BACKGROUND

In November 2013 the Home Office Innovation Fund was introduced. It was established to incentivise collaboration, support improved police ICT and digital working and enable Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Chair of the Common Council’s Police Committee to invest in other innovative delivery approaches with the potential to improve policing and deliver further efficiency in the future so that we can Transform Policing, Prevent Crime and Protect Vulnerable People.

The Police and Crime Panel received a report at the April 2015 meeting detailing the bids that were successful during last round of the fund. From the 8 bids that were submitted from West Yorkshire the below 4 were successful:

1. **(VIPER) Introducing High Definition Images into Video Identification Parades & Intelligence Systems**
2. **(VIPER) Reducing Prisoner transport costs by using VIPER® ID Booths in Prisons Collaborative**
3. **(SSU) Digital Asset Management / Forensic Evidence Repository**
4. **(SSU) Live-Time Forensics (Forensic Intelligence Database)**

From a total of £3,237,588 grant funds requested across all 8 submitted projects, approx 40% of the funding has been secured to a total of **£1,360,457**

The fund has grown from £20m in 2013/14 to £70m in 2015/16. The value of the 2016/17 fund will be decided after the spending review on November.

OVERVIEW OF THE FUND 2016/17

This year’s fund is looking to support:

- Proof of concept bids. Funding genuinely new, early stage but high potential ideas to develop into fully worked through solutions
- Implementation ready bids. Funding fully formed initiatives to bring innovation to life more quickly.

These bids should focus on:
1. Technology-enabled public contact and communication channels to improve public interaction
2. Enhanced workforce efficiency to improve criminal justice outcomes
3. Digital forensic and investigative capabilities to quickly identify offenders
4. Data analytics and intelligence-led activity to improve decision-making and tasking to enable crime prevention
5. Rethinking partnership and emergency services working to provide a better public service
6. Building capabilities to tackle hidden crime and protect vulnerable people

It is worth acknowledging that there is a match funding requirement of 40-50% per project per year.

PROCESS

The Home Office held a soft launch event for the fund on the 1 September 2015 which was attended by Tricia Holder, Head of Delivery for the OPCC. At this launch it was explained that an Expressions of Interest stage was being introduced to allow forces to socialise ideas and gain feedback, including areas for collaboration, prior to developing full bid. The closing date for any expressions of interest was Friday 18 September and it was anticipated, dependant on responses, that feedback would be received during late October/early November.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

An invite was circulated around members of the PCC’s Partnership Executive Group to submit bid ideas to be considered for submission to the Expressions of Interest stage in September. In total 18 projects were submitted to the Home Office for feedback. Projects included those lead by partners, including West Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company Limited, West Yorkshire Joint Services, Leeds Youth Offending Service and Kirklees Community Safety Partnership. Feedback has now been received and included potential collaboration with other Forces, Universities and other partners from across England and Wales.

NEXT STEPS

Initial feedback from the expressions of interest will be considered and contact made with any suggested collaboration opportunities. All 18 bids are currently being considered to shortlist for development to full submission stage. In order to help monitor and develop these bids a working group of the PCC, OPCC staff, WyFi, WYP and interested partners will be established. Bids chosen for development have to be submitted by the deadline of 18 December 2015.
Submitted Expressions of Interest

1. **Case Progression** (Police National Legal Database) - online case progression system with potential to make a Yorkshire-wide service.

2. **Cyber Crime Legal Framework ‘App’** (West Yorkshire Police, Cyber Crime Unit and PNLD) - bringing legislation together as part of an ‘app’, building upon existing project work through the College of Policing Knowledge Fund.

3. **Liaison Based Public Order and Public Safety Policing** (West Yorkshire Police, protective Services and University of Leeds) - confronting challenges of constructing an evidence base for public order and public safety.

4. **Police Complaints System ‘App’** (West Yorkshire Police, Professional Standards) - online complaints and compliments system for the public, police officers and staff.

5. **ISSR** (West Yorkshire Police, Information Technology) - proof of concept proposal.

6. **Digital Mobile Predictive Policing Solution** (West Yorkshire Police, Information Technology) – development of apps for the public to ‘Livechat’ with the police and a police YouTube site.

7. **Satellite Monitoring for Voluntary Tagging of high resource non-offenders** (West Yorkshire Police, Force Performance Improvement Unit) – proof of concept proposal for tagging non-offenders such as repeat mispers.

8. **Online Translation System** (West Yorkshire Police, Crime) – development of the use of translation system for Samsung hand-held devices.


10. **Developing Actionable Knowledge** (West Yorkshire Police, Force Performance Improvement Unit & Leeds Beckett University) – Developing action research to support cultural change.

11. **Automated Activity Analysis** (West Yorkshire Police, Force Performance Improvement Unit) – proof of concept proposal exploring the potential of Activity Analysis through captured digital data sets.

12. **Financial Abuse and Exploitation** (West Yorkshire Joint Services, Trading Standards) – proof of concept project preventing crime and protecting vulnerable people.

13. **Integrated West Yorkshire CCTV** (Safer Leeds & WYPCC) – centralisation of CCTV throughout West Yorkshire.

14. **Shoplifting Prevention** (Probation Service) – project to reduce shoplifting through a targeted and coordinated partnership.

15. **Sex Workers within the CJS** (Probation Service) – project to prevent crime and improve health and well-being.

16. **Young Victims of Crime** (Youth Offending Team) – development of a county-wide programme of support for young victims.

17. **Hosting National IT Systems** (West Yorkshire Police, Information Technology) – proof of concept bid with the Police ICT company for WYP to host national systems.

18. **Improved Partnership Data Sharing** (Kirklees Community Safety Partnership) – to enable collaborative approaches and to enable the secure data sharing across multiple agencies.