

## PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<b>Report reference number: PCC036/18</b>
<b>Classification</b> Not protectively marked
<b>Title of report:</b> Essex domestic abuse commissioning approach
<b>Area of County/Stakeholders affected:</b> Countywide
<b>Report by:</b> Greg Myddelton <b>Date of report:</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2018 <b>Enquiries to:</b> greg.myddelton@essex.pnn.police.uk

**1. Purpose of report**

- 1.1. To seek approval for the proposed approach of amalgamating domestic abuse support services in Essex.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. Approve the proposal to combine the current PFCC-commissioned Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) service and the local authority-commissioned community-based support service into one jointly-commissioned contract.

**3. Benefits of Proposal**

- 3.1. The services brought together under this contract will provide support for victims of domestic abuse. IDVAs ensure that high-risk victims are able to engage with the criminal justice process and understand their rights, entitlements, and services available to them. Community support services include outreach support, counselling, group work and 1:1 support to enable individuals to cope and recover from the harm they have experienced.
- 3.2. By jointly commissioning this combined service, the Essex Domestic Abuse partnership will ensure victims are supported and enabled to move on, the likelihood of repeat victimisation is reduced, perpetrators are brought to justice, and cycle of domestic abuse is broken.
- 3.3. The following benefits have been identified to this commissioning approach;

- 3.3.1. Ensuring commissioned domestic abuse services reflect local needs analyses and deliver the SET DA strategic outcomes
- 3.3.2. Ensuring consistent and effective services are in place across SET, reducing duplication of interventions, services and referral pathways
- 3.3.3. Enhancement of 'added value' by linking additional local services with commissioned services, strengthening partnership arrangements
- 3.3.4. Ensure coordination between step up/down into appropriate services based on service user needs
- 3.3.5. Ability to provide flexible accommodation options and support to meet service user needs
- 3.3.6. Establish locally based outreach and a single point of access

#### **4. Background and proposal**

- 4.1. The provision of support services for victims of domestic abuse is a statutory responsibility of local authorities and Police and Crime Commissioners. As the commissioner of the majority of local support services for victims of crime the PFCC has a duty to ensure victims of abuse are supported to cope and recover from their experiences.
- 4.2. The PFCC and 3 upper-tier local authorities in Essex have jointly commissioned the Essex IDVA service for the last 4 years. A collaboration agreement underpins these joint commissioning arrangements, which will also be used for these planned future commissioning arrangements.
- 4.3. The Essex Domestic Abuse Strategic partnership is the overarching governance body responsible for directing activity in relation to domestic abuse. The Essex Domestic Abuse Strategic Board has overseen the development of these commissioning arrangements which have been progressed via a task and finish group of the partnership domestic abuse joint commissioning group.
- 4.4. The total value of this contract is expected to be £2.125m per annum, broken down as £1.632m from Essex County Council, £451k from the PFCC, £25k from Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, and £17k from Thurrock Council. This contribution is equivalent to the current annual expenditure by each partner.

#### **5. Police and Crime Plan**

- 5.1. This new service will support the PFCC to deliver against the commitments to break the cycle of domestic abuse and protect vulnerable people from harm. This is also a good example of the PFCC's building blocks of success around collaboration and partnership working.

#### **6. Police Operational Implications**

- 6.1. There are no direct operational implications of this proposed service for Essex Police.

**7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. There are no direct financial implications of this decision. Subject to a successful procurement exercise, a separate decision sheet will be submitted which will commit the PFCC for Essex to continue to make an annual contribution of £451,000 from the victims' commissioning fund to Essex County Council for the length of the contract.

**8. Legal Implications**

- 8.1. Essex County Council and the PFCC will be joint signatories for the contract for a new integrated domestic abuse service. A partnership agreement between ECC and co-commissioners will be signed before the commencement of the contract which will outline the legal obligations of each funding partner.

**9. Staffing and other resource implications**

- 9.1. No Police officers or staff will be directly impacted by the introduction of the proposed service.

**10. Equality and Diversity implications**

- 10.1. An equality impact assessment is being undertaken by the lead commissioner.

**Report Approval**

The report will be signed off by the OPFCC Chief Executive and Treasurer, prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC .

Chief Executive/M.O

Sign:

Print: ..... DAVID LAWSON .....

Date: ..... 11 APRIL 2018 .....

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer

Sign:

Print: ..... ARBEN GOUGN .....

Date: ..... 13/4/18 .....

**Publication**

Is the report for publication?

YES

NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (state 'None' if applicable)

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

**Redaction**

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet

YES

2. Of Appendix

YES

NO

NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

.....  
.....

Date redaction carried out: .....

**Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only**

If redaction is required, Treasurer or Chief Executive are to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign: .....

Print: .....

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Date signed: .....

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report;

Sign: *J Gardner* .....

Print: *JANE GARDNER* .....

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

Date signed: *13/4/2018* .....

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

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

Sign: .....

Print: .....

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

Date signed: .....

