

Committee: Police Committee	Date: 15 December 2017
Subject: Police Property Act Fund Nominations	Public For Decision
Report of: Town Clerk	
Report author: Oliver Bolton, Town Clerk's Department	

Summary

This report informs Members of the charities proposed by the Members of the Committee and the Commissioner to receive grants from the Police Property Act Fund for 2017/18. Ten grants are proposed, including the five-year annual contribution of £1,000 to the National Police Arboretum Memorial Trust, totalling £13,500. This would leave approximately £4,800 for the following year, plus any income received in-year.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- a) Note the contents of the report; and
- b) Consider a one-off grant payment to the charities below:
 - i. Care of Police Survivors (£2,500)
 - ii. Police Rehabilitation Trust (£2,000)
 - iii. Sheriffs' Recorder's Fund (£1,000)
 - iv. Royal Humane Society (£2,000)
 - v. Embrace CVOG (£1,000)
 - vi. St John Ambulance (£1,000)
 - vii. Trailblazers Mentoring (£1,000)
 - viii. City of London Police Charity for Children (£1,000)
 - ix. Safer London Foundation (£1,000)

Main Report

Background

1. The Police (Property) Regulations 1997 enable the surplus from the Property Act Fund to be used for charitable purposes. In 2008, the Committee reviewed the criteria for making grants in view of new requirements under the Charities Act 2006, including the duty to demonstrate public benefit. One of the changes agreed was that only registered charities will be eligible for a grant. The Constitution and Purpose of the Fund and the Criteria for Disbursements, as agreed by your Committee in November 2008 (with an amendment agreed in December 2011), are attached at Appendices A and B respectively.

2. A list of charities and grants made since 2012 is available at Appendix C.

Current Position

3. The balance of the Fund now stands at £18,306.08 (as at 27th November 2017). This includes an income of £2,781.40 for this year. With a cap of 75% of funds available for dispersal, this means a maximum of £13,729.56 can be granted this year.

Proposals

4. The following charities have been proposed with suggested grant awards. Where multiple charities have been proposed by an individual, one has been chosen and the remainder will be carried forward for consideration next year.

Charity	Registered Number	Proposed grant
Care of Police Survivors	1101478	£2,500 (Chairman)
Provides peer support to the families of police officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.		
Police Rehabilitation Trust	292941	£2,000 (Deputy Chairman)
Provides short intensive rehabilitation, including physiotherapy, nursing care and counselling to sick and injured serving and retired police officers in England and Wales.		
Royal Humane Society	231469	£2,000 (Commissioner)
The Royal Humane Society grants awards for acts of bravery in the saving of human life and, also, for the restoration of life by resuscitation. The awards are granted to those that have put their own lives at risk to save or attempt to save someone else. Since its foundation in 1774 the Royal Humane Society committee has reviewed over 86,000 cases and made around 200,000 awards.		
Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund	221927	£1,000
The fund makes grants to ex-offenders for clothing, household furnishings, training courses and tools.		
Embrace Child Victims of Crime	1166103	£1,000
The charity works with police officers to brighten the lives of children who have suffered as a result of the most serious crimes and have often been the invisible victims behind the headlines.		
St John Ambulance	1077265/1	£1,000
St John's Ambulance provides practical first aid training to schools, businesses and local community groups. Last year the organisation taught over 800,000 people. By equipping volunteers with the necessary expertise, the charity intends that they can provide lifesaving treatment if required.		
Trailblazers Mentoring	1074453	£1,000
Trailblazers works in close partnership with YOIs, prison staff and other stakeholders to prevent re-offending. Volunteer mentors are fully supported by their Project Manager and are thoroughly trained to ensure structure in the mentoring relationship.		
City of London Police Charity for Children	1068671	£1,000

The City of London Police Charity for Children aims to provide welfare support and relief for vulnerable, sick or disabled children and young people.

Safer London Foundation	5190766	£1,000
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Safer London Foundation is an independent pan-London charity that works with vulnerable young people to reduce crime and find solutions to the challenges they face. They develop and deliver crime prevention, victim support, diversion and targeted intervention projects. These enable young people to make positive and safe choices distancing themselves from criminal activity and victimisation and provide exit and progression routes out of crime.

5. This year's grant total of £13,500 includes this year's nominations and the existing commitment of £1,000 per annum over five years for the National Police Arboretum Memorial Trust.

Conclusion

6. If the proposed grants are approved by the Committee, there will be £ 4,806.08 remaining in the Fund.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Police Property Act Fund – Constitution And Purpose
- Appendix B – Police Property Act Fund – Criteria For Disbursements
- Appendix C – Summary of payments made in previous years

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APPENDIX A

POLICE PROPERTY ACT FUND – CONSTITUTION AND PURPOSE

1. The Police Property Regulations 1997 apply to property which is:
 - (a) in the possession of the police by virtue of an order of a court of summary jurisdiction in connection with police investigations of a suspected offence where the owner of the property cannot be ascertained; or
 - (b) in the possession of the police by virtue of a court order in connection with the seizure of property where the court was satisfied that the property had been used for the purposes of committing or facilitating the commission of any offence, or was intended to be used for that purpose.
2. The Regulations provide that where property has been held for a year, in relation to an order under paragraph 1(a) above and for six months, in respect of an order under paragraph 1(b) above (provided, in the latter case there has been no successful application by a claimant of the property or no successful appeal by the offender) then the property may be sold and the proceeds of sale shall be kept in a separate account called the Police Property Act Fund (“the Fund”).
3. The Regulations provide that monies accrued in the Fund may be invested and the income so derived shall become part of the Fund. The monies accrued in the Fund may be used to:
 - defray expenses incurred in the conveyance, storage and safe custody of the property and in connection with its sale;
 - pay reasonable compensation, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Police Authority, to persons by whom property has been delivered to the police;
 - make payments of such amounts as the Police Authority may determine for such charitable purposes as they may select.
4. The Chief Officer of Police may, at the request of the Police Authority, administer the Fund in accordance with the Regulations.

APPENDIX B

POLICE PROPERTY ACT FUND – CRITERIA FOR DISBURSEMENTS

1. The organisations to which disbursements may be made should be registered charities.
2. Such organisations, which may be local or national, should be involved in work directly relating to at least one of the following:
 - (i) victim support
 - (ii) discharged prisoners
 - (iii) prisoners' families/dependants
 - (iv) crime prevention
 - (v) welfare of disadvantaged/disabled young people
 - (vi) improvement of community relations
 - (vii) welfare of present or former police officers and/or their families/dependants
 - (viii) such other charitable purposes as may from time to time be agreed by the Committee.
3. Preference may be given to organisations which are local in nature with close City connections.
4. Prior to any disbursements being made, account will be taken of any assistance which may have been given by the City of London Corporation from other sources within the previous three years.
5. Disbursements will not normally be made to an organisation in consecutive years, or on consecutive occasions when disbursements are made at intervals longer than one year, unless they have a connection with the Force.
6. Requests for assistance from the Fund will normally be considered in December each year; and disbursements will be made when the balance available in the Fund permits (this may be annually or at longer intervals).
7. The Finance Committee and the City Bridge Trust Grants Officer will be informed of any disbursements made from the Fund.

Appendix C - Previous Grants from the Police Property Act Fund

Charity	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Total received 2012-2016/17
Royal Humane Society	£1,000.00			£1,000.00	£2,500.00	£4,500.00
Supporting Families After Murder and Manslaughter	£1,000.00					£1,000.00
City of London Widows and orphans Fund	£1,000.00					£1,000.00
First Aid Nursing Yeomanry	£1,000.00	£1,500.00			£1,500.00	£4,000.00
Alongside You	£1,000.00					£1,000.00
City of London Police Charity for Children	£1,000.00	£1,500.00	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£10,000.00
Hampstead Marie Curie Hospice	£1,000.00	£1,500.00				£2,500.00
Broadway Homelessness and Support	£1,000.00					£1,000.00
Samaritans	£1,000.00					£1,000.00
St John Ambulance		£1,500.00	£2,500.00	£1,000.00		£5,000.00
St Joseph's Hospice		£1,500.00				£1,500.00
Haven House Children's Hospice		£1,500.00				£1,500.00
City of London Academy - Islington		£1,500.00				£1,500.00
Child Victims of Crime		£1,500.00				£1,500.00
National Police Arboretum		£1,500.00				£1,500.00
Sheriffs' Recorder's Fund		£1,500.00	£2,500.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£6,000.00
PC Dave Rathband's Blue Lamp Foundation			£2,500.00			£2,500.00
Police Rehabilitation Trust			£2,500.00	£2,500.00		£5,000.00
Housing the Homeless Central Fund			£2,500.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£4,500.00
Care of Police Survivors			£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£7,500.00
The Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem			£2,500.00			£2,500.00
Embrace Child Victims of Crime				£2,500.00		£2,500.00
Only Connect				£1,000.00		£1,000.00
Children's Society					£1,000.00	£1,000.00
JAN Trust					£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Police Arboretum Memorial Trust				£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£2,000.00
Total for year	£9,000.00	£15,000.00	£20,000.00	£16,000.00	£14,000.00	£74,000.00