

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner – Notice of Decision

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DECISION OR INFORMATION:	Rural Crime Engagement, Equipment, Training and Asset Coordination Funding
DATE RECEIVED:*	03.12.2021
REF:* (to be inserted by the OPCC)	2021.123

TITLE:	Funding to support coordination of policing assets in order to provide an enhanced offer to tackle rural crime
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (PRSRA) 2011, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Nottinghamshire has duties to promote community safety and criminal justice within the police force area.

The Commissioner works in partnership to commission activities and services that are generally aimed at:

- preventing and tackling crime and disorder through proactive work and efforts to reduce offending and reoffending;
- providing an effective response to crime and community safety issues; and,
- supporting victims to recover from crime impact.

The Commissioner's local Police and Crime survey and community engagement evidenced concerns around crime and disorder in rural communities. Rural crime is defined as any crime or incident that takes place anywhere defined as a rural location, and the communities are often vulnerable and isolated. Analysis of the concerns raised showed a need to enhance the current policing and support offer to residents in those communities affected by crime.

The Commissioner has included a commitment within her Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 to improve criminal justice outcomes, public confidence and satisfaction, community intelligence and the OPCC/ Force understanding of the impact rural crime offences has on local residents.

She has decided to provide an amount of £79,985 to Nottinghamshire Police to deliver activities that will achieve the following objectives in her Plan:

- Develop a process to improve engagement with rural communities and work to support and strengthen local partnerships. This will include convening an annual rural crime summit to identify emerging issues and reviewing the OPCC's/ Nottinghamshire Police's progress;
- Improve processes for recording and reporting on specific rural crimes, such as farm machinery theft, fuel theft, fly tipping, poaching, livestock offences and equine crime – and for

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- recording and reporting on crimes and ASB affecting rural communities more generally;
- Improve awareness and understanding of the impact of rural crime and explore options to provide an enhanced response to the most adversely affected victims of crime in rural communities where appropriate, including those affected by serious and organised criminality; and,
- Improve trust and confidence to report victimisation and the perception that action will be taken as a result among rural communities by working with partners such as the Fire and Rescue Service to provide visible and high profile rural crime interventions.

INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF DECISION: (eg report or business case)

The rural crime priority areas that have been identified (NPCC Rural Affairs Strategy 2018-2021) include:

- Fuel theft
- Farm machinery, plan and vehicle theft
- Poaching
- Equine crime
- Livestock offences
- Fly tipping (local authority lead)

A business case was developed by Nottinghamshire Police that included the below activities which have been designed to more effectively target, prevent, and respond to rural crime, and to support those affected by it:

Engagement:

Rural and wildlife crime online reporting service
 Bespoke rural Neighbourhood Alert program
 Expand partnership engagement
 Quarterly newsletter
 Rural community safety folder
 Spring 2022 roadshow
 Biannual farmers kitchen meetings
 Biannual online public and partners meeting
 Crime prevention and engagement visits for working farms
 Horse watch
 Schools education - rural and wildlife awareness

Kit and Equipment:

Drones
 Additional 4x4 rural vehicles with search lights
 Additional marked vehicles for rural locations
 Increase in fixed and mobile ANPR in rural locations
 Additional thermal imaging goggles/ dragon lights/ binoculars
 15 tracking hardware devices
 5 off-road motorbikes
 New farm bio security kits

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New off-road vehicle stingers
365 trial program for better agile working

Training:

NFU rural crime training for rural beat officers
Farm awareness, health and safety training
2 annual continued professional development days for rural beat officers
Training session for new and existing call takers and feedback process
5 new rural crime SPOCs within the control room
4 x 4 vehicle off-road and on-road response driving.
Large animal handling for rural beat officers
Training in FMPV theft
25 accredited wildlife crime officers & advanced practitioner training
Rural and wildlife crime tool kit app

The funding and above engagement, equipment and training will also enable greater coordination of existing Force assets for tackling rural crime, including:

- Off road bike team
- Rural communications officer Single Point of Contact
- Local Intelligence Officers
- School Liaison Officers
- Operational support – new road crime team and roads policing unit
- Crime Investigation Department
- Partnership Officer
- Detective inspectors
- Rural Special Constabulary Team
- Operation Reacher teams (to be expanded across Sherwood, Newark, Bassetlaw, and Rushcliffe areas)
- Drone pilots
- Neighbourhood hub with crime prevention officers and partnership analyst


A meetings process map has also been developed to ensure engagement with the public, awareness raising, and confidence building, including:

- Public meetings
- Bi-monthly local operations meetings
- Monthly Force tasking process
- Partnership meetings
- Quarterly regional enforcement group


FINANCIAL INFORMATION


This will be met from the Commissioning budget within the OPCC.

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Signature: Chief Finance Officer	
Date:	03.12.2021

Is any of the supporting information classified as non-public or confidential information?**	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, please state under which category from the guidance**				
DECISION:				
To approve the provision of an amount of £79,985 to Nottinghamshire Police to deliver a suite of activities, including the acquisition of specific assets, that will provide an enhanced offer to rural residents in order to prevent rural crime, respond to it, and support those impacted by it.				

OFFICER APPROVAL:	
I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that the appropriate advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.	
Signature: Chief Executive	
Date:	03.12.2021

DECLARATION:	
I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and I take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Any interests are indicated below:	
The above request has my approval	
Signature: Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner	
Date:	6.12.21