

Police fund's £80k handout to community

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MORE than £80,000 has been handed out to local communities and voluntary organisations in the Bristol area from the police commissioner's community-action fund.

Some 26 projects - ranging from supporting homeless veterans to tackling human trafficking - have received funding.



Joe Probert, 15, from the Kingswood Creative Youth Network performs at the Festival of Rotary. The network is one of several organisations to win support from the police commissioner's community-action fund.

Police commissioner Sue Mountstevens said: "We have received an overwhelming number of applications in the first decision period of this fund and I feel pleased to be able to support such fantastic initiatives.

"I have been captivated by the variety of the applications and astounded to hear of the wonderful [work](#) that you carry out day to day in your local communities for your communities."

Bea Salter, chairman of the Police Community Trust, said: "The commissioner's community-action fund will increase community involvement in dealing with local problems and issues. The trustees are very pleased to be involved.

"Working together, not only in partnership with one another but also with local communities, we can ensure that a large number of diverse schemes in Avon and Somerset are supported in prospering within their communities."

The fund, totalling £200,000, was launched at an event in the Colston Hall in May. There are still two more funding periods from this financial year's total.

Applications are welcome all year round and the trustees are particularly keen to hear from schemes that have not been awarded financial support.

Organisations can bid for grants of up to £5,000 if they fit into priority areas set out by the commissioner.

The areas Ms Mountstevens wants groups to focus on are reducing the impact of anti-social behaviour in communities, tackling domestic and sexual violence (particularly towards women and children), reducing/preventing burglary and the fear of burglary in an area, and ensuring victims are at the heart of the justice system.

Read more: <http://www.thisisbristol.co.uk/Police-fund-s-pound-80k-handout-community/story-19711200-detail/story.html#ixzz2dlmcSrZW>

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