

## PFCC Decision Report

**Please ensure all sections below are completed**

<b>Report reference number:</b> 010-22
<b>Classification</b> (e.g. Not protectively marked/restricted): Not protectively marked
<b>Title of report:</b> Domestic Abuse Business Conference
<b>Area of county / stakeholders affected:</b> Countywide
<b>Report by:</b> Darren Horsman
<b>Date of report:</b> 26/01/2022
<b>Enquiries to:</b> darren.horsman@essex.police.uk

### 1. Purpose of the report

To gain agreement to provide support for a Domestic Abuse Business Conference organised in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, Alpha Vesta and Essex Police.

### 2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the PFCC agrees to provide £5,000 from the Community Safety Fund towards to the Essex Chamber of Commerce towards organising a Domestic Abuse Business Conference on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February and three follow up workshops.

### 3. Benefits of the proposal

The conference will provide an opportunity for Alpha Vesta and Essex Police to engage directly with Human Resource Directors and their equivalents from businesses across Essex. This engagement will help increase awareness of how businesses can spot staff who are suffering from domestic abuse, put in place relevant support and link in with other agencies.

Businesses, through the strategic business crime board, have committed to building stronger capacity within the business community in Essex for tackling domestic abuse. This conference will support the commitment from this business led board and work as a tangible example of how businesses can work effectively with the police and support services to make a real difference in our communities and their businesses.

### 4. Background and proposal

The Business Crime Strategic Board has been operating for three years and through that time they have worked closely with Essex Police and the Commissioner to help inform prevention, protection, and enforcement action.

At their December 2021 board they received a presentation from Alpha Vesta who are an agency dedicated to working with businesses to help them spot the signs of domestic abuse and tackle it. Following the presentation, the board committed to working collaboratively with Alpha Vesta to help increase their reach amongst Essex Businesses. Following several discussions, a proposal to deliver a Domestic Abuse Business Conference has been established to target 60 -100 key HR directors across Essex. This will be followed by three tailored workshops to provide an opportunity for businesses to engage in a more customised way with the support available.

The PFCC will be involved in establishing the conference, including opening it and helping to promote the event. The costs associated with this decision will be provided to the Essex Chamber of Commerce to organise the event including event hire, catering, promotion and marketing activity.

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

The PFCC could decide not to provide this funding, but that would probably result in this conference not being able to go forward which would have a significant impact on our ability to engage with businesses to help tackle domestic abuse. The decision not to proceed would also undermine the arrangements and relationships that have been built up with the business community to work collaboratively to create safer communities and encourage businesses to contribute and work alongside our emergency services.

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

This decision directly supports the PFCC's priority to *Protect vulnerable people and break the cycle of domestic abuse* and *Reduce business crime, fraud and cyber crime*. The proposal specifically relates to the commitment under the business crime priority set out below.

*Alongside the business community, support initiatives to tackle other forms of crime that affects businesses and their staff such as Human Trafficking, Hate Crime and Domestic Abuse.*

## **7. Police operational implications**

Essex Police are working with the Chamber to organise the event and this decision to support this conference will positively impact their ability to tackle domestic abuse and in particular link in with Businesses to help identify and support victims of domestic abuse.

## **8. Financial implications**

The decision is to provide £5,000 to the Essex Chamber of Commerce towards organising a Domestic Abuse Business Conference. This is unbudgeted activity and will be funded from the Community Safety Fund. This may require funding from the PFCCs Carry Forward Reserve.

**9. Legal implications**

There are no legal implications arising from this decision.

**10. Staffing implications**

There are no direct staff implications involved in this proposal.

**11. Equality and Diversity implications**

This should have a positive impact on achieving our Equality and Diversity Aims as it sets out to open an additional way to reach victims of crime through their workplace. This should complement existing promotional activity and ensure that an even broader range of people are reached and supported.

**12. Risks**

As with any event there is the risk that this event will not attract enough participants or be engaging enough to help make a difference by getting businesses involved. By engaging the Chamber and through the Chamber a number of Human Resources experts this risk is being actively mitigated.

**13. Governance Boards**

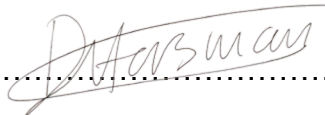

This proposal has been discussed at Commissioner’s Senior Management Team on 20.1.2022.

**14. Background papers**

n/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 - Deputy MO Date: 26 January 2022
Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer	Sign:  Print: Julia Berry Date: 26 January 2022

**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	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Of Appendix?	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
	NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		NO	<input type="checkbox"/>

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.

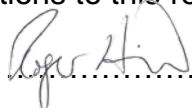
Sign: .....

Print: .....

**Chief Executive/Treasurer**

**Decision and Final Sign Off**

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign:  .....

Print: Roger Hirst

**PFCC**

**Date signed: 27 January 2022**

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

.....  
.....