

Approved By:	Classification of Paper: Not Protectively Marked
Report to PCC	Report reference number PCC/ 0133/15
Date of Decision 07 December 2015	Area of County/Stakeholders affected Countywide (excl. Southend & Thurrock)
Title of report PCC Victims Fund – Children’s Society Young Victims’ Pathfinder	
Report by Greg Myddelton	
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of £49,881 from the PCC’s Victim’s Fund to The Children’s Society for the recruitment of a Boys and Young Men CSE project officer to support young males that are victims of Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the decision to support The Children’s Society’s bid for a Young Victims’ Pathfinder project aimed at supporting young male victims of sexual abuse.

3. Benefits of Proposal

- 3.1. The Children’s Society will recruit a Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Project Worker with a specialism in supporting Boys & Young Men (B&YM). This Project Worker will raise awareness of B&YM as victims of CSE across Essex and work with them on a 1:1 basis and in groups to help them cope and recover from their experiences. This will in turn increase identification and the number of referrals into the service and the number of B&YM that are receiving appropriate support as victims of CSE. The pilot will also help gather a more accurate picture of the numbers of B&YM affected by CSE and allow them the opportunity to provide feedback on the services and interventions that work best for them.
- 3.2. Project Workers will undertake comprehensive risk assessments and will provide a wide range of tailored interventions to increase emotional well-being, reduce risk taking, prevent sexual exploitation and keep young people safe.

- 3.3. The B&YM Project Worker will conduct awareness raising sessions with 50 practitioners in the year to raise the profile of B&YM as victims of CSE and to promote the service to increase referrals.
- 3.4. The outcomes that will be achieved are;
- B&YM and victims of CSE are better able to cope and recover from their experience and have improved protection and reduced risk from physical, emotional and sexual harm
 - B&YM and victims of CSE have improved emotional well being and increased resilience
 - Increased engagement from B&YM in CSE support services and increased knowledge of the scale of CSE particularly amongst B&YM in Essex
 - B&YM and victims at risk of CSE receive support from better equipped professionals leading to a reduced number of victims who are left unidentified
 - Families have better access to support, information, advice and guidance; enhancing familial relationships
- 3.5. We will continuously monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of this pilot and adjust delivery accordingly. We will regularly report to the PCC, against the agreed outcomes which will demonstrate the effectiveness of our service. Effectiveness will be measured through the University of Bedfordshire which is monitoring the overall delivery of the CARE programme.

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1. Sexual exploitation can result in young people suffering harm, and can cause significant damage to their physical and mental health. There is a tendency amongst male victims of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) to report a much lower level of harm than female victims (Rapid evidence assessment – the sexual B&YM, Barnados, 2014) and gender specific barriers to boys and young men (B&YM) disclosing CSE have been identified (Gendered Perceptions, Barnados, 2014). Consequently there is a gap in provision of services and support for B&YM that are victims of CSE or at risk of CSE.
- 4.2. This worker will form part of a wider team within The Children's Society supported by Big Lottery, Essex Police (POCA), and PCC funding, to provide a co-ordinated response to the issue of CSE, with a specialism on supporting young males who are less likely to report abuse and engage with formal support structures.

5. Police and Crime Plan

- 5.1. This proposal supports the PCC's vision and delivery of the following key areas of focus:
- Supporting our victims of crime
 - Reducing Hidden Harm
 - Ensuring local solutions meet local problems
 - Increasing efficiency in policing through collaborative working and innovation

6. Police Operational Implications

6.1 No operational implications

7. Financial Implications

7.1 The PCC will allocate £49,881 to The Children's Society.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 No legal implications

9. Staffing and other resource implications

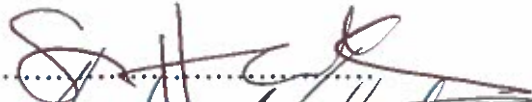
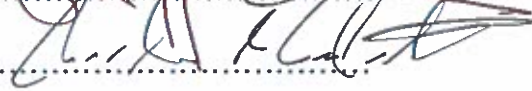
9.1 No staffing implications.

10. Equality and Diversity implications

10.1 This service is specifically targeted at young male victims of sexual abuse, recognising that they are a group that is shown to engage with formal support structures at a much lower rate than other victims.

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the Chief Executive and CFO and the PCC Solicitor where legal implications arise.

Chief Executive/M.O 
Chief Financial Officer 
PCC Legal Advisor (As necessary)

Decision

I agree the recommendations to this report

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PCC/Deputy PCC

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because

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PCC/Deputy PCC

Publication

Reasons for non-publication (*state 'None' if applicable*)

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Signed/Print name

Report for publication	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

