

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 143-21
Classification; Not protectively marked
Title of report: Southend MARAT
Area of county / stakeholders affected: Southend
Report by: Kirsty Smith
Date of report: 28 th September 2021
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Reviewed by SMT member Greg Myddelton

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To seek approval for the allocation of £84,060 in the form of crime and disorder reduction grant to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council as a contribution to the costs of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Team (MARAT).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Approve the allocation of £84,060 over the next two years (£42,030 per annum) to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council as a contribution to local MARAT arrangements for 2021-22 and 2022-23.

3. Benefits of the proposal

- 3.1. The Southend MARAT is a multi-agency risk assessment arrangement that enables effective data and information sharing between key stakeholders to safeguard victims of domestic abuse.
- 3.2. This funding will continue to contribute to a MARAT Team Manager and two MARAT Administrator posts to ensure the processes and arrangements are as efficient as possible. This includes scheduling and chairing meetings and ensuring cases are heard in a timely manner.

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1. The MARAT Team Manager and Administrator posts are jointly funded by PFCC, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and the local Clinical Commissioning Group. Partner agencies such as IDVA, CRC, and Police provide resources through the provision of staff into the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process.

- 4.2. The funding is broken down as a one third contribution to the costs of the MARAT Team Manager post; £22,080 and a £19,950 contribution to the MARAT Admin posts.
- 4.3. The PFCC has contributed to these posts for the past two years. The work of the MARAT team is monitored by Southend Borough Council and is reported to the Southend Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board. There are no reported performance issues and the team continue to support and safeguard high risk domestic abuse victims of crime.
- 4.4. In order to provide longer term stability for this partnership arrangement it is proposed to secure PFCC funding over the next two years of £84,060 (£42,030 per annum).

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

- 5.1. The PFCC could opt not to support this project but it is felt that the project delivers good value for the investment and contributes to the effective delivery of the police and crime plan. The PFCC makes a similar contribution to the costs of the Essex MARAT arrangement which is also considered good value for money and a vital tool in safeguarding DA victims from harm.

6. Police and Crime Plan

- 6.1. This grant supports the PFCC to break the cycle of domestic abuse, ensuring victims are at the heart of the criminal justice process and protect children and vulnerable people from harm.

7. Police operational implications

- 7.1. Essex Police will continue to provide in-kind support to the Southend MARAT in the form of officers attending the meetings and contributing to the risk assessment and action planning process.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1. The PFCC will allocate £84,060 over the next two years from the PFCC Community Safety Fund

Community Safety Fund	
2021-22	£42,030
2022-23	£42,030

9. Legal implications

- 9.1. The award of the grant is subject to the PFCC’s standard funding agreement.
- 9.2. A Memorandum of Understanding is in place to provide robust and clear arrangements for funding of this partnership resource.

10. Staffing implications

- 10.1. Operational management of MARAT sits within Southend-on-Sea Borough Council Children’s Services which also employs and manages the administrators.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

- 11.1. Not applicable for Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment. Southend On Sea Borough Council will manage human resourcing ensuring they meet recruitment standards

12. Risks

- 12.1. The PFCC has provided a contribution alongside partner organisations Southend on Sea Borough Council and the local Clinical Commissioning Group for the past two years. There is a risk that PFCC or other funders no longer have the funding available to support the MARAT work. To mitigate this risk all partners organisations have signed a memorandum of understanding.

13. Governance Boards

- 13.1. The Countywide partnership Domestic Abuse Strategic Board receive regular updates on the operation of local MARACs and there is a MARACs steering group that meets regularly to discuss operational issues.
- 13.2. This decision has not been to a governance board but has been discussed with the Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner prior to being submitted.

14. Background papers

- 14.1. Previous decision sheet 060-19



060-19 Southend
MARAT funding 201

- 14.2. Memorandum of Understanding for Southend MARAT



Southend MARAT
MoU 2019.pdf

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: 11.11.2021

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer

Sign: 

Print: Julia Berry

Date: 19 November 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: 1 December 2021

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: