

Commissioning Policy Statement

Introduction

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire will commission services and projects in order to deliver the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan 2024-2028.

Working to foster a vibrant social, voluntary and community sector, commissioning is the process of assessing needs, planning, prioritising, funding, and monitoring services, to achieve outcomes and social value, as well as forming new and developed relationships, aligning services to Police and Crime Commissioners Office values.

To do so the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) awards funding to organisations to contribute to the delivery of the objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2024-2028 and the 6 missions within. The missions are;

- **Prevention:** Work as a partnership to prevent crime.
- **Tackle Serious Crime:** Reduce serious and organised crime as well as serious youth violence.
- **Tackle VAWC:** Reduce violence and protect women and children.
- **Excellence:** Deliver an excellent police service and criminal justice system to improve public confidence.
- **Local policing:** Work with local communities to engage, prevent and solve crime and community issues.
- **Victims:** Put victims at the heart of the criminal justice system.

Bedfordshire OPCC will, through our commissioning activity, keep the needs of local people at the heart of commissioning choices and operate relational commissioning, guaranteeing that funding opportunities are awarded after a fair, transparent, proportionate process and ensure quality outcome focused services are provided by holding commissioned organisations to account.

The commissioning process will make use of grant agreements as default and will encourage innovation and interest from new and local organisations and build sustainability for providers, with longer term funding arrangements where appropriate.

Operating with proportionate performance monitoring, the OPCC will form a person centric suite of services, utilising feedback from service users, such as peer reviews and voice panels, and appropriate external scrutiny from relevant agencies/ cohorts. The OPCC will learn from providers and gain an understanding of what they do in other parts of the county and internationally. Performance monitoring will ensure that the services are achieving set outcomes, value for money and that there is a wider public benefit from their activity.

The OPCC will also encourage innovation, learning, collaboration and system thinking which will be informed and developed by the commissioning strategy. The aim of which, whether it be funding services to help prevent or recover from crime, is

to make sure that our communities are supported and safe, and that commissioning is fair.

For the period of 2024-2028, the OPCC will commission effective, efficient, innovative and local services to engage, advocate for and enable fairer provision for the communities of Bedfordshire. Through the use of multi-year grant agreements, the OPCC will seed fund, capacity build and develop service provision in Bedfordshire.