

Millions awarded for new projects to keep women safe

Updated on 12 November to include details of the 22 successful bidders and breakdown of funding.

The bids include initiatives such as drink spiking detection kits, a transport safety campaign and trained staff to support safe taxi journeys.

The Home Secretary has today (Wednesday 10 November) announced the successful bids across England and Wales for projects from the Safety of Women at Night Fund.

The fund was launched in July with up to £5 million made available for projects and initiatives to improve the safety of women in public spaces at night.

Successful bids will build on the efforts already underway through the £25 million third round of Safer Streets funding which included a range of interventions including educational programmes to raise awareness and more streetlights and CCTV.

The 22 successful bids are from civil society organisations, local authorities and police and crime commissioners across England and Wales. These include:

Bristol City Council will receive funding for a trial rollout of kits to detect drink spiking which will be made available to all police officers and at 60 night-time economy venues. This will enable officers to test drinks on the spot preventing assaults and helping them to gain early evidence for any investigation.

Cheshire PCC will improve the current call handling technology to provide an instant visible and reassuring response to a female calling for police support from any urban area. Call handlers will be able to have direct visual access to callers/victims and view any evidence of an offence.

Sussex PCC, Northamptonshire OPCC, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, and North Wales OPCC will pilot schemes introducing volunteer 'taxi marshals' who will be trained staff at taxi ranks to provide support and prevent pick-ups from unregistered taxis so that women and girls can access safe transport home.

West Yorkshire Combined Authority will launch a Train Safety campaign to promote access to an online link with safety information for public transport

users, such as bus tracking, so there is no longer a need to stand at a bus stop alone waiting for a delayed bus.

In July the government published a new and ambitious cross-government Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy to help ensure that women and girls are safe everywhere – at home, online, at work and on the streets.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

Violence against women and girls in our country's nightlife is still an awful reality for many, and horrific crimes such as sexual assault have devastating consequences.

Working with the police, local authorities and venues these innovative projects will identify and crack down on those who pose a risk and give women the practical support when they need it.

We must use every possible tool at our disposal to ensure people feel safe at night when walking home, using transport, or enjoying a night out with friends.

Bedfordshire PCC Festus Akinbusoye, Prevention Lead at the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, said:

No one should be made to feel scared or intimidated while they enjoy our vibrant British nightlife. PCCs are committed to making our communities safer, including reducing violence against women and girls. This money will enable us to support practical solutions which make people feel safer and build an evidence base for what works.

The Home Office, with the support of the National Police Chiefs' Council, has also launched a new online tool called StreetSafe, piloted across police forces in England and Wales. It allows the public, particularly women and girls, to pinpoint areas on a map where they feel unsafe and say why. The information is used by police forces to better work with communities to improve local safety.

The government is also funding the first ever National Police Lead for Violence Against Women and Girls, DCC Maggie Blyth, focused entirely on tackling this abhorrent issue and coordinating police action across England and Wales.

North East England

Lead bidder

Grant funding awarded (£)

West Yorkshire Combined Authority £215,377.00

Lead bidder	Grant funding awarded (£)
Durham City Council	£109,302.00
Newcastle City Council	£109,642.40
Northumbria PCC	£243,852.28

Total: £678,173.68

North West England

Lead bidder	Grant funding awarded (£)
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council	£186,712
Cheshire PCC	£300,000
Wigan Council	£273,969
Cumbria OPCC	£116,925

Total: £877,606

South East England

Lead bidder	Grant funding awarded (£)
OPCC Thames Valley Police	£297,252
Hammersmith and Fulham Council	£105,110
Sussex PCC	£296,363
Portsmouth City Council	£100,431.74
Southampton City Council	£150,492

Total: £949,648.74

South West England

Lead bidder	Grant funding awarded (£)
The Nelson Trust	£140,000
Bristol City Council	£282,319
Exeter University	£72,565.69

Total: £494,884.69

Wales

Lead bidder	Grant funding awarded (£)
OPCC North Wales	£202,704
South Wales OPPC	£182,750

Total: £385,454

West Midlands

Lead bidder	Grant funding awarded (£)
PFCC Staffordshire	£300,000

Total: £300,000

East Midlands

Lead bidder	Grant funding awarded (£)
Leicester City Council	£249,491
Northamptonshire OPCC	£300,000
Nottinghamshire OPCC	£293,542

Total: £843,033

[New rules put savers' interests first](#)



Hundreds of thousands of people will benefit from the new rules outlined by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) yesterday (Tuesday 9 November 2021), which will introduce a threshold at which pensions providers will no longer be able to charge a flat fee to savers.

In a bid to protect hard-earned savings, the rules mean pension savings invested in the default funds of schemes used for Automatic Enrolment with a value of £100 or less will be exempt from paying flat fees from April next year.

Minister for Pensions, Guy Opperman said:

We all know what a success Automatic Enrolment has been in getting more people saving into private pensions – with over 10 million employees paying into a workplace pension since 2012.

But for some, particularly those who regularly take on short-term work and change jobs frequently, there is a greater chance that they will be automatically enrolled into new workplace pensions a number of times, building up a collection of deferred small pots.

Removing flat fees on pension savings worth less than £100 will provide a boost to hundreds of thousands of people and help them enjoy the retirement they deserve.

The introduction of the threshold – known as the ‘de minimis’ – will complement plans to introduce pensions dashboards, which will allow individuals to keep track of their small pension pots more easily, helping them to better plan for retirement.

Additional information

- The new rules implementing the de minimis will come into force from April 2022.
- The [consultation response](#) is available on gov.uk.
- The consultation also included a call for evidence on standardisation of permitted charges. The department is considering the evidence gathered on this proposal and will publish their findings and next steps in due course.

Media enquiries for this press release – 0115 965 8781

Follow DWP on:

Published 10 November 2021

Last updated 10 November 2021 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 10 November 2021

First published.

[South Humber Bank Energy Centre development consent decision announced](#)

Press release

Today, Wednesday 10 November 2021, the application for the South Humber Bank Energy Centre has been granted development consent by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.



The Order grants development consent for this Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project comprising the construction and operation of an energy from waste plant of up to 95 megawatts gross capacity and associated development including an electrical connection, landscaping and access.

The application was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration by EP Waste Management Ltd on 09 April 2020 and accepted for examination on 04 May 2020. Following an examination during which the public, Statutory Consultees and Interested Parties were given the opportunity to give evidence to the Examining Authority, recommendations were made to the Secretary of State on 10 August 2021.

This is the 103rd Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project and 62nd energy application to have been examined by The Planning Inspectorate within the timescales laid down in the Planning Act 2008.

The Planning Inspectorate's Chief Executive, Sarah Richards said:

"The Planning Inspectorate has examined more than 100 nationally significant infrastructure projects ensuring local communities had the opportunity of being involved in the examination of projects that may affect them. Local people, the local authority and other interested parties were able to participate in the examination. The Examining Authority listened and gave full consideration to local views and the evidence gathered during the examination before making their recommendations."

The decision, the recommendations made by the Examining Authority to the Secretary of State and the evidence considered by the Examining Authority in reaching its recommendations are publicly available on the [project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#).

##ENDS

Journalists wanting further information should contact the Planning Inspectorate Press Office, on 0303 444 5004 or 0303 444 5005 or email:

Press.office@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Planning Inspectorate's [National Infrastructure Programme of Projects](#) details the proposals which are anticipated to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as applications in the coming months.

Glasgow COVID-19 Lab Passes 20 Million Tests

- More than 20 million tests now analysed at Glasgow's lab to cut COVID-19 transmission
- Visit follows net zero ambitions announced for UK health services at COP26

The Glasgow Lighthouse Lab has now analysed more than 20 million COVID-19 tests, as Health and Social Care Secretary, Sajid Javid visited the lab today [Wednesday 10 November] to thank staff for their tireless work.

The lab, operated by Glasgow University on behalf of the UK Government, has played a vital role in identifying positive COVID-19 cases and helping reduce transmission of the virus since starting operations in April 2020.

Staffed around the clock, more than 20 million PCR tests from across the UK have now been analysed at the lab, with many tests genomically sequenced to identify and track any new variants.

The Lighthouse lab, a cornerstone facility in the UK Government's nationwide testing programme, has also played a key part in supporting the safe running of COP26 in Glasgow – by analysing around 7,000 tests for international delegates and staff.

Sajid Javid visited the lab today on his trip to Glasgow for COP26. He met the executive team, toured the facility and spoke to lab staff to thank them for their crucial work in the past 18 months as part of the UK's efforts to tackle COVID-19 and save lives.

Health and Social Care Secretary, Sajid Javid said:

Analysing more than 20 million tests is a phenomenal achievement that wouldn't have been possible without the tireless efforts of the lab staff who have worked around the clock to protect people and stop the virus spreading.

The Glasgow Lighthouse Lab has been at the heart of our UK-wide fight against the virus and our collective mission to identify cases, cut chains of transmission and save lives.

Professor Dame Anna Dominiczak, Director of Laboratories for the UKHSA, said:

Every lab worker has played a crucial role throughout the pandemic as every test either helps to reduce transmission of COVID-19 or allows people to carry on with their lives.

Testing and isolating when necessary remain a vital way of controlling the spread of the virus and protecting one another.

Having worked to set up the Lighthouse Laboratory in Glasgow last year I am delighted to see it has processed over 20 million samples. Very few labs in the world have processed such vast numbers and it has gone a long way to help our ongoing fight against COVID-19.

UK Government Minister for Scotland, Iain Stewart said:

It's an outstanding achievement that the Glasgow Lighthouse Lab has now processed more than 20million Covid tests and I join Minister Keegan in thanking everyone involved.

The UK Government continues to take unprecedented action to fight Covid and our comprehensive UK-wide testing programme remains a vital part of that, building back stronger from the pandemic.

The Secretary of State's visit follows his announcement as part of COP26's Science and Innovation Day that national health services in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have united to commit to low carbon and sustainable health systems in the fight against climate change.

Health systems are substantial sources of greenhouse gas emissions – accounting for around 4.6% of the worldwide total. If they were one country, health systems would be the fifth largest emitter in the world.

This ambitious move is backed by 47 countries – including the United States and Germany – who are pledging landmark commitments to develop climate resilient, sustainable low-carbon health systems.

The Health and Social Care Secretary has written an open letter to NHS Trusts in England on the importance of meeting the net zero health service commitment. The letter praises the NHS' work to date on reducing carbon emissions, highlighting examples of positive biodiversity projects across the NHS. This includes the NHS Forest initiative, which has seen over 77,000 trees planted across 200 different NHS organisation estates.

Notes to editors:

- The open letter to NHS Trusts can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letter-to-nhs-trusts-on-net-zero-commitment>

Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during October 2021

During October, there was one new detention of a foreign flagged vessel in a UK port.

1. In response to one of the recommendations of Lord Donaldson's inquiry into the prevention of pollution from merchant shipping, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) publishes details of the foreign flagged vessels detained in UK ports each month.
2. The UK is part of a regional agreement on port state control known as the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MOU) and information on all ships that are inspected is held centrally in an electronic database known as THETIS. This allows the ships with a high risk rating and poor detention records to be targeted for future inspection.
3. Inspections of foreign flagged ships in UK ports are undertaken by surveyors from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. When a ship is found to be not in compliance with applicable convention requirements, a deficiency may be raised. If any of their deficiencies are so serious, they have to be rectified before departure, then the ship will be detained.
4. All deficiencies should be rectified or in agreed class/ flag condition before departure.

Notes on the list of detentions:

- Full details of the ship: The accompanying detention list shows ship's International Maritime Organisation (IMO) number which does not change throughout the ship's life and uniquely identifies it. It also shows the ship's name and flag state at the time of its inspection.
- Company: The company shown in the vessel's Safety Management Certificate (SMC) or if there is no SMC, then the party otherwise believed to be responsible for the operation of the ship at the time of inspection.
- Classification society: The list shows the classification society responsible for classification of the ship only.
- Recognised organisation: Responsible for conducting the statutory surveys and issuing statutory certificates on behalf of the flag state.
- White (WL), grey (GL) and black lists (BL) are issued by the Paris MoU on 01 July each year and shows the performance of flag state.

- Deficiencies: The deficiencies listed are the ones which were detainable. Further details of other deficiencies can be provided on request.

SHIPS DETAINED IN OCTOBER 2021

Vessel Name: ATHENS GLORY

GT: 75484

IMO: 9247766

Flag: Cyprus (white list)

Company: Alevin Marine SA

Classification society: RINA Services S.p.A

Recognised organisation: RINA Services S.p.A

Recognised organisation for ISM Doc: RINA

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: RINA

Date and place of detention: 21st October 2021 DP World Gateway, London

Summary: Thirty-two deficiencies with six grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
01220 – Seafarers’s employment agreement (SEA)	Expired	Yes
01220 – Seafarer employment agreement (SEA)	Invalid	Yes
10135 – Monitoring of Voyage or Passage plan	Not as required	Yes
10111 – Charts	Not updated	Yes
02103 – Stability/Strength/loading information and instruments	Insufficient	Yes
15150 – ISM	Not as Required	Yes

This vessel was released 29th October 2021

DETENTIONS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS

Vessel Name: POSEIDON

GT: 1412

IMO: 7363217

Flag: Iceland (White list)

Company: Neptune EHF

Classification society: NA

Recognised organisation: NA

Recognised organisation for ISM Doc: DNV-GL

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: N/A (SMC issued by Flag)

Date and place of detention: 19th July 2018 at Hull

Summary: Ten deficiencies with two grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
02106 – Hull damage impairing seaworthiness	Holed	Yes
07113 – Fire Pumps	Insufficient Pressure	Yes

This vessel was still detained on 31st October 2021

Vessel Name: TECOIL POLARIS

GT: 1814

IMO No: 8883290

Flag: Russian Federation (Grey list)

Company: Tecoil Shipping Ltd

Classification society: RMRS

Recognised organisation: RMRS

Recognised organisation for ISM DOC: RMRS

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: RMRS

Date and place of detention: 6th June 2018 at Immingham

Summary: Twenty-seven deficiencies with six grounds for detentions

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
10104 – Gyro compass	Inoperative	Yes
10127 – Voyage or passage plan	Not as required	Yes
15150 – ISM	Not as required	Yes
11104 – Rescue boats	Not properly maintained	Yes
11101 – Lifeboats	Not ready for use	Yes
01117 – International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP)	Invalid	Yes

This vessel was still detained on 31st October 2021

Vessel Name: CIEN PORCIENTO (General Cargo)

GT: 106.

IMO No: 8944446.

Flag: Unregistered.

Company: Open Window Inc.

Classification society: Unclassed.

Recognised organisation: Not applicable.

Recognised organisation for ISM DOC: Not applicable.

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: Not applicable

Date and place of detention: 4 March 2010, Lowestoft

Summary: Thirty deficiencies including seven grounds for detention

This vessel was still detained on 31st October 2021

Notes to Editors

- The MCA is a partner in the Sea Vision UK campaign to raise awareness and understanding of the sea and maritime activities. Sea Vision promotes the importance and economic value of the sector and works to highlight the exciting range of activities and career opportunities available to young people within the UK growing maritime sector.

- Follow us on Twitter: @MCA_media

For further information please contact Maritime and Coastguard Agency Press Office, on: +44 (0) 2380 329 401 Press releases and further information about the agency is available [here](#).