

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 148/18
Classification Not protectively marked
Title of report: ERCP First Contact Navigator expansion
Area of County/Stakeholders affected: Countywide
Report by : Kirsty Smith
Date of report: 21 November 2018
Enquiries to: Kirsty.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk

1. Purpose of report

To seek approval for the allocation of £136,110 in the form of crime and disorder reduction grant to the Essex Rape Crisis Partnership to pilot the expansion of the First Contact Navigator service until 31st March 2020.

2. Recommendations

Approve the allocation of £136,110 to Essex Rape Crisis Partnership to pilot the expansion of the First Contact Navigator service

3. Benefits of Proposal

The Essex Rape Crisis Partnership will expand their existing First Contact Navigator model to ensure victims of sexual abuse are able to access specialist support as quickly as possible

The Navigators will work directly with the Essex Police assessment hub and offer telephone support directly to victims. The service will:

- be non-judgemental
- show empathy and sensitivity
- maintain impartiality
- develop with the individual an initial personal recovery plan
- ensure the victim's safety, understanding any risk posed by the alleged perpetrator to the victim or tertiary victims
- identify if an interpreter or services intermediary is required
- identify any immediate needs making appropriate referrals or signposting
- be mindful of disclosure and consider evidence preservation from the outset.
- record information accurately
- provide information and support regarding the criminal justice process (ISVA services)

- provide access to specialist sexual violence support services (pre-trial therapy and therapeutic services)

The outcomes of this pilot will:

- develop an enhanced triage service, working in partnership with Essex police assessment team
- Improve our understanding of Victim engagement and withdrawal from the criminal justice process
- Reduce the time lapse of intervention between Victim first disclosure and first contact with specialist support
- Reduce the number of criminal justice cases that do not proceed due to the victim withdrawing

4. Background and proposal

The Essex Rape Crisis Partnership (known as Synergy Essex) comprises of South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre (SERICC), Southend Rape Crisis (SOS Rape Crisis) and Mid & North Essex Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse (CARA). The three independent centres work together to provide specialist sexual violence services across the whole of Essex. Since October 2016, Synergy Essex has been delivering a First Contact Navigator service for victims and survivors of sexual violence and sexual abuse across Essex.

This service delivers a dedicated specialist first response to victims and survivors of sexual violence. The majority of referrals into the service are made directly from the victim. The service receives only 15% of its referrals from Essex Police. Police referrals typically occur at the point of investigation or accessing the local Sexual Abuse Referral Centre (SARC) for forensic examination.

Building on the success of the First Contact Navigator model and the improved relationships between Synergy Essex and Essex Police, it has been identified that there is a need for earlier intervention between the victim's first contact with police (reporting or recording the sexual offence) and the commencement of victims support. This is particularly pertinent for individuals who report non-recent sexual offences where investigations may be delayed or take a significant amount of time. Essex Police has identified a higher disengagement rate from the investigation for these victims.

The proposal will expand the navigator model to receive 100% of Essex Police referrals from initial report, thus ensuring victims receive an immediate, specialist support service. The costings for this project from 1st January 2019 – 31st March 2020 are outlined in the table below;

2.5 full time ISVA's	
• Salary, including NI and pension	£98,218
• Recruitment and training	£2,500
• Equipment, including laptop, mobile	£2,400
• Travel and other expenses	£9,375
Salary uplift for 3 existing First Contact Navigators	£11,243
Management and organisational overheads	£12,374
Total	£136,110

5. Police and Crime Plan

This funding supports the Police and Crime plan priority 4 – Reverse the trend in serious violence. The proposal ensures victims of rape and sexual violence receive the help and support they need. By providing early support the aim is to keep victims engaged with the criminal justice process ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice. This project will also deliver against the priority to protect children and vulnerable people from harm

6. Police Operational Implications

There is no significant operational impact on Essex Police as a result of this proposal however awareness training will need to take place with Essex Police staff to directly refer to Essex Rape Crisis Partnership.

7. Financial Implications

The PFCC will allocate a one off grant of £136,110 to the Essex Rape Crisis Partnership from the 2018-19 Community Safety Fund.

8. Legal Implications

The award of the grant is subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement. ERCP will be responsible for employment of any additional staff and be responsible for all associated employment rights.

9. Staffing and other resource implications

Liabilities incurred as a result of recruitment of any posts rest with the delivery partner.

10. Equality and Diversity implications

There are no direct equality and diversity implications.

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: [Signature].....

Print: P. Beattie-Brown.....

Date: 11 DECEMBER 2018.....

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer

Sign: [Signature].....

Print: ASBEN GULM.....

Date: 12/12/18.....

Publication

Is the report for publication?

YES
NO

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

.....
.....

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Of Appendix	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
	NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		NO	<input type="checkbox"/>

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: 14 December 2018

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because;

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

Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed:

