

Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey – Decision Making Record

Title: External Evaluation of the Surrey Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme
Decision number: 164/2016
Author and Job Role: Damian Markland, Policy Officer
Protective Marking: Official

Executive Summary:

The Police and Crime Commissioner is asked to agree the release of funding to undertake an external evaluation of the Surrey Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme.

Background:

The Domestic Abuse (DA) Strategy for Surrey 2013-18 encourages both victim and perpetrators to seek help and aims to focus efforts on providing a holistic response to all those affected by domestic abuse, including perpetrators.

In July 2015 the Community Safety Board (CSB) agreed to the scoping of a Domestic Abuse perpetrator service for Surrey, with the primary aim to modify the behaviour of perpetrators so to increase the safety of their partners and children. This work was subsequently taken forward by the DA Perpetrator Working Group and, following a competitive tendering process, the service launched in October 2016.

From the outset it was agreed that the Programme would run as a three-year pilot with outcomes based around ensuring:

- a change in harming behaviour of the perpetrator;
- a change in ability to recognise harmful thinking;
- a change in perception of risk of harm to partner/ex-partner and children;
- a change in perception of safety in partner/ex-partner and children;
- a change in reports of harming behaviour by partner/ex-partner and children.

Direct measurable outcomes in the longer term include a number of indicators of cost-offset:

- a reduction in uptake of services to manage criminal behaviour, injury and psychological harm, childcare and housing;
- a reduction in opportunity costs in terms of employment and education.

Whilst the provider of the service is subject to an agreed performance framework and is required to demonstrate progress against outcomes, the DA Perpetrator Working Group is eager to undertake an external evaluation of the service to better assess its overall impact and to help inform future commissioning intentions once the pilot period has ended.

The intention is to work with the University of Surrey to undertake a formative evaluation of outcome, commensurate with the development of the new service.

Recommendations:

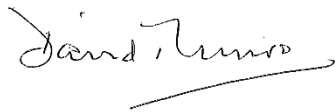
That:

- I. The Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey provide £14,597 of funding to Surrey County Council so that it can commission the University of Surrey to undertake an external evaluation of the Surrey Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme.
- II. The sum to be taken from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's 2016/17 underspend.

Police and Crime Commissioner Approval

I approve the recommendation(s):

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Tunio", with a horizontal line underneath.

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.