

Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey – Decision Making Record

Title: Funding
Decision number: 006/2017
Author and Job Role: Damian Markland, Victims Policy Officer
Protective Marking: Official

Executive Summary:

The Police and Crime Commissioner is asked to agree to the release of funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (OPCC) Office Budget to support delivery of the following activity:

Refuge Transition Fund:

Families fleeing domestic abuse often arrive at refuges with nothing, having left most personal belongings behind. The OPCC has in previous years provided funding to local domestic abuse refuges, to provide families attending with a pack of basic living essentials on arrival that they can take with them when they move on to independent living. Items provided through this 'Transition Fund' include new bedding, towels, kitchen ware and toiletries.

Due to increased pressure on the devolved funding the OPCC receives from the Ministry of Justice, it is unlikely that the Victim's Fund will be able to support provision of a Transition Fund in 2017/18. It is therefore recommended that the PCC agrees to use a proportion of the forecasted underspend from the 2016/17 OPCC Office Budget to provide ongoing support over the next 12 months.

Recognising the importance of sustainable funding, OPCC staff have opened up conversations with the local refuge managers to explore how the Transition Fund could be financed in future years. However, the provision of funding in 2017/18 will provide time to develop these new arrangements and prevent a cliff-edge scenario.

Sum required: £20,000

WiSE Worker Uplift:

The OPCC currently provides funding for 2 WiSE Project Workers to deliver targeted interventions to children & young people who are victims of sexual exploitation. WiSE workers provide dedicated support for children and young people affected by CSE to help them cope, recover and rebuild their lives. This complements statutory provision available in Surrey for 14-18 year olds, providing a choice to young people who may be happier working with a voluntary agency and broadening the age range that can be supported.

It has long been the ambition of the OPCC to increase provision to better match that provided in neighbouring regions, and to reduce the caseloads of the two existing

workers. It is therefore recommended that the PCC agrees to use a proportion of the forecasted underspend from the 2016/17 OPCC Office Budget to provide funding for a third WiSE worker. OPCC staff would work with the provider to pilot a new approach that would see the individual more embedded within Police CSE teams, allowing for better sharing of intelligence and experience.

Again, recognising the importance of sustainability, the OPCC would work with partner agencies through the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Management Board (SEAMB) during 2017/18 to explore how the post could be funded longer-term if the pilot proves successful.

Sum required: £48,023

DA Outreach Advocate

Surrey Police have proposed a pilot to trial a new way of working between Police Officers, North Surrey Domestic Abuse Services (NSDAS) and yourSanctuary. The pilot recommends creating a funded post known as an Outreach Advocate, based in Staines police station. This DA Specialist will work alongside officers in the Area Policing Teams (APT) and Safeguarding Investigation Unit (SIU) to provide an enhanced level of support to survivors of domestic abuse, whilst supporting the professional development of officers and staff.

As with the other recommendations, if the pilot proves successful the intention will be to work with members of the Domestic Abuse Management Board (DAMB) to identify how the post should be funded on a longer-term basis or potentially mainstreamed into Surrey Police funding.

Sum required: £39,910

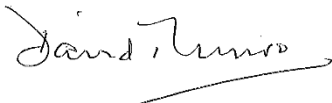
Recommendations:

That:

- I. The PCC provides £20,000 of funding to provide a Transition Fund for local refuges;
- II. The PCC provides £48,023 of funding to pilot an additional and embedded WiSE worker;
- III. The PCC provides £39,910 of funding to pilot an Outreach Advocate within Staines Police Station;
- IV. The total sum of £107,933 to be taken from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's office budget.

Police and Crime Commissioner Approval

I approve the recommendation(s):

Signature: 

Date: 21/03/2017

All decisions must be added to the decision register.

Areas of consideration

Consultation

The work has been led by the DA Perpetrator Working Group which consists of representatives of both statutory and third sector agencies with responsibilities for Domestic Abuse. The service specification has been developed in consultation from the outset.

Financial implications

As per the report.

Legal

Not applicable.

Risks

As with any project, the development of a local Perpetrator Programme poses a number of risks. These will be mitigated against through contractual arrangements and agreed governance structures.

Equality and diversity

The intention is to commission a 'person centric' model of delivery to operate within Surrey, one which takes into consideration and focuses on addressing the requirements of individual clients.