

Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism

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Mrs G Millward request-458584-ae95b6da@whatdotheyknow.com

FOI: 46979 06 FEB 2018

Dear Mrs Millward

Thank you for your e-mail of 20 Jan 2018, in which you ask questions about Government funding of security measures for the Jewish community in the UK.

You ask specifically:

- 1. Please can you confirm if this funding from public monies has been granted by the government to this organisation?
- 2. Please confirm the amount awarded.
- 3. In relation to the charity "managing the money" what checks and balances are being undertaken by the Home Office to ensure the monies are being utilised appropriately?
- 4. Why are monies from the public purse being given to this organisation for security guards and further protection steps at independent and state Jewish schools, nurseries, synagogues and community sites, when the local police force are fully equipped to carry out those duties?

Please find the answers to the questions you have asked below:

- 1. Public money has been provided by the Government to the Community Security Trust as the Grant Recipient of the Jewish Community Protective Security Security Grant.
- 2. The amount provide for 2015-16 (the first year of this Grant) was £10.9m. For 2016-17 and 2017-18 the funding for each year was £13.4m (including a £3.0m contribution from Department for Education DfE).
- The Home Office undertakes a series of spot checks on the management of the funding provided and selects individual recipient sites for more detailed review. The charity (Community Security Trust – CST) provides the Home Office with its full



audited accounts and with separately and independently audited records specifically in relation to Grant funding. Additionally Home Office representatives undertake regular visits to sites that receive funding (e.g. individual schools and synagogues) to inspect arrangements and engage with site operators, to ensure that funding is being spent in line with the established purposes of the grant.

4. The nature of the threat to the Jewish community, incident reporting, and the range of policing activity to ensure the effective protection of the Jewish Community remains under regular review. The purpose of the grant funding is to support additional security measures, primarily security guarding. This complements the extensive and on-going work of the police.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference **46979.** If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Home Office