

For public release

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (PCC) FOR LINCOLNSHIRE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

**REF: 014/2022
DATE: 09 March 2022**

SUBJECT		CALL BLOCKER DEVICES
REPORT BY	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	
CONTACT OFFICER	Sue Wilson, Partnership & Delivery Project Support Officer Telephone 01522 947407	
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF REPORT To approve the purchase of 35 True Call Secure+ call blocker devices which will support harm reduction and the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.		
RECOMMENDATION	That approval be given for £7,931.03 to be released from the Victims Budget for the purchase of 35 call blockers.	
POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LINCOLNSHIRE I hereby approve the recommendation above, having considered the content of this report.		
Signature:		Date: 9 March 2022

A. NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE PCC

A1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. In January 2022 the National Trading Standards (NTS) Team secured funding to disburse to organisations who take a multi-agency approach to fraud prevention. This funding was ringfenced for the purchase of call blockers only.
2. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) work in partnership through the Fraud Core Priority Group of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership. The aims of this group include:
 - Raise awareness of fraud in the community – educate people to protect themselves and others
 - Raise awareness of fraud with frontline staff – staff are able to quickly identify and report/respond to incidents, preventing loss/further losses

- Improve our understanding and identification of fraud targeted at vulnerable victims through improved intelligence capture and exchange
 - Ensure vulnerable victims of fraud are identified and safeguarded from further victimisation Identify individuals and businesses involved in fraud targeted at vulnerable victims. Ensure a co-ordinated approach to enforcement opportunities
3. The OPCC has previously purchased call blockers, which are useful in that they provide data to improve the intelligence picture around fraud whilst at the same time protecting vulnerable victims.
 4. A bid was therefore made to NTS and £7,931.03 was secured. This will enable the purchase of 35 True Call Secure+ call blocker devices, inclusive of 3 years control panel service and warranty, training and monthly reporting of blocking activity.
 5. Identification of suitable recipients, the installation and management of the call blockers will be undertaken by the Lincolnshire Police Crime Prevention Team.

A2. LINKS TO POLICE AND CRIME PLAN AND PCC'S STRATEGIES/PRIORITIES

This will support delivery of the Community Safety and prevention in partnership priority within the Community Safety, Policing and Criminal Justice Plan for Lincolnshire 2021-2025. Specifically, the use of targeted prevention activity, providing individuals with the knowledge and awareness to identify and report scams with the aim of reducing the number of victims.

B. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The cost of the call blockers will be met by a successful bid to the National Trading Standards Team which secured £7,931.03 funding ringfenced for the purchase of call blockers. This funding has been allocated to the Victims Budget (2210080).

C. LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

[This should include the legal powers the PCC has for making the decision]

Section 143 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 provides Police and Crime Commissioners with powers to provide or commission services. Within the meaning of this section, a PCC may provide or arrange for the provision of:

- (a) services that in the opinion of the PCC will secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction in the PCC's area
- (b) services that are intended by the PCC to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour
- (c) services of a description specified in an order made by the Secretary of State.

D. PERSONNEL AND EQUALITIES ISSUES

[This should include a copy of the Equality Impact Assessment, if required]

None specific.

E. REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

Monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken by the Lincolnshire Police Crime Prevention Team using calculation tools provided by National Trading Standards.

F. RISK MANAGEMENT

Through the review and evaluation arrangements as necessary.

H. PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Information in this form along with any supporting material is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PCC's website within one working day of approval. However, if release by that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved, publication may be deferred. An explanation for any deferment must be provided below, together with a date for publication.

Is the publication of this form to be deferred? No

If Yes, for what reason:

Until what date:

Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate part 2 form.

Is there a part 2 form? No

If Yes, for what reason:

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION

	Initial to confirm
Originating Officer recommends this proposal for the reasons outlined above.	SW
Financial advice: The PCC's Chief Finance Officer has been consulted on this proposal.	JF
Monitoring Officer: The PCC's Monitoring Officer has been consulted on this proposal.	MB

OFFICER APPROVAL

Chief Executive

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. Consultation outlined above has also taken place. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. M.', written over a horizontal line.

Date: 9 March 2022