

# Safer Streets Fund to tackle burglary and theft

The Safer Streets Fund aims to stop offences that blight communities and cause misery to victims from happening in the first place.

Following a bidding process, grants of up to £550,000 will be provided to PCCs in England and Wales for projects to improve security in areas particularly affected by acquisitive crimes such as burglary, vehicle theft and robbery.

The money will go towards measures proven to cut crime. These include simple changes to the design of streets such as locked gates around alleyways, increased street-lighting and the installation of CCTV.

The funding will also be used to train community wardens, deliver local crime prevention advice to residents and establish Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

I will not stand by while criminals inflict fear and misery on our communities.

That is why I set up this fund to ensure we are doing all we can to prevent people falling victim to these crimes.

Crime and Policing Minister, Kit Malthouse said:

Persistent street crime and burglary have a corrosive effect on a neighbourhood, leaving people apprehensive about leaving their homes, and afraid of what they might encounter when they return.

But simple modifications like better street lighting or CCTV can do a lot to prevent crime.

So alongside more focussed thief-taking by the police, these projects should have a big impact on the communities hardest hit by burglars, robbers and villains in general.

Crime Prevention Leads from the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, Roger Hirst and Keith Hunter said:

Today's Safer Streets Fund announcement represents positive news for communities across England and Wales.

This funding will support PCCs and their community safety partners

to effectively deliver crime reduction activities that will prevent and reduce crimes such as burglary and robbery in the areas that need it most.

Acquisitive offences are the crimes that the public are most likely to encounter, and they are estimated to cost society billions of pounds every year.

There is strong evidence that these crimes can be prevented by tactics that either remove opportunities to commit crime or act as a deterrent by increasing the chances of an offender being caught.

Measures that the funding will go towards include:

- CCTV
- improved home security
- Neighbourhood Watch schemes
- street lighting
- crime prevention advice

The Home Secretary announced the Safer Streets Fund in October 2019, and PCCs were invited to bid for funding in January this year.

Bids were evaluated against a set criteria and bidders were asked to outline a plan to reduce crime within a local crime hotspot, demonstrating value for money, evidence of community engagement and long-term sustainability.

As they are rolled out, each initiative will be assessed to help inform future government investments.

The Safer Streets Fund forms part of the government's concerted action to tackle crime.

We are recruiting 20,000 additional police officers over the next three years, and the amount of funding available to the policing system for 2020/21 will increase by more than £1.1 billion, totalling £15.2 billion.

A full list of the successful bids and amounts of funding is as follows:

<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Funding amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Avon and Somerset	£400,000	
Bedfordshire	£882,150	covering 2 bids
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	£546,693	
Cheshire	£550,000	
Cleveland	£1,034,696	covering 3 bids
Cumbria	£436,994	
Derbyshire	£514,561	
Devon & Cornwall	£546,781	
Dorset	£266,357	covering 2 bids
Durham	£784,278	covering 2 bids

<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Funding amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Dyfed Powys	£195,673	
Greater Manchester	£884,013	covering 2 bids
Hampshire	£549,991	
Hertfordshire	£618,629	covering 2 bids
Humberside	£550,000	
Kent	£111,005	
Lancashire	£747,010	covering 2 bids
Leicestershire	£1,518,306	covering 3 bids
Lincolnshire	£250,780	
Merseyside	£549,700	
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime	£301,162	
Norfolk	£363,164	
North Wales	£1,067,000	covering 2 bids
North Yorkshire	£548,980	
Northamptonshire	£1,375,700	covering 3 bids
Nottinghamshire	£550,000	
South Wales	£513,410	
South Yorkshire	£549,964	
Staffordshire	£1,010,000	covering 2 bids
Surrey	£547,791	
Sussex	£893,366	covering 2 bids
Thames Valley	£972,264	covering 2 bids
West Mercia	£550,000	
West Midlands	£549,040	
West Yorkshire	£709,311	covering 2 bids

The total funding awarded today totals £22.4 million. The remaining funding will be spent on supporting successful areas to deliver their bids, evaluation of the fund's impact, administration and other activities which support the aims of the fund.