate).

We monitor the progress of our projects in a number of ways:

- i) Via feedback from service users
- ii) Bu analysis of the data we collect
- iii) By on-going examination of project spreadsheets, detailing expenditure for each project
- iv) Through detailed quarterly evaluation of our performance against budgets and project objectives
- v) Through external evaluation at the end of each project

It is widely known that there literacy issues amongst the community (especially among older members). We therefore communicate by a number of methods:

- i) Through face-to-face information giving at our office and/or telephone information
- ii) Through talking to people on sites
- iii) Through leaflets (such as our successful "Stamp Out Hate Crime" leaflet)
- iv) Through our community engagement sessions
- v) Via our Facebook page (which is particularly successful in getting information to younger community members)

Section 8 Notice of other bids for funding

n/a