

BY E-MAIL ONLY

PCC Mark Shelford
Avon & Somerset Police Headquarters
Valley Road
Portishead
Bristol
BS20 8JJ

4 February 2022

Dear PCC Mark Shelford,

Violence Reduction Unit Funding 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25

As you know, I am committed to ensuring that Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) provide a long-term platform for tackling the root causes of Serious Violence. I remain extremely grateful to you and your partners for all the work you have delivered over the last year, including in difficult circumstances as we continue to grapple with the consequences of Covid-19.

I am, therefore, pleased to provide details of the funding that you, and the other Core Members making up the Avon & Somerset VRU, will shortly be able to apply for. Following the successful outcome of the Spending Review, my intention is that those successfully applying for funding will receive a multi-year grant agreement, covering the 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25 financial years. Any award of funding will, of course, be subject to the receipt of all necessary approvals, including the receipt of relevant HMT consents and any expenditure incurred before receipt of an award will be at recipients' own risk. Any funding award will also be made on the basis of a match-funding contribution, to be sourced from the PCC and/or any or all of the VRUs' other Core Members. The collective match funding contribution, which may also include in-kind contributions, will be 10% of 21/22 allocations in 22/23, rising to 15% in 23/24 and 20% in 24/25.

The sums you will be eligible to apply for are as follows:

22/23 £2,042,762
23/24 £1,528,667
24/25 £1,512,572

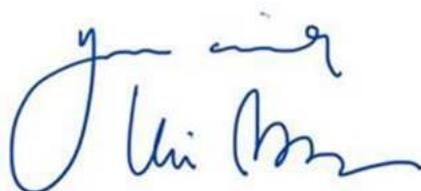
Please note that any funding will be subject to the terms of the associated Grant Agreement and that the sums referred to for the 23/24 and 24/25 financial years are indicative and subject to change.

Please also note that this information is provided under embargo and cannot form the subject of any communications activity until you have received Home Office confirmation that announcements can take place. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact your designated point of contact.

In response to the most recent data on hospital admissions for injury with a sharp object, this year we are expanding the number of areas eligible to apply for VRU funding from 18 to 20. Each of the 18 areas already receiving Home Office funding for VRUs remain eligible to apply for funding. Provisional funding allocations will continue to be generated on the basis of hospital admissions data for injury with a sharp object, though to make suitable adjustments for impacts to crime trends resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, provisional funding allocations have been calculated on the basis of the six most recent years of data.

Further information on the application process associated with this funding will be shared with you by my officials in due course.

In addition to your VRU's core members, I am copying this letter to Martin Hewitt, Chair of the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), and Marc Jones, Chair of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kit Malthouse', is centered on the page.

**The Rt Hon Kit Malthouse MP
Minister of State for Crime, Policing and Probation.**