

## PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<b>Report reference number:</b> 125-21
<b>Classification</b> (e.g. Not protectively marked/restricted):
<b>Title of report:</b> Restorative Justice Council Annual Conference Attendance 2021
<b>Area of county / stakeholders affected:</b> Countywide
<b>Report by:</b> Emma Goddard
<b>Date of report:</b> 16 August 2021
<b>Enquiries to:</b> emma.goddard@essex.police.uk

### 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To request approval for the allocation of £100 from the 2021 Essex Restorative and Mediation Service (ERMS) budget for the ERMS Manager to attend the 2021 Restorative Justice Council's virtual annual conference in November 2021.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Approve the allocation of £100 (£80 if booked and paid before 10th September) from the 2021-22 RJ budget for the ERMS Manager to attend the Restorative Justice Council's annual conference. This is a virtual event taking place Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd November 2021.

### 3. Benefits of the proposal

- 3.1 The ERMS Team will remain up to date with the latest innovations and information relating to RJ work around the country.
- 3.2 The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service will have a voice in national conversations around the RJ agenda
- 3.3 The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service will have opportunities to demonstrate and explain the good work and innovation which is coming out of our county around RJ.

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

- 4.1 The Restorative Justice Council is a national membership body for the field of restorative practice. This event is its third annual conference and is themed around bridging divides and strengthening communities.
- 4.2 The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service have attended both previous annual conferences and have found them to be informative and beneficial through networking opportunities and new ideas and learning.
- 4.3 We propose that the ERMS manager attends the event online to take advantage of the benefits that this event affords.

#### **5. Alternative options considered and rejected**

- 5.1 The alternative option is for ERMS not to be represented at this event. This would ensure Essex was out of the loop on the latest innovations, particularly around equality and hard-to-reach communities as is the theme of this event.

#### **6. Police and Crime Plan**

- 6.1 Restorative Justice is present in the Police and Crime Plan. The plan states that RJ services will expand to enable more victims to have access. Attending this event will allow Essex to hear good practice from around the country which can be implemented to help our service grow for the benefit of Essex residents.

#### **7. Police operational implications**

- 7.1 No operation policing implications as this event will be attended by ERMS staff only

#### **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 The event costs £100 (£80 if booked and paid before 10th September). Travel expenses are avoided as the Restorative Justice Council have decided to hold this event online.
- 8.2 This will be a one-off payment from the 2021-22 MOJ Victims' Grant to the Restorative Justice Council.

#### **9. Legal implications**

- 9.1 No legal implications identified

#### **10. Staffing implications**

- 10.1 The ERMS manager will be away from other tasks for 2 days. We feel that this absence can be covered by the team and the benefit far outweighs any risk to workload issues.

#### **11. Equality and Diversity implications**

- 11.1 The focus of the conference is: *"In a world of growing division, creating a culture which proactively prevents harm and creates more resilient communities is even more critical. That is why during this year's conference we want to explore the potential for restorative justice and practices as a bridge builder when responding to complex challenges and overcoming inequalities and vulnerabilities in our communities"*

11.2 Attending this conference will help Essex learn from best practice around the country in how to more effectively engage our communities in order that everyone has an equal opportunity for RJ.

**12. Risks**

12.1 The ERMS manager will be absent for 2 days, however, this is manageable from a workload perspective and she will be contactable if needed.

**13. Governance Boards**


13.1 This has not been discussed at any Governance Boards.


**14. Background papers**

14.1 No relevant background papers

**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 - Deputy MO  
Date: 19.8.2021

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer Sign: .....   
Print: Julia Berry  
Date: 20.08.2021

**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**

Date signed: .....

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: Jane Gardner

**PFCC/Deputy 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: