



**Providing a helping hand  
If the unimaginable happens**



**St George's Police Children Trust -**

# Christmas 2017

We are delighted to be able to end this year on a positive update of greater support available for St George's beneficiaries, through a number of changes and additional benefits available to Beneficiaries from January 2018.

For some time suggestions have been coming forward from current beneficiaries for ideas around additional support or where they felt there was a gap in support on the back of their particular circumstances. Thank you to everyone that completed our survey.

Therefore, the Trustees have made a significant change to increase the support offered by the Trust, as we continue to work hard to find innovative ways to adapt to the ever-changing policing landscape.

**From January 2018 the following new benefits will be made available to beneficiaries:**

## **Widening Eligibility**

The eligibility will be widened to include children of Police Families where the Partner of a Police Officer has lost their life. The Trustees understands that the death of partners affects income received by the family and therefore impacts the children, and thus support should be offered in this instance.

## **New Beneficiary Grant**

The Registration Grant, renamed as the New Beneficiary Grant, will be increased from £100 to £1000 to provide more immediate financial relief. .

## **Driving Lessons Grant**

A new Driving Lesson Grant will be made available to beneficiaries from the age of 17 up to 25, to help with the cost of learning to drive. The support is capped at £1000 per child.

## **Child Counselling Grant**

A new Child Counselling Grant will offer financial support to all beneficiaries who wish to access counselling to support a child or family through a bereavement or difficult time. This support can be accessed at any time, up to the age of 25, and not only immediately after the specific event.

In order for us to be able to offer this extra provision, the weekly donation rate to the St George's Police Children Trust will increase from January 2018. This will enable the charity to be financially viable over the next few years and allow the Trust to improve the support and

service to the wider Police Family.

The weekly donation rate has increased from 20pence to 35pence. This equates to £1.50 per month, or £1.40 per four weeks. Please note this is the first increase in the SGPCT donation rate since 2011.

Thank you for your support and we hope that you will continue to support the Charity that not only supports you but also your colleagues.

### **New Beneficiaries**

During 2016, the Trust has taken on 10 new families, totaling a number of 17 new beneficiaries. These have been received from the following forces:

- GMP
- Nottinghamshire
- West Yorkshire
- Police Scotland

Out of the 10 families, six of these applications were from an officer's family where the officer had died, and the other four were where the officer parent had been left incapacitated.

Each child will now be in receipt of weekly support allowances, ranging from between £10 - £60 per week and seasonal gifts. All of our beneficiaries have just received a Christmas grant, ranging from £300-£500 per child.

### **Ex-Gratia Grants**

A further 3 applications were received for the Ex-Gratia Grant

Please remember Ex-Gratia Grants can be applied for on top of the weekly allowances and seasonal grants and are usually awarded for items such as, trade tools when leaving school to start work, musical instruments, necessary text books etc.

**The St George's Police Children Trust Chairman, Ian Hanson, said**

*“A proposal was submitted to the Trustees which we have approved and I am pleased the Trust will now be offering additional support to our beneficiaries.*

*The sad reality is that some terrible things happen to Police Officers, and the Trust is able, with your support, to put in place measures to ensure the children of those brave Police Officers are supported.*

*Tragic and unexpected deaths leave families devastated, and whilst no amount of money can replace a parent, support from the Trust can provide a degree of financial certainty in difficult times.”*



Support the Trust for as little as  $\pounds$ 5 per week and together we can help safeguard your children's future

[www.stgeorgespolicechildrentrust.org](http://www.stgeorgespolicechildrentrust.org)



Beneficiaries of St Georges Police Children Trust explain how the Trust has supported them.

Holiday Home



St George's House is a holiday home

located in an idyllic setting in Harrogate, predominantly for our beneficiaries. The home provides respite and an opportunity to get away with family without worrying about all of the financial implications associated with having a holiday.

A one week's FREE respite stay at our holiday home is available to **all** current beneficiaries and can be taken anytime (subject to availability) on an annual basis.

Bookings are currently being taken for Beneficiaries in 2018, however, from February any available dates will be opened to the wider Police Family at discounted rates. For further information visit our website at

<http://www.stgeorgespolicechildrenstrust.org/how-we-can-help/holiday-home>

### **Happy Christmas**

We appreciated Christmas can be a difficult time of year, but we do hope you manage to spend time with family and enjoy the celebrations as best you can. May we also take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy and healthy 2018.

The Trust will be closed from Thursday 21st December and re-open again in the New Year from Monday 8th January 2017.

