

Approved By:	Classification of Paper:
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Report to PCC	Report reference number PCC/0011/16
Date of Decision: 29/1/2016 Date of Report : 29/1/2016	Area of County/Stakeholders affected
Title of report: Reducing Reoffending – IOM post	
Report by Susannah Hancock, Chief Executive (OPCC)	
Enquiries to: Susannah Hancock, Chief Executive (OPCC)	

1. Purpose of report

To propose the allocation of 100K, previously set aside for Integrated Offender Management (IOM) activity, to be specifically utilised to fund a Reducing Reoffending / IOM co-ordinator and small reducing reoffending programme budget for 12 months (2016/17)

2. Recommendations

To agree for the allocation of 100K to fund an Essex, Southend and Thurrock Reducing Reoffending co-ordinator post and budget for 2016/17. The post will be based in the OPCC and work to support the Reducing Reoffending Programme Board.

3. Benefits of Proposal

The funding will help the PCC and wider strategic partners to deliver on the Essex Reducing Reoffending Strategy and implementation plan.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

This will support the Police and Crime Plan, and the work of the Essex Partnership Board.

The funding will help develop and deliver a pan Essex Reducing Reoffending strategy supporting work against each of the resettlement pathways.

Outcomes:

- Reducing reoffending
- Crime reduction and prevention
- Victim satisfaction

4. Background and proposal

The implementation of the Transforming Rehabilitation agenda has seen the demise of Essex Probation Service and its replacement by the Essex CRC owned by Sodexo. This was accompanied by a large reduction in core funding and a change in the contract delivery expectations. At the same time Essex Police has had to manage substantial financial reductions over the next 5 years. Both organisations employed and jointly funded an IOM Co-ordinator post. Both organisations have stated they find difficulty in continuing to fund the post in the current financial climate.

The PCC commissioned an independent review of the Essex IOM scheme in 2015. This identified 32 separate actions that needed to be implemented to ensure that the IOM scheme was contributing to a major strategic objective of reducing re-offending. The IOM co-ordinator is tasked with delivery (alongside partner agencies) of these performance outcomes.

In order to galvanise a number of Essex agencies the PCC re-launched the county Reducing Red-Offending Board in 2015. The Chair being the Deputy PCC. Much work has been done, but more needs to be done, to continue to drive forward agency and partnership working to deliver against the reducing re-offending agenda.

From March 2016 there would have been no IOM Co-ordinator as the joint CRC/Police funding would have expired. From May 2016 the Deputy PCC (who has a criminal justice professional background) has to step down. Both of these departures at the same time would have left a large gap in core professional knowledge and knowledge of local initiatives and partnerships.

There is still much work to do to take forward the IOM action plan recommendations. At the same time the drive to engage more partners in the wider re-offending agenda must be maintained.

In order to ensure that this key work continues it was decided that a sum of £100K previously identified to employ IOM key link workers to work with the then Essex Probation Service should be used for a different but closely related project.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

This sum will be used to pay the salary of the existing IOM Co-ordinator on a 12 months contact for FY 2016/2017. The post responsibilities will be widened to include Reducing Offending across the whole Essex landscape, of which IOM is but only one part. The post holder will be tasked to identify the best and most appropriate use of the remaining sum from this £100K to further enhance reduced offending work in the county.

The post holder will be tasked by the Reducing Re-Offending Board and line managed by the Chief Executive of the OPCC. The post holder will chair the Reducing Re-Offending Board Executive Sub-Group, which is tasked to deliver all outputs directed from the Board's strategic decisions.

Essex CRC and Essex Police have been asked to review their budgetary structure with a possible view to the jointly funded arrangement for this post being reintroduced in 2017/2018.

This decision will ensure that the incoming PCC is able to maintain professional oversight and tasking of this vital piece of work, which is a clear expectation for all PCCs and a requirement from the Home Secretary. After 12 months have elapsed the incoming PCC will be in a better position to determine what future structure he or she wishes to implement to maintain focus on reducing offending.

5. Police and Crime Plan

- This will support delivery against the Essex Police Crime Plan and in particular the reducing reoffending and youth offending priority area.

6. Police Operational Implications

This will support delivery of the IOM programme, which Essex Police are an active partner in.

7. Financial Implications

100K has already been earmarked for 2015/16 to fund IOM activity. However, due to the end of the IOM link worker programme, and the movement of some of this work into the new Offenders with complex needs programme, that funding has not yet been spent. The proposal is to utilise that funding for a Reducing Reoffending co-ordinator, who will also lead on the IOM programme, and be supported with a small project pot. This will be delivered in 2016/17, so will involve a virement of the funding to 2016/17.

8. Legal Implications

N/A

9. Staffing and other resource implications

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

The reducing reoffending co-ordinator will be a 12 month fixed term contract based at the OPCC but working to the multiagency Reducing Reoffending Board.

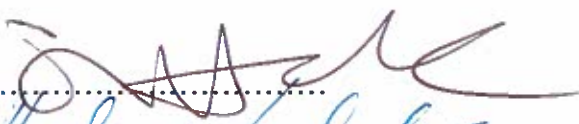
10. Equality and Diversity implications

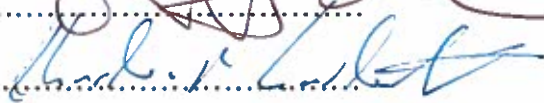
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11. Background papers

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
 Approved Lindsay Whitehouse but pass to PCC for final sign off so
 that there is evidence of review

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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.

