

## PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<b>Report reference number:</b> 036/21
<b>Classification:</b> Not protectively marked
<b>Title of report:</b> SARC Contract variation for STI referral
<b>Area of county / stakeholders affected:</b> Countywide
<b>Report by:</b> Kirsty Smith
<b>Date of report:</b> 08 March 2021
<b>Enquiries to:</b> kirsty.smith@essex.police.uk

### 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of up to £12,536 as the PFCC contribution, over three years, to Mountain Healthcare to deliver a Sexual Transmitted Infection (STI) support for victims of sexual abuse who present at the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC). This will be incorporated as a variation to the standard contract with NHS England and Essex Police.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of £12,536 over three years from the Victims' Commissioning Fund to Mountain Healthcare to deliver STI screening services within the Sexual Abuse Referral Centre to support victims of sexual abuse.
- 2.2. Sign the variation agreement to the standard contract to include STI screening services.

### 3. Benefits of the proposal

- 3.1. By offering STI screening at the SARC it minimises delay and minimises repeat examinations for children.

### 4. Background and proposal

- 4.1. Mountain Healthcare provides services to ensure the successful running of the Sexual Abuse Referral Centre. The PFCC currently has a contractual arrangement with Mountain Healthcare (Decision sheet 020-20).
- 4.2. This contract was recently re-procured and was a result of an open OJEU tender process for the Sexual Abuse Referral Centre which was launched in summer 2019 and managed by the 7 Force Procurement Team.

4.3. Through quarterly performance reviews an improvement opportunity was identified for children who present at the SARC. The pathway for STI screening and support was disjointed for victims. Often victims were referred to other NHS / Public Health community services in order to provide STI screening. This led to a higher risk that victims did not attend this follow up appointment and/or follow up support following STI screening was not completed.

4.4. By providing screening at the SARC we can improve the support provided for child victims of sexual assault creating a simple pathway for STI screening and specialist follow up support.

**5. Alternative options considered and rejected**

5.1. The PFCC could choose not to invest in this service. This would reduce the support available to help victims cope and recover from the impact of the crime.

5.2. The PFCC has developed strong working relationships with Essex Police and NHS England to develop the SARC services. If the PFCC chose not to invest, then this would impact these relationships and the value that is received from the collaboration with these key partners.

**6. Police and Crime Plan**

6.1. This service will enable the PFCC to deliver against the priority in the Police and Crime Plan to place victims at the heart of the criminal justice system and to reduce serious violence.

**7. Police operational implications**

7.1. No direct operational implications.

**8. Financial implications**

8.1. The PFCC would be contractually committed to fund up to £12,536 over three years to Mountain Healthcare from the Victims' Commissioning Fund. This is 50% of the overall contract cost.

8.2. NHS England will provide a contribution of 50% of the overall cost.

Year	Total contract variation amount	PFCC contribution	NHS contribution
Year 1 (Pro Rata)	£3,582	£1791	£1791
Year 2	£10,745	£5,372.50	£5,372.50
Year 3	£10,745	£5,372.50	£5,372.50

**9. Legal implications**

9.1. This funding is subject to a contract variation completed by 7F procurement.

**10. Staffing implications**

10.1. As part of this contract, Mountain Healthcare will be responsible for the staffing of the service as outlined in its tender response. There are no operational implications of this contract on the PFCC or Essex Police.

**11. Equality and Diversity implications**

- 11.1. The Commissioner has a duty to promote good relationships between groups with protected characteristics and ensure equality of access to public services. This additional service within the SARC improves accessibility for Victims to get support and reduces the requirement to be referred to alternative services.
- 11.2. Ensuring accessibility to all victims was included within the evaluation of the tender exercise for the full contract in 19/20. Mountain Healthcare within their response provided a comprehensive equality and diversity policy and evidenced data that demonstrated their focus on ensuring the service was accessible to all.
- 11.3. Demographic information is sought from those engaging with the service and is monitored to measure its effectiveness in reaching all victims.

## **12. Risks**

- 12.1. There are no high risks identified with the award of this contract variation.

## **13. Governance Boards**

- 13.1. This decision has not been to any governance boards but has been discussed at performance review meetings and with NHS England commissioners.

## **14. Background Papers**

- 14.1. Previous decision sheet for full contract award  
<https://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/020-20-SARC-renewal.pdf>
- 14.2. Contract Variation for signing Appendix A

**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: Darren Horsman

Date: 18 March 2021

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer

Sign: .....

Print: .....Julia Berry.....

Date: 18 March 2021.....

**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)

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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:

Appendix is contract variation legal document not for publication

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Date redaction carried out: 18 March 2021

**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.

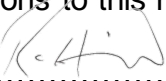
Sign:  .....

Print: Julia Berry .....

**Chief Executive/Treasurer**

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign:  .....

Print: Roger Hirst

**PFCC**

**Date signed:** 18 March 2021

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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.....  
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Sign: .....

Print: .....

**PFCC/Deputy PFCC**

**Date signed:** .....