

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 124-21
Classification: Not protectively marked
Title of report: Home Office DA perpetrator Fund 2021-22
Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide
Report by: Kirsty Smith
Date of report: 6 August 2021
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1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To approve the allocation of a one-off grant of £274,000 from the PFCC's 2021-22 Community Safety Fund following additional funding being secured by the PFCC from the Home Office Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Fund.

2. Recommendations

The PFCC approves the distribution of this additional Home Office funding to the following organisations

- The Change Hub £212,500
- Essex Youth Service £31,500
- Essex County Council £30,000

3. Benefits of the proposal

- 3.1. Essex PFCC and Thurrock Council were successful in applying for additional Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Funding. The purpose of the funding is to support delivery of perpetrator programmes which in turn will reduce offending and lower the number of people who are the victims of domestic abuse. Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse is a high priority for the Commissioner and this will directly contribute to that important work.
- 3.2. In order to break the cycle of domestic abuse the additional DA funding will be used to increase the geographic reach of our existing programmes and increase the age range of individuals supported. These programmes have shown to be effective and by increasing the number of people who can participate we anticipate being able to have an even bigger positive impact within the county.

4. Background and proposal

4.1. Within the successful application to Home Office Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Fund the PFCC alongside Thurrock Council and Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse partners committed to deliver four key programmes of work.

- *Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Outreach Service across Thurrock.*
Thurrock Council will provide early intervention and structured behaviour change work for perpetrators who pose a standard or medium risk. Clients aged 16 years or above in the Thurrock Unitary Authority, regardless of gender, ethnicity, or sexuality, can be referred.
- *The Change Hub Domestic Violence Prevention Order (DVPO) pathway extension.*
The Change Hub has worked in partnership with Essex Police to provide a pilot in three North Essex districts enabling officers to make a referral directly to The Change Hub alongside the Court's decision to grant a DVPO. This funding will be used to extend this pilot across Essex.
- *Goodman and Sisters in Strength programme expansion to support 10 to 12-year olds.*
The Goodman programme provides mentoring for younger males, while the Sisters in Strength programme provides mentoring for younger females across Essex aged 13 to 18 years old. Funding will be used to extend these two programmes to support 10 to 12-year-olds.
- *Targeted media campaign.*
Funding will be used to create and deliver a strong media campaign to break the cycle of domestic abuse focused on disrupting perpetrators and promoting pathways for support.

4.2. Essex PFCC was successful in obtaining £213,000 from the Home Office DA Perpetrator Funding. Additional match funding of £40,000, was committed from the PFCC 2021-22 Community Safety Fund and £21,000 from Thurrock District Council.

4.3. This funding will be distributed to

Organisation	Description	Awarded Amount
The Change Project	The funding will allow the Change Project to deliver the DVPO pilot and the expansion of services in Thurrock	£212,500
Essex Youth Service	Essex Youth Service will expand the provision of Goodman and Sisters in Strength project to 10-12-year olds.	£31,500
Essex County Council	On behalf of the SETDA communication group funding will be allocated to deliver a campaign targeting perpetrators	£30,000

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

- 5.1. The PFCC has been successful in an application to the Home Office. We could have decided not to apply for the funding or to put together a bid for different deliverables. These options were discounted as the bid put forward was viewed as our strongest option and the funding which has been successfully secured will provide significant benefits for the people of Essex and allow us to deliver to better local interventions for domestic abuse perpetrators and reduce the total incidents of domestic abuse.

6. Police and Crime Plan

- 6.1. This funding will protect vulnerable people from harm and break the cycle of domestic abuse. It is a good example of collaborative commissioning and partnership working between local commissioners.

7. Police operational implications

- 7.1. No direct operational implications.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1. The PFCC will allocate £274,000 in quarterly payment to the organisations identified in section 4
- 8.2. In addition to £213,000 Home Office Funding, £61,000 of match funding has been committed. Essex PFCC are committed to £40,000, from the 2021-22 Community Safety Fund. An invoice will be raised to Thurrock District Council to provide £21,000 that they are committed to.

9. Legal implications

- 9.1. This funding is subject to the terms of the PFCC's standard grant agreements.

10. Staffing implications

- 10.1. There are no staffing implications

11. Equality and Diversity implications

- 11.1. Over the next 12 months it is the ambition of the SETDAB partnership to understand the profile of DA perpetrators across Essex. Typically, the demographic data shows that The Change Project predominantly support white males aged between 18 and 44. This is in line with the current view of DA perpetrators in Essex. However, this area of work is largely unknown.
- 11.2. Individuals with protected characteristic will have equal access to the services and therefore we do not envisage any person with a protected characteristic being disadvantaged.
- 11.3. Using data from commissioned services and the data being reviewed by Essex Centre for Data Analytics we are hoping to have a much better understanding of the demographic of DA perpetrators across Essex. This will allow for better targeted support services to meet the demands and needs of all that require support.

12. Risks

- 12.1. It is recognised that working with perpetrators of Domestic Abuse can increase risk of harm to victims. This is mitigated by risk assessments carried out by the Change Project prior to engagement and is reviewed regularly whilst working with clients.
- 12.2. The misuse of funds allocated is a risk that has been identified. Any organisation will be subject to the PFCC standard grant agreement. Regular monitoring returns will be required from all key partners to ensure funding is being used appropriately in order to deliver the project.
- 12.3. There is an additional risk that we do not distribute this funding expediently we will not meet the Home Office funding criteria to spend the resources by 31st March 2022.

13. Governance Boards

- 13.1. The PFCC Senior Management Team (SMT) endorsed the submission and are aware of the outcome of the bidding process.

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: D. Horsman

Print: Darren Horsman - Deputy MO

Date: 19.8.2021

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer Sign: Julia Berry

Print: Julia Berry

Date: 24 August 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 NO 2. Of Appendix? YES NO

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

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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:

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: ROGER HIRST

PFCC

Date signed: 24 August 2021

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: