

## PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<b>Report reference number:</b> 040/19
<b>Classification:</b> Not Protectively Marked
<b>Title of report:</b> Violence and Vulnerability: Hospital Intervention
<b>Area of county / stakeholders affected:</b> Basildon
<b>Report by :</b> Kirsty Smith
<b>Date of report:</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
<b>Enquiries to:</b> kirsty.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk

### 1. Purpose of the report

To seek approval for the allocation of up to £75,000 to Essex Youth Service in order to pilot a dedicated youth work project in Basildon hospital to support young people and to tackle serious youth violence.

### 2. Recommendations

Approve the allocation of up to £75,000 to Essex Youth Service from pass-ported funding from the Home Office Early Intervention Fund.

### 3. Benefits of the proposal

Over recent years serious violence and its associated harm has become an increasing priority for criminal justice and community safety partners in Essex. This initiated a partnership project that culminated in the development of the countywide Violence and Vulnerability (V&V) Framework

To deliver against the Violence and Vulnerability Framework activity is taking place across the county to prevent and intervene early to the threat of serious violence. In order to support this good work a communication plan is required in order to raise engage communities and to keep the public updated of progress.

The ambition of this project is to work with young people at their time of need. This ambition is in line with the Violence and Vulnerability framework which also states the importance of 'recognising windows of opportunity to intervene with young people on the occasions they come into contact with services, e.g. for emergency hospital treatment'.

The framework also creates guidelines of things we must consider when commissioning new activity, which includes:

- Ensure that new interventions are, wherever possible, linked to existing activity or introduced as an extension of that activity
- Ensure that existing workforces and practitioners are empowered to deliver interventions
- Ensure that interventions are accessible, particularly where young people are concerned

Essex Youth Service are an experienced youth focused organisation who have strong links with communities. This programme's aim is to support young people using youth worker support but also link with the wider community to signpost/refer onwards based on their need. This could be utilising existing community groups e.g. youth clubs, physical activity groups (martial arts, boxing), music programmes or it could be more specific help into statutory organisations including mental health provisions.

The initial phase of the project will ensure that time is spent with hospital staff. The Youth Service will be working with them to build a relationship but also to upskill in order to share knowledge and understand how they can spot vulnerabilities and how they can help young people.

Research has shown that Basildon hospital has a high volume of young people who are presenting with vulnerabilities. In Essex there are already provisions supported by Essex Youth Service to undertake detached youth work. By extending this type of work to target areas of needs in hospitals will mean we can intervene earlier and prevent any further serious harm.

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

The Home Office Early Intervention Youth Fund (EIYF) was created following the government's commitment within the serious violence strategy. £22 million was made available for PCCs to apply.

The aims of the fund are;

- Delivering services to support and prevent young people from getting involved in crime by supporting positive activities
- Delivering positive outcomes for young people, focused on addressing risk factors which are linked to serious violence
- Building on, and developing, our understanding of what works in practice for tackling these risks factors
- Driving improved local, multi-agency partnership working; and most crucially
- Reducing the levels of serious violence and crime

The office of the PFCC with community safety partners developed and were successful in an application to the fund. Essex has been given £664,000 to help tackle the complex issues of serious violence, youth exploitation and drug gangs.

£75000 was allocated for the development of an intervention programme in Essex hospitals. Young people are presenting at emergency departments who require more than just physical support. Essex Youth Service want to use this opportunity to intervene at a moment where they are more likely to accept further support.

Essex Youth Service will utilise the funding to implement a pilot project in Basildon Hospital to deliver targeted youth work to those young people who present and demonstrate vulnerabilities associated with serious violence. Essex Youth Service will support young people in hospital but work with them to create a support plan post release. This support will also involve linking in with existing community and statutory services. The funding will mainly support salary provisions for 2 youth workers and managerial support to set up the pilot in order to create and deliver the project.

**5. Alternative options considered and rejected**

The funding allocated was agreed previously in development of the submission of the funding application to the Home Office. We are required to use the funding as set out in the original Home Office application.

The alternative is to not use this funding at all. If this was the case we would need to return the funds at the end of the financial year 18/19. This is not a viable option as Tackling Gangs and Organised Crime and Protecting children and vulnerable people from harm are priorities within the Police and Crime Plan. Funding is required to support our Community Safety Partners deliver against these priorities.

**6. Police and Crime Plan**

This funding supports the Police and Crime plan priority to tackle gangs and organised crime

**7. Police operational implications**

There is no direct operational impact on Essex Police as a result of this bid.

**8. Financial implications**

The PFCC will allocate a one-off grant of £75,000 to Essex Youth Service passported from the 2018-19 Home Office Early Intervention Fund.

**9. Legal implications**

The award of the grant is subject to the PFCC's standard funding agreement.

**10. Staffing implications**

There are no direct staffing implications

**11. Equality and Diversity implications**

There are no direct equality and diversity implications.

**12. Risks**

There are no identified risks associated with this proposal

**13. Governance Boards**

The Home Office Early Intervention Youth Fund application was submitted and approved through the Office of the PFCC with the support of Chief Execs and Leaders of Essex. Safer Essex is the forum through which stakeholders are kept abreast of developments in relation to this bid and the violence and vulnerability agenda more broadly.

The newly created Violence and Vulnerability Strategic Group will have oversight of the use of the EIYF funding and the strategic direction of this agenda.

**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. Scott Sheenwood

Date: 20 March 2019

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer

Sign: [Signature]

Print: Abbey G. G. G.

Date: 20/3/19

**Publication**

Is the report for publication?

YES

NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). 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   
NO

2. Of Appendix? YES   
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, the Treasurer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign: .....

Print: .....

Please continue to next page for Final PCC Decision and Final Sign Off

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: Jane Gardner

Print: JANE GARDNER

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: 21/03/2019

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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

Sign: .....

Print: .....

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: .....

