

## **PFCC Decision Report**

### Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 067/20

Classification Not protectively marked

Title of report: PFCC Volunteer Policy

Area of County/Stakeholders affected: Countywide

Report by: Greg Myddelton

Date of report: 1 June 2020

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### 1. Purpose of report

1.1. To seek approval for the publication of the updated PFCC Volunteer Policy.

### 2. Recommendations

2.1. Approve the publication of the updated policy.

### 3. Benefits of Proposal

- 3.1. The PFCC's Volunteer Policy creates a transparent and consistent approach to how the PFCC works with, manages and supports its volunteers. The policy will ensure volunteers understand what is expected of them and what they can expect from the PFCC in return.
- 3.2. This latest version of the Policy has been updated as part of a regular review process.

### 4. Background and proposal

4.1. The PFCC uses volunteers to support and deliver services in three primary areas: restorative justice, independent custody visiting and police dog welfare visiting. These schemes could not be delivered without the commitment, contribution and support of well-trained and dedicated volunteers.

### 5. Alternative options considered and rejected

5.1. The PFCC relies on volunteers to deliver the three aforementioned areas of business. Without a regularly reviewed and updated Volunteer Policy that is fit for purpose it may be difficult to recruit, retain and support volunteers.

### 6. Police and Crime Plan

6.1. The Police and Crime Plan includes a commitment to champion and support local volunteering and references volunteering as a building block of success in delivering the Plan. The Plan also makes a commitment to utilise restorative justice to improve the victim experience and reduce reoffending.

### 7. Police Operational Implications

7.1. No operational implications for Essex Police.

### 8. Financial Implications

8.1. There are no financial implications of publishing this policy.

### 9. Legal Implications

9.1. The PFCC has a statutory responsibility to deliver an Independent Custody Visiting scheme. This is a volunteer-led service which is supported by this policy.

### 10. Staffing Implications

10.1. This policy applies to volunteers that work on behalf of the PFCC. The policy notes that volunteers are not employees and have no employment status except under health and safety legislation.

### 11. Equality and Diversity implications

- 11.1. The Equality Act 2010 obliges the PFCC to:
  - Take steps to meet the needs of people with certain protected characteristics where these are different from the needs of other people, and
  - Encourage people with certain protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.
- 11.2. The PFCC is mindful of reflecting our diverse community within our volunteer pool and is committed to ensuring this by monitoring and recording self-reported diversity information of volunteers and acting to increase the diversity of our volunteers as necessary.

### 12. Risks

12.1. There are no identified risks associated with approving this policy.

### 13. Governance Boards

13.1. The updated policy was agreed in principle at the PFCC's Senior Management Team meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

# 14. Background papers



# **Report Approval**

The report will be signed off by the PFCC's Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer, prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| Chief Executive / M.O.              | Sign:  |
|                                     | Print: P. Brent-Isherwood                            |
|                                     | Date: 28 July 2020                                   |
| Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer   | Sign: Elelu  |
|                                     | Print: Elizabeth Helm                                |
|                                     | Date: 28 July 2020                                   |
| <u>Publication</u>                  |  |
| Is the report for publication?      | YES V  |
| If 'NO', please give reasons for n  | on-publication (state 'None' if applicable)          |
|                                     | ne Chief Executive will decide if and how the public |

# 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: .....N/A..... Date redaction carried out: ..... Chief Finance Officer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only If redaction is required, the Chief Finance Officer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed. Sign: ..... Print: Chief Executive / Chief Finance Officer

# Decision and Final Sign Off I agree the recommendations to this report; Sign: Print: Jane Gardner Deputy PFCC Date signed: 29 July 2020 I do not agree the recommendations to this report because; Sign: Print: PFCC/Deputy PFCC Date signed: