

PCC Decision Report

Please ensure all boxes below are completed

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| Report reference number: 0047/17 |
| Classification Not protectively marked |
| Title of report: DHR centralisation fund 2017-18 |
| Area of County/Stakeholders affected Countywide |
| Report by : Greg Myddelton Date of report: 25 April 2017 Enquiries to: greg.myddelton@essex.pnn.police.uk |

- 1. Purpose of report**
To seek approval for the allocation of a grant from the PCC's 2017-18 Community Safety Fund to a centralised countywide domestic homicide review (DHR) fund.
- 2. Recommendations**
Approve the allocation of £35,000 as a match-funded contribution to the central Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Fund.
- 3. Benefits of Proposal**
This new centralised fund will provide:
 - co-ordination of the DHR process;
 - administration of DHR panels;
 - funding for independent DHR chairs;
 - lesson learning seminars; and,
 - monitoring and reporting on DHR recommendations implementation.

4. Background and proposal

This grant will match-fund a 12% top-slice from of the PCC's 2017-18 annual core grants to the 14 Essex Community Safety Partnerships, equivalent to £72,168.

The proposal to create a centralised fund was shared amongst CSPs for consultation. All CSPs approved the creation of this fund.

This funding will enable CSPs to deliver on their statutory responsibility to undertake DHRs and will;

- Provide centralised co-ordination of all DHR processes;
- Support for all DHR Panels;
- Provide a central point of liaison on all DHR issues for all agencies;
- Enable the monitoring and reporting on the implementation of all DHR recommendations to CSPs and the Home Office

5. Police and Crime Plan

This fund will support the PCC to deliver against the priority to break the cycle of domestic abuse and to place victims at the heart of the criminal justice system.

6. Police Operational Implications

No operational implications

7. Financial Implications

The PCC would allocate a £35,000 grant to Essex County Council who will administer the central DHR fund on behalf of the countywide domestic abuse partnership

8. Legal Implications

This grant will be subject to the PCC's standard funding agreement

9. Staffing and other resource implications

No staffing implications

10. Equality and Diversity implications

There are no direct equality and diversity implications

11. Background papers



DHR Consultation
Draft v.3.docx

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the OPCC Chief Executive and Treasurer, prior to review and sign off by the PCC / DPCC .

Chief Executive/M.O Sign: *[Signature]*
Print: *S. Hancock*

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Sign: *[Signature]*
Print: *CHARLES K. GARNETT*

Decision

I agree the recommendations to this report;

Sign: *[Signature]*
Print: *R.C. HIRST*

~~PCC/Deputy PCC~~

Date signed: *11/17*

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

.....
.....
.....

Sign:
Print:

PCC/Deputy PCC

Date signed:

Publication

- We should include the outcome of the consultative report for publication. (SH).

Report for publication

YES

NO

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

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Sign:

Print:

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

Domestic Homicide Review Consultation

Alison Gilmour
Head of Domestic Abuse Partnership
Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board

Background

- Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). Section 9 of the Act was brought into force on 13th April 2011.
- The statutory requirements for initiating and undertaking a DHR sits with the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in which ‘the victim was normally resident’ or where ‘the victim was last known to have frequented.’
- Within Southend, Essex and Thurrock, the 13 local Community Safety Partnerships commission their own reviews independently from each other.

Consultation Proposal

Centralisation of all DHR process:

- This option delivers a centralised, consistent method to co-ordinating all DHR processes across Southend, Essex and Thurrock. Centralised resources can be used to support all review processes, maintain a single set of procedures, engage independent chairs and monitor implementation of recommendations.
- This option does, however, pose some risk that local CSPs could become disconnected from the DHR process. This risk will be mitigated by local CSP Chairs and Managers being invited to be Panel Members on all DHRs that occur within their locality.
- The consultation was open from 10th February 2017 to 24th March 2017.

What would be Centralised?

Centralisation would not mean taking overall responsibility for DHRs away from individual CSPs – they would still hold the statutory responsibility as per Home Office guidance. What it would mean would be:

- Centralised co-ordination of all DHR processes;
- Support for all DHR Panels;
- A central point of liaison on all DHR issues for all agencies;
- The ability to monitor and report on the implementation of all DHR recommendations to CSPs and the Home Office.

Centralised DHR Budget

A central DHR budget would be created by top-slicing a small percentage of the PCC funding allocation to CSPs, this, alongside an additional contribution from the PCC, would fund:

- co-ordination of DHR process (via DA Co-ordinator);
- administration of DHR panels (via DHR Administrator);
- funding for independent chairs (centralised pool – standardised tariffs);
- provision of lesson learning seminars (via DA Team);
- monitoring and reporting on DHR recommendations implementation (via DA Co-ordinator and DHR Administrator).

Respondents - CSPs

| Name | Decision | Key Comments |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Castlepoint and Rochford CSP | Agree with centralisation | Top slice to be altered to reflect a start date – or assistance offered to CSPs during transition period. |
| Colchester CSP | Agree with centralisation | What if central funds run out? Will 12% top slice reoccur annually? |
| Thurrock CSP | Agree with centralisation | Some concerns about further top slicing. |
| Tendring CSP Manager | Agree with centralisation | |
| Maldon CSP | Agree with centralisation | Would like process to commence asap |
| Chelmsford CSP | Agree with centralisation | SLA for centralised service to meet key objectives. Review arrangements after 2 years. |

Respondents - CSPs

| Name | Decision | Key Comments |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Epping Forest CSP | Agree with centralisation | Clarification wanted around start date, interim arrangements and full year top slicing amount & CSP budget concerns for interim period. |
| Harlow CSP | Agree with centralisation | Terms of reference and processes should be consulted on prior to start of centralised model. Roles and responsibilities in the new procedures to be clearly clarified. |
| Basildon CSP | Agree with centralisation | What will interim funding arrangements be before centralisation starts? |
| Braintree CSP | Agree with centralisation | What will interim arrangement be? |
| Uttlesford CSP | Agree with centralisation | |

Respondents - others

| Name | Decision | Comments |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| National Probation Service | Agree with centralisation | |
| SEPT (CYP) | Agree with centralisation | |
| SEPT (Safeguarding) | Agree with centralisation | |
| Southend Council (Children & Education Legal Dept.) | Disagree | Does not think there is a case for change. |
| Victim Support | Agree with centralisation | |
| Essex Police (CPP) | Agree with centralisation | |
| ECC (Safeguarding) | Agree with centralisation | |
| Anglian Community Enterprise | Agree with centralisation | |

Next Steps

The majority of partners who responded to the consultation were in support of centralisation (including all of the CSPs that did respond – 11/13).

Consultation feedback to be presented to:

Safer Essex – 29th March
SET DA Joint Commissioning Group – 30th March
SET DA Board – 25th April

Recommendations:

- To approve change to adopt DHR centralisation.
- Timeline and procedures to be developed by the SET DA Team and the SET DHR Thematic Group.

