



Leading from the Front

'We Don't Buy Crime' – Crime Reduction Opportunity

Aim

Upper Tier Local Authority Councillors have access to financial support for reducing acquisitive crime. The PCC is offering a 25% contribution to the Smartwater scheme increasing the 'We Don't Buy Crime' (WDBC) areas across West Mercia.

Policy

- John Champion has set aside funding for local authority councillors and their partners to make applications to him for a 25% contribution to the purchasing of Smartwater. He will also support by purchasing the required signage.
- The signs are pre-formatted and standardised. There will be the option for the councillor/partner to provide some personalisation with the name of the area on the A1 signs which are required at all main entry and exit points.
- At least 70% of the selected area must be saturated with Smartwater, this is the appropriate and required level to deliver reductions.
- The offer requires the West Mercia 'We Don't Buy Crime Officer' to be the single point of contact for councillors and/or their partners to co-ordinate the initiative
- The timescale during which initial funding must be spent is 01/06/2018 – 31/03/2019.
- Applications should be sent to John Champion's office for approval. No spend should be incurred before this.
- The availability of West Mercia Police volunteers will be sought for the planning and implementation of the scheme but it is **mandatory** for the councillors and/or their partners to provide local volunteers/colleagues in addition to this.
- There is no formal requirement to report back to the PCC on outcomes as acquisitive crimes for the area will be tracked.
- The financial contribution for each grant (there is no upper or lower level limit) will be logged and processed by the PCC.
- There will be no commitment to renew, increase or continue funding beyond the approved terms.

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Stage 1

The PCC promotes that the WDBC grant round is open to receiving applications (via website and formal letter)

The councillor will read the policy and procedure, terms and conditions and then complete an application form obtained from: <https://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk/about-your-pcc/pcc-grants-scheme/> and return it to grants@westmercia.pnn.police.uk for the attention of the Commissioning Officer

The PCC acknowledges receipt of the submission (via auto message) and then assesses each application. This will include sharing information about the application with the WDBC Officer. The PCC, DPCC or staff may contact or visit for more information.

A member of the Commissioning Team, Finance Team and the WDBC Officer will meet to consider the application received and make decisions regarding the funding and any conditional conditions

The PCC shall notify the Councillor of the decision in writing. If an offer of grant funding is made a grant offer letter will be issued within 14 working days of submitting an application and the acceptance form must be returned by the date specified. This will trigger stage 2 of the procedure and publicity of the scheme via the PCC's Communication and Engagement Team

Stage 2

The WDBC Officer arranges a meeting with the project lead (usually the Councillor) to create a plan of action and deliver a WDBC presentation to the local team of staff and volunteers co-ordinated by the Local Authority (LA)

The Cllr/Partner places the order for the Smartwater kits and signage by sending the completed PCC financial spreadsheet and associated PO to the Smartwater Analyst (details of analyst provided during the grant offer process)

Once the order has been placed the Cllr/Partner will notify the WDBC Officer and agree a date for the launch. Volunteers are booked and briefed on the schedule and the PCC's Communications and Engagement team are updated.

The launch date goes 'live' and as many kits as possible are registered to residents on the day. Dependant on attendance at the event there may be a need for additional volunteer time to deliver Smartwater kits. The Smartwater app will be used to register the kits at the point of dissemination and signage will be installed when the threshold is met.

Acquisitive crime for the area is monitored by a Smartwater analyst and updates are provided to the WDBC Officer for dissemination to relevant partners and the PCC