Safer City Partnership POCA funding criteria

The Safer City Partnership POCA fund guidance

The Safer City Partnership (SCP) plays a central role in reducing crime and other harms that affect those who live, learn, work and visit the City of London. It fulfils the relevant duties of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 for certain key public sector bodies – known as responsible authorities - to work as a "partnership" to make places safer.

By working with statutory and non-statutory partners, the SCP works to deliver the priorities set out in in the Safer City Partnership Strategy 2022-2025.

The responsible authorities of the SCP include the City Corporation, the Commissioner of the City of London Police, the NHS North East London Integrated Care Board (ICB), the London Fire Commissioner and London Probation Service.

The SCP has established three Delivery Groups. These groups will identify evidence and intelligence-based responses to specific priority areas:

- Serious violence, and violence and against women and girls
- Anti social behaviour and neighbourhood crime
- Reducing re-offending

Funding context

Delivery of SCP's strategy is supported by the work of its partners, and from monies recovered under Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA). This funding provides an opportunity to grant fund projects that can demonstrate how they will deliver to the SCP priorities and secure the impact sought by its Delivery Groups.

Grants are assessed and administered by the City of London Corporation's Central Grants Unit (CGU). The CGU will make recommendations for the decision of the SCP. An important element in the decision making of the SCP will be the support of - and engagement with - the relevant Delivery Group.

Grants available

Grants available range from £5,000 to £50,000.

Priority areas

Applications for funding should focus on at least one of the seven priorities of the SCP Strategy 2022-2025:

1. **Reducing Neighbourhood Crime and anti-social behaviour including in the night-time economy**
2. **Tackling substance misuse linked to crime and disorder**
3. **Safeguarding and supporting high risk and vulnerable children and adults from harm**
4. **Violence against women and girls including gendered violence**
5. **Serious violence**
6. **Hate Crime**
7. *Reducing reoffending*

In your application, you must demonstrate the **need** for your initiative, the **means** by which you will deliver it and how you will **demonstrate impact**. You should demonstrate the relevance to - and support of – the relevant Delivery Group.

It is anticipated that the issues requiring a response, and the partners likely to be able to lead in that response, will be identified by the Delivery Groups.

Projects must deliver within the boundaries of the City of London.

Funding will be granted on a 12-month basis. We strongly recommend that applicants seek match-funding from other sources, so that initiatives are not solely dependent on funding from the SCP POCA Fund.

Who can apply?

Applications can be received from

- Not-for-profit or voluntary organisations, community groups, charities and community interest companies (CICs) registered with Companies House or the Charity Commission
- Organisations which work to improve the safety and the reduction of crime in the City of London (including issues which may lead to the committing of crime)
- Organisations which provide a free-of-charge and confidential service
- Organisations which provide a service regardless of whether a crime has been reported to the police

Eligibility requirements

- A Diversity, Inclusion and Equality policy (or equivalent) which you are able to produce and demonstrate your organisation's commitment to
- A governing/founding document which articulates the organisation's charitable/community aims (including provision – such as a dissolution clause – in the event that the organisation ceases to exist)

- A management committee with at least three unrelated members; CICs should have at least three unrelated Directors registered with Companies House
- Implementation of appropriate Safeguarding procedures for organisations working with vulnerable individuals and/or children
- Organisations must have a bank account, with a minimum of two signatures (of unrelated persons) for withdrawals, together with a constitution/articles of association/trust deeds, or similar document
- The ability to provide annual audited accounts and/or financial records which illustrate balance of funds and a breakdown of income and expenditure (N.B. organisations which have been established in the last financial year will not be excluded from the application process on the basis that they lack a set of annual accounts).

What can't the Safer City Partnership provide funding for?

- Consultancy fees and feasibility studies
- Core running costs alone (although funding for a portion of core running costs will be considered in order to support the initiative seeking SCP funding)
- For profit endeavours or applications made by profit-making organisations
- General fundraising appeals
- Grant-making organisations
- Individuals
- Loan or debt repayments
- National or regional organisations, unless the grant is ring-fenced for use within the City of London/a City of London branch exists within the organisation
- Overseas travel
- Projects of a political nature or that promote a particular political view
- Recurring funding for initiatives beyond 12 months (projects may run for longer than 12 months, but the SCP will only provide funding for a 12-month period)
- Retrospective funding
- Statutory services

Evaluation and monitoring

A vital aspect of your application will be the procedures you plan to implement to monitor the success of your initiative over its lifetime. This may include: reaching key milestones by agreed dates; targets for outreach with particular groups; or the delivery of a set number of workshops within a particular timeframe.

All projects which are successful in receiving Safer City Partnership funding will be subject to assessment or review by the SCP, and will be reported to the City of London Corporation's Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee.

All funding granted must be spent in line with the proposals made in your application and the agreement made with the SCP in relation to the funding remit. Evaluation by your organisation must demonstrate this and will be a focus of SCP monitoring. Any improper use of funds may require the partial or total repayment of the grant to the SCP. Any unused funds after 12 months must be returned to the SCP.

You must inform the Safer City Partnership immediately of any significant changes in the nature or focus of your initiative over the funding period. You must seek the permission of the SCP before any changes are made to how grant funding can be utilised. Failure to do so may result in the withdrawal or requested repayment of funds.

<u>Application process</u>

Appended

<u>Assessment criteria</u>

1. The initiative delivers to at least one of the SCP Strategy priorities
2. The initiative is supported by a relevant Delivery Group of the SCP
3. The need for the initiative is clearly demonstrated with supporting evidence
4. The initiative benefits the people and/or businesses of the City of London
5. The budget is cost-effective and all aspects of requested funding provisions are eligible under SCP POCA Funding criteria
6. The initiative will increase community safety and/or enables crime prevention/reduction
7. The initiative will have a positive and long-term impact on the City of London
8. The initiative demonstrates clear tools for evaluating and monitoring metrics for success

Safer City Partnership POCA funding

Application process

1.   Applications from external organisations and bodies (organisations that are <u>not one of the Responsible Authorities </u>of the SCP):

NB: Please also read the funding criteria

Step 1: Expression of interest

Submit a completed Expression of interest Form to the relevant SCP Sub Group for the project proposed.

Where the SCP - or member of the SCP Strategy Board - identifies and need that sits outside of the subgroup coverage, it should come initially to the SCP Strategy Board.

Outcome

> **EOI supported**: referred to CGU for application (**Step 2**)

> **EOI not supported**: either no further action, or the applicant is advised to revise their EOI to address issues/deficiencies identified

Step 2: full application

Applicant referred to CGU. CGU provides full application for completion

Application assessed by CGU with recommendations made for consideration by the Safer City Partnership.

The CGU will have up to 8 weeks to fully assess an application and draft a recommendation report

Step 3: SCP decision making

SCP decides to approve or reject the application for funding.

Recommendations and decision making will be made utilising the SCP Strategy Board meetings. However, this shall be a restricted agenda item in that:

> I.   *The decision is that of the **SCP only** – meaning the constituent five 'Responsible Authorities'. In the event of a vote being necessary to determine a decision, only those responsible authorities have voting rights.*
> II.   *Where an individual or organisation outside of the Responsible Authorities is involved in a bid, they shall recuse themselves from the decision and decision making*

SCP members shall have the right to delegate the decision making to the chair in the event that further information or clarification is needed to progress a decision.

SCP Approved: referred to Executive Director of Community and Children's services to approve the dispersal of funds by the CGU

SCP Rejected: decision and rationale for rejection fed back to applicant

Step 4: Notification of outcome

CGU informs bidders of outcome.

Where supported, the CGU will seek the approval of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services to disperse funding in line with approved bid.

2.   Applications from Responsible Authorities of the SCP:

Step 1: Expression of interest

Submit a completed Expression of interest Form to the relevant SCP Sub Group for the project proposed.

Where the SCP - or member of the SCP Strategy Board - identifies and need that sits outside of the subgroup coverage, it should come initially to the SCP Strategy Board.

> **EOI supported**: referred to SCP for decision (**Step 2**)

> **EOI not supported**: either no further action, or the applicant is advised to revise their EOI to address issues/deficiencies identified

Step 2: SCP decision making

SCP decides to approve or reject the application for funding.

Recommendations and decision making will be made utilising the SCP Strategy Board meetings. However, this shall be a restricted agenda item in that:

I. *The decision is that of the **SCP only** – meaning the constituent five 'Responsible Authorities'. In the event of a vote being necessary to determine a decision, only those responsible authorities have voting rights.*

SCP members shall have the right to delegate the decision making to the chair in the event that further information or clarification is needed to progress a decision.

> **SCP Approved:** referred to Executive Director of Community and Children's services to approve the dispersal of funds by the CGU

> **SCP Rejected:** decision and rationale for rejection fed back to applicant

Where supported, the CGU will seek the approval of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services to disperse funding in line with approved bid.